

**Luke 23****Submitted by Becky Shealy****HIGHLIGHT**

Luke 23:20 - Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again.

Luke 23: 23-24 - But with loud shouts, they insistently demanded that he be crucified, and their shouts prevailed. So Pilate decided to grant their demand.

**EXPLAIN**

Pilate was not a follower of Jesus; however, he knew there were no grounds for the death penalty for Jesus. He appealed to the crowd 3 times, even sending Jesus to Herod in between the appeals, hoping Herod would make the decision to crucify Him. But the decision to do the right thing came back to Pilate, full circle. In the end, the shouts of the world prevailed. Pilate engaged the noise.

**APPLY**

If I were accused of being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict me? Pilate was not a follower of Jesus, yet he knew in his heart Jesus had done nothing worthy of the death penalty. Pilate wanted to do the right thing. I am a follower of Jesus, and I overheard someone use The Lord's name in vain the other day. It crushed my heart and I even flinched. Yet I said nothing. I, too, like Pilate, engaged the noise of the world.

**RESPOND**

Lord Jesus, thank you for loving me even when I break your heart. Please forgive me for not doing the right thing. I am not ashamed of you. I want to be your hands and feet. Teach me to be your mouth as well. Teach me to speak truth in love, rather than keeping the peace.