

NOTES:

Soldiers in Mark

1. Arrest Jesus
2. Stand near Peter when he denies Jesus
3. Torture Jesus
4. Hand the cross to Simon of Cyrene
5. Gamble for Jesus's clothes
6. Follow Jesus to the cross

The Centurion

1. Stays with Jesus
2. Testifies Jesus is "truly the Son of God"
3. Reports Jesus's death to Pilate
4. Delivers Jesus's body to Joseph

The centurion accomplishes what the 12 disciples could not do. He is the first person to follow Jesus to the cross, understand who Jesus is, and confess that Jesus has the ultimate authority in his life.

Because of the Cross

1. Soldiers can change, and so can we.
2. Never give up on an enemy. Persecutors are always potential converts.
3. Faith does not require more evidence (or miracles). Faith is obediently trusting to the point of death.