



FAITH

The Cross: Whole40 Edition

Icebreaker: What is your favorite book of the Bible? Tell your group why it's your favorite.

You can choose to read together the portions of Scripture, or just answer the Questions:

The Portions read by Pastor Dave were: Mark 14 (NLT), Mark 15 (NLT) and Isaiah 53 (NLT)

Discuss:

- What was the Holy Spirit speaking to you as Pastor Dave read the word this week?
- How would you react if someone spat on you?
- Can you recall a time when you remember denying Jesus?
- Tell your group about a time when you were required to do something that wasn't your responsibility.
- What was God stirring in you as you listened to the Scripture?
- How can you relinquish control to God today?
- In what ways can you realign with Jesus today?

If you have time, read together the portions of Scripture that Pastor Dave did not read:

Read Together:

Isaiah 61:1-4 (NLT), Acts 3:1-21 (NLT), Romans 6:1-14 (NLT), 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NLT), 2 Corinthians 5:14-21 (NLT), Galatians 3:13-14 (NLT), Galatians 6:14 (NLT), Philippians 2:5-11 (NLT), Hebrews 12:1-4 (NLT), Hebrews 13:20-21 (NLT)

Discuss:

- What is the Holy Spirit speaking to you as you hear God's word?
- To whom can you share the things that God is speaking to you through His word?
- What do you want to ask God to change within you in response to what you heard in His word today?
- How do you want to respond to God today?

As we are reading through the Bible during the Whole 40, what is your hearts response? Do you find yourself being resistant to the reading of the word? Are you excited about the reading of the Word? Ask God to speak to you regarding the status of your heart toward His word.

Pray:

Based on your answers to the above questions, take some time to ask God how he would like to reveal Himself to you through His word. Ask Him to show you the reasons for your heart posture. If rejoicing is in order, share that with a friend. If repentance is in order, take time to repent. If you are feeling stale, ask God to restore the joy of your salvation and give you a fresh perspective. Pray the words of Psalm 51:10-12. "Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and make me willing to obey you."