

# CROWNED



## Week 3: The Victor's Crown

<b>CHECK-IN</b>	With last week being Holy Week, what stood out to you?
<b>BIG IDEA</b>	<p>"Crowned" explores the journey of Jesus through three distinct crowns, redefining our understanding of power, life, and death.</p> <p><b>The Three Crowns:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Crown of Expectation (Palm Sunday): Where people projected their own hopes and political desires onto Jesus</li><li>2. The Crown of Thorns (Good Friday): A symbol of suffering and the apparent finality of the old world</li><li>3. The Victor's Crown (Easter Sunday): The emergence of a "New Creation"</li></ol> <p>The Resurrection is presented as God's "YES" to Jesus' life and sacrifice. It is the public vindication that the power of love is greater than the love of power. Unlike a simple resuscitation, Jesus stepped into "Life 2.0"—a new physical reality where death is rendered powerless. This shift removes the foundational fear of death that often drives human greed, tribalism, and anxiety.</p>
<b>DISCUSS</b>	<p><b>Read Hebrews 2:9.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The sermon contrasts the Crown of Expectation, the Crown of Thorns, and the Victor's Crown. Which of these resonates most with where you are in your life right now, and why?</li><li>2. The sermon suggests that much of our bad behaviour—greed, anger, tribalism, anxiety—is rooted in fear. Do you agree? How would losing that fear change the way you live?</li><li>3. Jesus was exalted through love, humility, obedience, and sacrifice. Which of these is hardest for you to practice right now?</li></ol>

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## APPLY

How do we respond to God's teaching in meaningful ways? What might God ask of us in mind, spirit, or actions?

1. Where do you need to live with more hope this week because Jesus has already overcome death?
2. In what situation are you tempted to reach for "Caesar's crown"—power, control, force, or self-protection—instead of the way of love?
3. What would it look like for you to keep running your race with endurance this week, looking to Jesus for strength?

## PRAYER PRACTICE

(15 minutes)

### Step 1:

Pray for one another's needs.

### Step 2:

Group leader closes the time with prayer (Hebrews 2:14–15):

*Jesus, thank You for sharing in our humanity and for breaking the power of death through Your resurrection.*

*Thank You that we do not have to live in fear, because You have made a way for us to walk in freedom and hope.*

*Strengthen us in our weakness, steady us in our struggles, and help us to live this week with courage, peace, and trust in You.*

*In Jesus' name, Amen.*