



Date: 3/17/24

Title: The Coronated King

Scripture: Mark 15:16-28

Introduction to Analog

The word, Analog, means “something that is similar or comparable to something else.”

Analog is designed to be a tangible way to take another deeper, look into each week’s Sunday morning message. Individuals, friends, small groups, and families can use Analog for further discussion and exploration of the Sunday teaching. May this tool help you explore the expansive heart of God and practice love in the ways of Jesus.

Teaching Season

Over the next 6 weeks we’ll be exploring the season of Lent. Lent is historically a preparation time for Easter. In its earliest iterations in the 4th Century Lent was introduced to prepare new converts for the commitment they were making in joining the faith. This participation was extended to those who had wandered from the faith as a means to bring them back to the faith. As we journey through Lent this year, we will consider the journey towards the cross from the 1st person perspective of Jesus, in hopes that we will better understand what we are being called into.

Teaching

Mark tells of the abuse Jesus suffered at the hands of soldiers after being flogged and dragged into the Praetorium. And while the scene makes the reader wince at the sheer brutality of it all, there is also something else just below the surface. The way Mark frames the story of what happens to Jesus from the purple robe, to the crown and the homage is a description of what would happen when Caesar was coronated emperor of Rome.

At one level this is subversive commentary: what the soldiers were doing was, in some way, hailing Jesus as the king he is. But he is also asking a question of the reader, “Is this the king you want?” Not one who comes with great pomp and circumstance, but one who comes in brokenness, humility, into the pain and the violence of our world. I suppose the question he asks, demands a response. So the only question left is, “What will that response be?”

Listen to the teaching [online](#) or on the DCC App

Opening Question for the Group: Start your group discussion with the question below.

1. Tell us about your snow day!

Questions for Discussion or Reflection

Here are some questions for discussion or reflection. Don’t feel like you have to cover them all, and you may have questions of your own to ask. The Spiritual Practice for this week could be

very meaningful for you or your group, so plan on 10 minutes or so for this exercise. If you are using this in a group context, read through these questions and the Spiritual Practice before your group meets to familiarize yourself with this material. You may want to send this out to the group before you meet.

1. Why do you think we have 4 Gospels included in the Biblical text that we have?
2. What does the Kingdom of God look like? What does the Kingdom of Empire look like in our world today?
3. Where do you think you have the opportunity to participate in the Gospel in the world?
4. Have we lost sight of the gospel?

Spiritual Practice:

This week for our formation practice, we invite you to listen to our guided time of prayer and reflection. You can listen to this guided prayer by clicking on the link below. You can also access the spiritual formation podcast through the DCC App.

[Spiritual Formation Podcast: The Image of God](#)