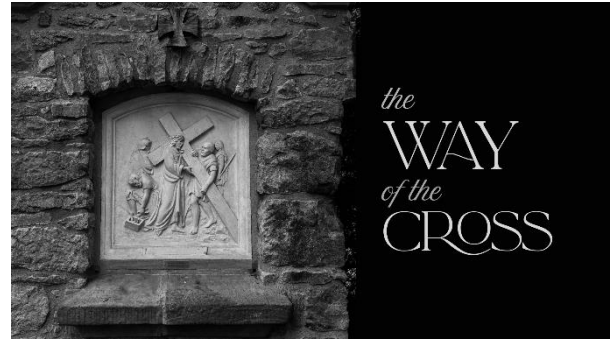


# Discipleship Group SERIES QUESTIONS



## *The Way of the Cross* Message Series

We live in a time when many people feel worn down, distracted, and unsure what really matters. Lent is a season when the church slows down and asks an honest question: What actually brings life? In this series, *The Way of the Cross*, we're going to look at the cross of Jesus—not as a symbol we've grown used to, but as the center of our faith and the path Jesus calls us to walk. During Lent, we're inviting our church to walk this road together through prayer and Scripture, keeping Jesus at the center. Our hope is simple: that by the time we reach Easter, the resurrection will feel like the natural result of a journey we've been walking all along—a deeper trust in Jesus and a clearer sense of what really matters.

### WEEK 1 Background

We begin Lent by slowing down and looking directly at the cross—not as jewelry, decoration, or background symbol, but as the center of our faith. The cross is familiar to many of us, and because it is familiar, it can also become easy to overlook. Yet Scripture insists that everything in Christianity runs through this moment. Before we celebrate the resurrection, we pause here and ask an honest question: *Why does the cross matter so much?* What does it reveal about God, about the world, and about us?

### WEEK 1 Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18–25, Mark 8:31–34,  
Galatians 6:14

### Discipleship Questions

- What do we learn about God in this passage?
- What is God teaching the people in the passage?
- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you personally?
- What will you do with what God is teaching you?

### WEEK 1 Questions

- Paul says the message of the cross is “foolishness” to some and “a stumbling block” to others. Why do you think the cross provokes such strong reactions? What instincts in us resist it?
- Jesus predicts His death and then tells His followers to take up their own cross. What do you think He meant—and what might that look like in everyday life?
- Where are you most tempted to want a version of Christianity that emphasizes encouragement but avoids sacrifice or surrender?
- If the cross truly reveals who God is, what does it challenge about how you currently picture Him?