

SERMON: The Humiliation of Jesus

March 18, 2018

SERIES: The Gospel of Mark

SPEAKER: Pastor Mark

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE:

Mark 15:16-32.

¹⁶ And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹ And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. ²⁰ And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

²¹ And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. ²² And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). ²³ And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. ²⁵ And it was the third hour when they crucified him. ²⁶ And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." ²⁷ And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, ³⁰ save yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹ So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. ³² Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. The Mocking of Jesus
- II. The Sacrifice of Jesus
- III. The Irony of the Cross

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Jesus was mocked and humiliated because of his claim to be King and Messiah. Have you accepted Jesus as the King of your life? Is there an area of your life where you are not acknowledging his authority?
2. Pastor Mark said, “the mocking shows that we are blind to the way of Jesus- the way of weakness.” Does your weakness tend to make you feel hardened or does it make you feel inferior?
3. How does the substitutionary death of Christ empower us to take up our cross and follow Jesus? (Hint: “No matter the cost it cannot crush you- it will lead to glory”).
4. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31. In what ways was the greatness, power and wisdom of Jesus displayed in the humiliation, weakness, and foolishness of the cross? How does this truth change how you might see the church? What might it look like for us as a church that God wants to use our weakness to reach others?
5. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. Paul’s heart was guarded by grace so that he boasted in the cross. Are you allowing grace to allow you to embrace weakness? In what do you boast? What about in your parenting? Your marriage? Your singleness? Your sexuality? Your career? Your ministry? Your politics?

Pray: Thank God for embracing the weakness of the cross for you. Ask him to bring you deeper into the way of weakness in order that your boast may be only in Christ and his cross.