

MAIN POINT

The humiliation of the cross is the glory of the King.

INTRODUCTION

The crucifixion of Jesus is one of the most well known stories in the Bible. Is there a particular detail that sticks out to you when you think about the crucifixion? Why?

What are some of the reasons it's important for us to read and think deeply about the crucifixion over and over again?

Most Christians have both read and heard the story of Jesus' crucifixion so many times they can recount it almost word for word. While we should make it a practice to think of the death of Jesus over and over again, we must guard against being so familiar with the story that it loses its punch and meaning. What we find in the gospel of Mark is a detailed description of the humiliating death of the King at the hands of sinful men, for the sake of sinful men. But we also see the ironic nature of His death. It's in the humiliation of the cross that we are able to see the glory of the King.

DISCUSSION

> **READ MARK 15:16-41.**

Looking at the actions of those in the courtyard, what kinds of things can you see in their hearts?

Why is it tempting to pass judgment on the crowd? What should be our reaction when we read these verses?

What are some ways we might, with our actions, mock the Kingship of Jesus?

Take a look at Psalm 69:21; Psalm 22:18; and Isaiah 53:12. Where do you see these prophecies being fulfilled in Mark's account of the crucifixion?

Why is it important that Mark included these details? What does doing so affirm about the identity of Jesus? What does it teach us about the nature of Scripture?

What was Jesus really talking about when He claimed to be able to destroy the temple and raise it again in three days? How does this fact point to the centrality of Jesus in all things?

Why is darkness an appropriate miracle to come alongside the death of Jesus?

What are some of the implications for us of Jesus being forsaken? What does the fact that He was mean about our own relationship with

APPLICATION

As those who know and believe the story of the crucifixion, what is our responsibility? How do you need to respond?