

Into the Life of Jesus

A study in the gospel of Mark

Study #17 – Lent

Review of last week:

This past Sunday, Scott unpacked 1 Timothy 2:11-15 in a fresh way.

- What stood out to you? What was most helpful, eye-opening, confusing or challenging? What questions are you left with and what do you need to do with them?

Our passage this week focuses in on **Mark 10:32-45**

Take a moment to pray before you read, and ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart to hear God's Word. Then, read the passage aloud a few times. And just for something different, have each person who is reading stand as they go over their particular translation. Allow the diaphragm to do its' work. Breathe from the belly, speak the words clearly, pause and give emphasis where needed. Listen intently and work at thinking deeply. Soak in God's words.

Jesus has made it clear to the disciples a number of times that going to Jerusalem meant his death. The twelve and all those following him are utterly gobsmacked by this information.

- What exactly is making them so fearful? What kinds of things in life do you find overwhelming? How do you deal with them?
- As leadership in the church has been a topic we've been digging into lately, what is your understanding of the counter-cultural nature of Christian leadership?
- What challenges do you face in being a servant leader in your sphere of influence?

Lean into **Mark 10:35-45**

- Look up the word "ransom" in a Bible dictionary (or online).
- How do you come to grips with the fact that there's nothing you could do to redeem yourself?
- There is a saying that "*for something to live something else must die*". We see this in the natural world, in the circle of life. What are some practical ways for you to more greatly appreciate Jesus' death, his spilled blood, sacrificed for you – his enemy?
- Jesus does promise blessings to those who follow him, though he doesn't say the path will be easy. How do Jesus' rewards factor into your following in faith? How are you encouraged to stick with him even when the going gets tough?

Pray together: Pray for perseverance for as a community of brothers and sisters in Christ when the going gets tough. Pray for the church to be bold and counter-cultural.