

# Space for God Paying The Price



## PREPARATION

• IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT •

But you, O Lord, will sit on your throne forever. Your fame will endure to every generation. Psalm 102:12

## WORSHIP

But those who die in the Lord will live; their bodies will rise again! Those who sleep in the earth will rise up and sing for joy!

**For your life-giving light will fall like dew on your people in the place of the dead!** Isaiah 26:19

## CONFESSION

So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death.

**But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will.**

That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. Romans 8:6-8

## MEDITATION Mark 6:14-29\*

**H**erod Antipas, the king, soon heard about Jesus, because everyone was talking about him. Some were saying, "This must be John the Baptist raised from the dead. That is why he can do such miracles." Others said, "He's the prophet Elijah." Still others said, "He's a prophet like the other great prophets of the past."

When Herod heard about Jesus, he said, "John, the man I beheaded, has come back from the dead."

For Herod had sent soldiers to arrest and imprison John as a favor to Herodias. She had been his brother Philip's wife, but Herod had married her. John had been telling Herod, "It is against God's law for you to marry your brother's wife." So Herodias bore a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But without Herod's approval she was powerless, for Herod respected John; and knowing that he was a good and holy man, he protected him. Herod was greatly disturbed whenever he talked with John, but even so, he liked to listen to him.

Herodias's chance finally came on Herod's birthday. He gave a party for his high government officials, army officers, and the leading citizens of Galilee.

Then his daughter, also named Herodias, came in and performed a dance that greatly pleased Herod and his guests. "Ask me for anything you like," the king said to the girl, "and I will

### IN SOLITUDE AND/OR COMMUNITY

Read	Slowly, several times.
Reflect	What does the text say?
Respond	How does it relate to my life?
Rest	I welcome God's healing and renewal.

give it to you." He even vowed, "I will give you whatever you ask, up to half my kingdom!"

She went out and asked her mother, "What should I ask for?"

Her mother told her, "Ask for the head of John the Baptist!"

So the girl hurried back to the king and told him, "I want the head of John the Baptist, right now, on a tray!"

Then the king deeply regretted what he had said; but because of the vows he had made in front of his guests, he couldn't refuse her. So he immediately sent an executioner to the prison to cut off John's head and bring it to him. The soldier beheaded John in the prison, brought his head on a tray, and gave it to the girl, who took it to her mother. When John's disciples heard what had happened, they came to get his body and buried it in a tomb.

## ANCHORING PRAYER

*I am willing to pay the cost of being Your disciple.*

## REVIEW OF THE HEART

*What price do I have to pay for being a disciple of Christ?*

*When was I unwilling to suffer for my faith?*

## WISDOM

The earth suffers for the sins of its people, for they have twisted God's instructions, violated his laws, and broken his everlasting covenant. Isaiah 24:5

I am yours; rescue me! For I have worked hard at obeying your commandments. Though the wicked hide along the way to kill me, I will quietly keep my mind on your laws. Psalm 119:94-95

## TESTIMONY What is God saying today?

## INTERCESSION For the Church—for others—for me.

## BENEDICTION

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day.

**For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! • Amen •**

2 Corinthians 4:16-17

### SPACE FOR GOD DAILY

Be still and quiet before God.

Seek the Holy Spirit's filling and guidance.

Speak and act from a listening heart.

Actively serve in community with others.