



# Life Group Discussion Guide

## April 13 – Mark 15 --- Approaching the Cross

### Life Group Leaders,

During our *100 Days with Jesus*, you will have two approach options to guide your group in studying Sunday's text. We encourage you to try both methods over the next few months.

1. **Discussion Questions** – Each week, you'll receive a set of questions related to the text. If you choose this option, feel free to select the questions that best fit your group's needs and dynamics.
2. **SEEDS Discovery Bible Study** – This method introduces a Bible study format designed to empower participants to engage deeply with Scripture. The goal is to equip your group members with a practical tool for exploring the Bible with others, aligning with our mission to *Advance the Kingdom* with Jesus.

Both options are designed to enrich your group's experience. Experiment with each to discover what works best for your group. Thank you for leading and serving so well!

### Discussion Questions:

1. Icebreaker: If you could meet one famous person, who would it be and why?
2. Read **Mark 15**.
3. Why do you think Mark emphasizes the historical context of Jesus' crucifixion? How does this impact your understanding of the gospel message?
4. In Mark 15, the mockery of Jesus reveals the inherent hostility toward Him. Why do you think we often resist Jesus' authority? Can you identify areas in your life where you struggle with submitting to God's will or challenge His way of working?
5. Jesus was mocked because He didn't meet the expectations of others. What does it look like for us to follow God when His will doesn't follow our expectations?
6. Read **Mark 15:37-39**. How do you see the heart of God expressed in these verses?

7. Jesus stayed on the cross because of His obedience to God and His love for sinners.
  - a. How does this deepen your understanding of God's love for you?
  - b. How does this deepen your understanding of what it means to follow and live like Christ?
8. Jesus' claims to be the Son of God and King left people with a choice: to either accept or reject Him.
  - a. How does Jesus' kingship demand a decision from you?
  - b. Do you ever find yourself "keeping your options open" when it comes to fully submitting to Christ as King?
  - c. How is God calling you to submit to Him this week as you remember and recognize Him as King of your life?

## SEEDS Bible Study:

The Discovery Method works most effectively in small groups of three to four people. For larger gatherings, consider breaking into smaller groups to encourage deeper discussion. Here's a simple format to follow:

- **Form Small Groups:** Divide the larger group into smaller groups of three to four people.
- **Pose Questions:** Present one question at a time for the smaller groups to discuss. Allow a few minutes for meaningful conversation.
- **Share Insights:** Invite groups to share their thoughts with the larger group, if they feel led. This step fosters collective learning and reflection.
- **Repeat for Additional Questions:** Continue the process with the next question, following the same structure.
- **Close in Prayer:** Conclude the session with prayer, either within the smaller groups or together as a large group.

This approach encourages participation, reflection, and shared learning while keeping the conversation focused and engaging.

## Discussion Questions:

### Share

- What are you grateful for?
- What is stressing you out?

### Explore

- What stood out to you from the sermon?
- Read the text twice (Select a portion of this week's text to focus on for your group's discussion.)
- Retell the passage in your own words.

### Examine

- What questions, observations, and thoughts do you have about this passage?
- What does this text say about God, Jesus, and humanity?

### Do It – Either alone or with others in the group.

- If the text is true, what are you sensing God saying to you?
- Write an "I will" statement.
- What does that look like for you?

### Seek God's Kingdom

- **Tell:** Is there someone in your life you can share this text/truth with?
- **Give:** Is there someone in your life that you can serve this week?
- **Pray:** Close in prayer: God, thank You for planting SEEDS in us so we can share those SEEDS with others as we Advance the Kingdom!