# **Power of the Cross**

Matt VanCleave April 28th, 2024

#### We would like your feedback!

Please answer this brief survey to help us provide you with a better small group experience!

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## **REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS**

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- □ I will begin reading 1 Corinthians.
- □ I will ask questions about what I read.
- □ I will talk with a friend about it.
- □ I will invite someone to join me in studying 1 Corinthians.
- I will pray about what God might teach me, or how he might change me.
- □ I will do some of the stuff Paul teaches.

## SERMON SUMMARY

Have you wondered why the cross, of all the symbols in the world, represents the Christian faith? It's a symbol of humiliation, suffering, and death. Why would a religious movement want to associate with such a uninviting identity?

In this message we learn that the cross is used in Christendom to represent two spiritual powers that have been given to us as a result of Christ's death on the cross.

# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. Why do you think Jesus chose the cross as the symbol for Christianity, despite its association with shame and suffering? How does the symbolism of the cross challenge your understanding of power and success?
- 2. In the context of the Corinthians, how was the message of the cross unconventional and shocking?

- 3. How does the power of the cross invite individuals to fundamentally change their lives? What are some specific areas in our lives where we need to practice humility and surrender in order to follow Jesus?
- 4. How can we implement the teachings of Jesus on true greatness in our daily lives?
- 5. What are some practical ways to embody the principles of the cross in our daily lives? Which of these practical actions resonate most with you, and how can you commit to implement them in your everyday life?

# SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

- 1 Corinthians 1:17-18
- 1 Corinthians 1:22-23
- 1 Corinthians 2:1-2
- Galatians 2:20
- Matthew 16:24-25

#### **Next Steps**

□ I will live as a person of the cross.

### **Prayer Request(s)**

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