

## Personal Application and Interaction

1. What did it take for the centurion to say, *“Surely this man was the Son of God”*?
2. What do you think motivated the two secret followers (Joseph and Nicodemus) to step out of the shadows, take a risk, in order to tenderly bury the body of Jesus? When has it been a stretch for you to identify yourself as a follower of Christ?
3. What’s your reaction to the idea that these women were somewhat surprise witnesses to the crucifixion and burial of Jesus?
4. Pastor John MacArthur writes, “[God] always works by providentially orchestrating natural processes and ordinary events to accomplish His purposes. Miracles are rare and involve a temporary suspension of the laws of nature, but providence is constant (cf. John 5:17) and incalculably more complex.” How was God’s providence displayed in the crucifixion of Jesus?
5. How were you personally impacted when the thick veil of the temple was torn in half from top to bottom?



# Stepping out of the Shadows

**Mark 15:37-47**

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What do you see of the hand of God in the details surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus? How is your confidence in Him intensified by those providential details? Jesus famously said, *“My Father is always at His work, to this very day, and I too am working”* (Jn.5:17). The wisdom in Proverbs reminds us, *“In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps”* (16:9); *“The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD”* (16:33); *“The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD; He directs it like a water course wherever He pleases”* (21:1). So what was He doing while His Son was dying?

### ***The sober centurion***

### ***The secret followers***

### ***The surprise witnesses***

### ***The separated curtain***