



LISTENING IN THE SHADOWS



Sermon Discussion Guide

April 6, 2025

Use this discussion guide with your small group or by yourself, to dig into the text and theme of Sunday's message.

Key Point: Jesus is our King.

Life Sharing: (answer one)

1. What is a family tradition around Easter that you remember or still engage in?
2. Has anyone ever suffered for you, besides Jesus?

Transition / Open in prayer

3. How does communion help us participate in Jesus' life?

Life Examination:

READ John 19:1-15

4. What role did each of these people play in the crucifixion story: Pilate, the soldiers, the Jewish crowd, Jesus' followers?
5. Why was Pilate afraid in verse 8?

6. Why does Pilate make such a big deal about Jesus being their king? Why was that so irritating for the Jewish leaders?

READ Psalm 22:1-22

7. What is the tension that David is describing in Psalm 22?
8. What does David want God to do for him?
9. What image in verses 14-18 can you most relate to?
10. What details from Psalm 22 are found in the crucifixion story of Jesus?
11. What helps David remember that God will never desert him?

Life Application:

12. How does the story of the Bible move toward this moment, when the innocent Son of God died on a cross?
13. What does it mean to you personally, that Jesus is a King?
14. In Psalm 22 David seems to be bouncing between despair and faith. If there was a line with despair on one end and faith on the other end – where would you stand on that line today? Where would you stand if you were considering your whole life story?
15. What is one detail of the crucifixion of Jesus that is hardest for you to understand, beside the decision to crucify an innocent man?

Life Prayers: Pray for one another and ask God to help you love others sacrificially, like Jesus.