



A Self-Paced Study Guide for
the Presbytery of East Iowa

WEEK TEN - Theme for the Week

Brown Eyes versus Blue Eyes

Readings from *Caste*

Brown Eyes versus Blue Eyes

Ch. 10 – Central Miscasting

Ch. 11 – Dominant Group Status Threat and the Precarity of the Highest Rung

Ch. 12 – A Scapegoat to Bear the Sins of the World

Scripture

Mark 15:6-15

⁶ Now it was the custom at the festival to release a prisoner whom the people requested. ⁷ A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. ⁸ The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. ⁹ "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, ¹⁰ knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. ¹² "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them. ¹³ "Crucify him!" they shouted. ¹⁴ "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate.

But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" ¹⁵ Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

Question for Reflection

In your journal or in your discussion group, discuss the following questions:

1. How do you feel about yourself and others when you are a member of the "in crowd," a group of students that is privileged in some way or has social power?
2. How do you feel about yourself and others when you are not a member of the "in crowd"?

Action Steps

The Personal Identity Wheel

- Personal identities are individual traits that make up who you are, including your hobbies, interests, experiences, and personal choices.
- Many personal identities are things that you get to choose and that you are able to shape for yourself. Personal identities might determine whether or not you have a natural inclination to go in a certain personal direction.

Click the link below to access the Personal Identity Wheel:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1h02iQ3Aa1tNSv4doSACwhR1Ls47Dn_wC/view

Fill in your identity for each of the categories listed. In the inner circle, record the identities that are the most important or salient to you. In the outer circle, record your other identities that are less important or salient to you but are still part of your identity. If you are in a discussion group, find a partner, preferably someone you don't know well, and briefly share two personal identities that are important to you and why they are important. Listen carefully to your partner and respond with an affirmative statement of understanding or a question to learn more about this person's identity.