

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PRAY TOGETHER

Holy Spirit, we invite you into this time and ask you to open our hearts to your truth as we discuss this week's message. Help us to see where we've been living by "my truth" or fearing people more than you, and gently but clearly convict us where change is needed. Give us a deeper hunger for your Word, that it would shape our worldview, our decisions, and our relationships. As we talk, lead each of us to a clear, concrete step of obedience so we don't just hear your voice, but respond to it. All for His glory! Amen.

ICE BREAKER

Share a meaningful time when you received good advice but didn't follow it. What happened? How did that experience shape you?

SERMON OVERVIEW



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As we prepare our hearts for Holy Week, Pastor Kurt Brodbeck confronts us with one of history's most pivotal questions: What is truth? Through the lens of Pontius Pilate's encounter with Jesus, we're challenged to examine where we anchor our understanding of truth. The sermon reveals a striking contrast between worldly wisdom—which tells us to follow our emotions, feelings, and desires to define our own truth—and biblical wisdom, which grounds us in The Truth of God's unchanging infallible Word. The central tension of the Palm Sunday narrative becomes deeply personal: Will we, like Pilate, turn our backs on the King to please the crowd? Or will we develop a biblical worldview that transforms how we see our problems, relationships, and purpose? The message urgently calls us to recognize that in our social media-saturated age, we're constantly bombarded with voices that have never earned credibility, creating echo chambers that feel like truth but lack biblical grounding. The remedy is clear: immerse ourselves in God's Word, allowing the fear of the Lord—living in awe of our Creator—to replace our fear of man.

READ SCRIPTURE

**JOHN 12:12-29; MATTHEW 27:11-26; JOHN 18:37-38;
2 TIMOTHY 4:2-5; PROVERBS 9:10**

CONNECT RELATIONALLY

1) Pastor Kurt emphasized that many voices speak into our lives now, especially through social media and the broader culture. What voices most consistently shape the way you think, feel, and respond - and how can you tell whether they are pulling you toward God's truth or away from it?

2) How do you respond internally to the idea that your "fear of man" may sometimes be greater than your "fear of the Lord," like Pilate's was?

3) Pilate tried multiple ways to avoid making the difficult but right decision. When you are under pressure, which response are you most likely to fall into: passing the problem to someone else, compromising, rationalizing, giving in to the crowd...or something else? Why do you think that is?

**GROW
SPIRITUALLY**

4) Pastor Kurt began his sermon teaching about Palm Sunday and Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey rather than a war horse. What does that reveal about the kind of Messiah Jesus is, and how did that challenge the expectations many people had of Him?

5) One of the central questions in the sermon is Pilate's question: "What is truth?" According to the message, how does biblical truth differ from the modern idea of "my truth," and why does that distinction matter so much for Christian discipleship? Could you clearly explain the difference to someone who asked?

6) Pilate did his best to stay neutral about who Jesus was and "ride the fence." What does Pilate's role in the trial of Jesus teach you about human responsibility and guilt, even when someone tries to "wash their hands" of a decision? When a person today is confronted and introduced to Jesus, can they remain neutral?

**LIVE
GENEROUSLY**

7) The statistics showed dramatic life change when people read the Bible 4+ times per week. What currently prevents you from reading Scripture regularly? What practical step could you take this week to increase your time in God's Word?

8) Given what you heard about social media "platforms" and algorithms shaping your worldview in a humanist perspective, what is one practical change you will make in your media consumption to guard your mind with truth?

9) Pastor Kurt ended with two big challenges: to trust Jesus as Savior and to stop turning our backs on the King to please people. What is one area of your life this week where you sense God calling you to put Jesus first more clearly, concretely, and courageously? How might that shape your gratitude during Holy Week?

**TAKE
ACTION**

Based on our conversation today, how is the Holy Spirit inviting you to take a next step in practical application? Please answer this statement:

I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

Please ask each member to share their step if they have one. It is ok if you are still discerning and need time to process, pray and ponder.

**PRAY
TOGETHER**

Please take a few moments to ask each member to share a joy or praise and an area of concern. Ask someone to pray over these requests, and please distribute them to all group members so you may continue to intercede for one another between your meetings.

**ENGAGE
TOGETHER**

The Northview App Bible Reading Plan - As we enter into Holy Week we are encouraging and challenging individuals and groups to consider building a new habit of engagement in the Northview Daily Devotional and Bible Reading Plan. It is designed with intentionality 5 days a week to prepare our hearts for the upcoming weekend message of the Biblical figure. Consider starting a group chat to discuss it daily this week.