

## COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

### ① Resurrection of the cross of Jesus - The Gospel of John

#### INTRODUCTION | The Cross of the King

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From today's scripture passage I first want us to see that Jesus is the king. I want to impress on us the ultimacy of Christ's kingship. Secondly I want us to see how we reject and do not recognize the kingship of Christ. Our root problem is that we see ourselves as our king instead of Christ. Thirdly, how do we see Christ exercise authority versus the way we exercise authority? How should this change us? The fundamental difference is the cross. Jesus' kingly authority, undermining of status and kings cross are 3 focus points I want us to think through.

#### SCRIPTURE | John 19:1-16

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1 Then Pilate took Jesus and flogged him. 2 And the soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head and arrayed him in a purple robe. 3 They came up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and struck him with their hands. 4 Pilate went out again and said to them, "See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that I find no guilt in him." 5 So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Behold the man!" 6 When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, "Crucify him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him, for I find no guilt in him." 7 The Jews[a] answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has made himself the Son of God." 8 When Pilate heard this statement, he was even more afraid. 9 He entered his headquarters again and said to Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. 10 So Pilate said to him, "You will not speak to me? Do you not know that I have authority to release you and authority to crucify you?" 11 Jesus answered him, "You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given you from above. Therefore he who delivered me over to you has the greater sin." 12 From then on Pilate sought to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar." 13 So when Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judgment seat at a place called The Stone Pavement, and in Aramaic Gabbatha. 14 Now it was the day of Preparation of the Passover. It was about the sixth hour. He said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" 15 They cried out, "Away with him, away with him, crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar." 16 So he delivered him over to them to be crucified.

#### QUESTIONS |

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- 1: (verses 1-3,5) How is Christ said to be a king in these verses? According to Pilate's questions and the Jewish leaders' confession they did not recognize Christ but how do we understand his kingship? (Ref. John 18:37)
- 2: As you recognize Christ as king, how does this affect your life and how you live in the world? Share some specifics.
- 3: (verses 4,6,12) How did the Roman ruler Pilate evaluate Jesus? Nevertheless, why did he sentence Christ to the cross?
- 4: In their rejection and condemnation of Jesus, what did Pilate and the Jewish leaders accuse him of? If we do not recognize Jesus' kingship, what sin are we committing?
- 5: (verses 9-11) In being rejected and undergoing the suffering of the cross, what do Christ's mindset and attitude reveal? (Ref. Heb 12:2-3)
- 6: Therefore, as you are being pointed to the truth of Christ on the cross, how does this aid you in dealing with the pain and suffering in your life?

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### REFERENCES |

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#### **John 18:37**

37 Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”

#### **Hebrews 12:2-3**

2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.<sup>3</sup> Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

#### **Tim Keller, King’s Cross, p.181**

Jesus doesn’t deny his emotions, and he doesn’t avoid the suffering. He loves into the suffering. In the midst of his suffering, he obeys for the love of the Father — and for the love of us. And when you see that, instead of perpetually denying your desires or changing your circumstances, you’ ll be able to trust the Father in your suffering.

### PRAYER |

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- King Jesus We praise you for your bearing and suffering the pains of the cross. We praise you that in the midst of injustice and reproach you showed truth and opened the way of salvation.
- Reflect on how Christ is your king. Repent of the ways in which you dethrone Christ and make yourself king. For the reason of our self enthroning sin, Christ came in self sacrificial love to the cross.

### UPCOMING EVENTS | This Week & Next Week

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- Lunchtime meeting (16 Kasumigasaeki, 17 Otemachi)
- Obento Project (19)
- Worship and Fellowship (20)
- London Team welcome party (20)
- Work and faith discussion(20 evening)
- Hiking (21)
- Lunchtime meeting (22 Kudsnshita, Akasaka, 23 Marunouchi, Kasumigasaeki, 24 Otemachi)
- Party (24)
- Good Friday service (25)
- Easter Sunday service (27)
- Grace City Kids event (27)