The Road
To Redemption
The Soldiers
Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” And they spit on him and took the reed and struck him on the head. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him and led him away to crucify him.  Matthew 27:27-31
Human Nature is rotten at the core.

The soldiers took something bad and made it worse. Human Nature is rotten at the core. During natural disasters people loot, steal, and riot. Even celebrations can turn bad.

“But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.” Isaiah 53:5
The soldiers made fun of Jesus. He was an easy target, different from other prisoners. Claimed to be a king.

Have you ever made fun of someone? We do it to be cool. Play to the crowd.

The soldiers had a crowd – “the whole battalion”. There may have been as many as 600 soldiers there.

Do we mock Jesus? With hypocrisy or twisting Scripture?
The Worst of Us

We are Bad to the Bone – not in a good way. We are all victims of Total Depravity. We want to do things against the nature of God.

Even in our Total Depravity there is hope – Jesus.

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. . .
Romans 3:23
The soldiers couldn’t leave well enough alone. Jesus has no recorded response. Jesus did not defend Himself. He did not show hatred or anger. He had done the same with Pilate and with Herod.
“To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. ‘He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.’ When they hurled their insults at Him, he did not retaliate when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to Him who judges justly.” 1 Peter 2:21-23 (NIV)
The Road To Redemption: The Soldiers

The Best of Jesus

We see Jesus, stand silent and give us His best even while being beaten and mocked.

*What do we learn from Him?*

Jesus gives us an example of how we should be. Sometimes our response is silence.

Jesus gave us the gift of redemption. *How do we respond?*

*Our worst - respond in our earthly nature.*

*Our Best – being Christ like.*
The Road To Redemption

The Soldiers