Cross Connections: Seeing Ourselves in the Passion Story - Lent 2020 - Week 5

## WHEN A CRISIS TURNS OUT FOR GOOD

The surprising journey of Nicodemus & Joseph of Arimathea

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**Introduction:** In our series called Cross Connections, we're looking people who were near Jesus when he died on the cross, and we're seeing how they were transformed. Two well connected, but secret, believers were present when Jesus was crucified. Previously, they had been hesitant to publicly identify with Jesus because of their status in Israel. But then they encounter a crisis. And having witnessed the cross, they were emboldened to come out of the shadows and identify with Christ. This morning we look at their crisis turned out for good.

**Nicodemus** – The man who came to Jesus by night. *John 3:1-16; 7:50; 19:39* 

**2. Joseph of Arimathea** – The man who needed courage to do the right thing. *Matt. 27:57; Mark 15:43; Luke 23:50; John 19:38* 

3.	The connection – In a crisis, both men make a Lordship decision to come out of the shadows and publicly identify with Jesus.
4.	Takeaways – Four ways we submit to the Lordship of Jesus in this current crisis.