



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 10: I Find No Fault  
Suggested Week of Use: May 7, 2023  
Core Passage: John 18:28-40

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### News Story Summary

When the police take someone into custody, the arrest should include the presumption of “innocent until proven guilty.” Still, guilt seems undeniable sometimes. For example, police recently called to the Mall of America in Minnesota found a man with a shotgun in a crowded area. They stated that he also had access to additional firearms. The area was filled children and families who had come to see a circus set up in a mall parking lot. Officers were dispatched to the scene, and crisis negotiators worked to resolve the situation safely. People in the immediate area, including a nearby hotel, were evacuated. While it remains unclear why the man brought the gun to the mall, it seems hard to deny his guilt in the matter. The extent of his guilt will be determined by the courts.

For more about this story, search “Man with gun near Mall of America.”

### Focus Attention

To supplement **FOCUS ATTENTION**, share the story of the man with a gun at the Mall of America. Encourage adults to reflect on times they were sure someone was guilty of a crime and times when they were convinced someone was innocent. Ask: *What factors go into making those determinations for you?* Talk about how we feel when we discover that someone convicted of a crime is later found to be innocent. Ask: *How is that different from the other situations we mentioned?* Emphasize that it’s always important to seek justice for individuals and to admit when mistakes have been made. Explain that today’s session focuses on a trial where true justice was ignored. Note that Jesus was convicted of a crime He didn’t commit, yet this tragedy was part of God’s plan of salvation for the world.

### Summarize and Challenge

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, ask: *What are some thoughts you have after studying this passage?* Remind adults of the man with a gun at the Mall of America. Point out that while this situation’s legal outcome remains up in the air, Jesus absolutely was innocent of any charge against Him. Emphasize that while Jesus did not deserve the trial, He willingly suffered through it and through the experience of the cross because His sacrifice was the only way to provide salvation. Say: *Even as believers, we can forget how much Jesus endured because He loved us. We need to make sure we never take His sacrifice for granted.* Briefly walk through the Plan of Salvation on the inside front cover of the Personal Study Guide (PSG) and the Leader Guide. Let the group know that you will be available to talk with anyone who wants to know more about Jesus’s sacrifice and His offer of salvation. Close by praying that each member would receive the forgiveness that comes from Jesus alone.