



# The Crucified King

**Series:** Your Kingdom Come #2

**Main Text:** John 19:1–30

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## Introduction

This guide can be used on your own or with a small group to reflect on the weekend message and apply it to your life. Choose the questions that work best for your group—there's no need to go through them all. To learn more, visit [silverdalebc.com/smallgroups](http://silverdalebc.com/smallgroups).

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## Icebreaker Options

1. What are some of the most recognizable brand logos to you? (You could try showing a few logos without words and seeing how many you can guess!)
2. Why do you think the cross—an instrument of execution—has become the central symbol of Christianity?

## Leader's Note

The cross and the crown don't seem to go together. Yet in John 19, we see that Jesus' crucifixion was not a defeat—but a coronation. What looked like humiliation was actually

exaltation. This passage invites us to see the cross not just as a tragic event, but as the throne of our King.

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## Main Points

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### 1. The King Who's Crowned with Suffering

**Key Scripture:**

John 19:1–3 – “The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns, put it on His head, and clothed Him in a purple robe.”

**Discuss**

- Why is it significant that Jesus endured suffering instead of stopping it?
- What does Jesus' suffering teach us about the cost of our sin?

**Leader's Note**

The soldiers meant to mock Jesus—but they unknowingly revealed truth. He is a King crowned, not with gold, but with thorns. He chose suffering in our place. His power is seen not in avoiding pain, but in willingly embracing it for our salvation.

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### 2. The King Who's Robed with Guilt

**Key Scripture:**

John 19:4–6 – “I find no grounds for charging Him.”

**Discuss**

- Why is Jesus' innocence so central to the gospel?
- What does it mean that “the innocent died for the guilty” (1 Peter 3:18)?
- Do you ever struggle to fully accept that your sin has been carried by Christ? Why or why not?

**Leader's Note**

Pilate declared Jesus innocent multiple times. Yet He was treated as guilty so that we could be declared righteous. The exchange at the cross is the heart of the gospel: our guilt placed on Him, His righteousness offered to us.

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### **3. The King Who's Rejected by His People**

**Key Scripture:**

John 19:15 – “We have no king but Caesar!”

**Discuss**

- In what ways are you tempted to choose other “kings” over Jesus?
- What does surrendering allegiance to Jesus as King look like in your daily life?

**Leader's Note**

The rejection of Jesus wasn't just political—it was personal. They chose Caesar over Christ. Every generation faces a similar choice. When we reject the true King, we inevitably give our loyalty to something else.

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### **4. The King Who's Enthroned on a Cross**

**Key Scripture:**

John 19:19 – “Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.”

**Discuss**

- How does viewing the cross as a throne change your understanding of Good Friday?
- Why do you think the sign was written in multiple languages? What does that communicate about Jesus' kingship?
- What does it mean for you personally that your King reigns from a place of sacrifice?

**Leader's Note**

What looked like humiliation was actually enthronement. The cross became a throne because of the One who hung on it. Jesus reigns not through force, but through self-giving love. His kingdom is for all people.

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## 5. The King Who Has Victory Over Sin

### Key Scripture:

John 19:30 – “It is finished.”

### Discuss

- Why is it important to understand that salvation is not earned but accomplished?
- How does knowing your debt has been “paid in full” change the way you live?

### Leader’s Note

“It is finished” was not a cry of defeat—it was a declaration of victory. The work was completed. The debt was paid. The sacrifice was accepted. Because of the cross, we don’t strive for acceptance—we live from it.

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## Closing Prayer

Spend time thanking Jesus for being a King unlike any other—a King who suffered, who was rejected, and who gave His life willingly. Praise Him for finishing the work of salvation. Invite Him to reign fully in your heart, and pray for boldness to live under His kingship this week.