

Sermon Discussion Guide for Cumberland Fellowship Church Sermon Series: My Way: Week 6 (March 31, 2024 "Easter")

This guide is a supplement to the weekly sermon. We encourage families and groups to use it. When we hear God's Word, we need to do more than listen. The bible says, "Be doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). Step 1: GATHER with your family or group. Step 2: REVIEW and DISCUSS the key points and scriptures from the sermon. Step 3: PRAY for the prayer requests shared by your family or group.

DISCUSSION STARTER

What is your greatest longing in life?

DIGGING DEEPER 1

Read 1 Samuel 8:19; Exodus 14:14; Deuteronomy 1:29-30, 20:4; Ephesians 6:12. Using a good Bible Study tools like Bible Hub (biblehub.com), Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org), Got Questions (gotquestions.org), and Enduring Word (enduringword.com) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: We see in 1 Samuel 8:19 God's people always desired a King to fight for them, always desired a King to protect them and defeat their enemy "...We want a king over us. ²⁰Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles." God's people begged to have a King to fight for them, to protect them from their enemy. What does scripture tell us about God's desire to be King and fight for us? What was God's plan from the beginning? Who is our true enemy? What is Satan's strategy? Why have we always needed a King to conquer sin and Satan? What are the weapons of Christ? What is Satan's weapon?

DIGGING DEEPER 2

Read Isaiah 42:1; Matthew 12:16-18; Luke 9:34-35; John 1:33-34. Using a good Bible Study tools like **Bible Hub** (biblehub.com), Blue Letter Bible (blueletterbible.org), Got Questions (gotquestions.org), and Enduring Word (enduringword.com) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: There was always going to be a King. Our King, the Messiah, the Anointed one, the Chosen One. What does Christ mean? What does Messiah mean? What was the importance of being called "The Anointed One"? What is the significance of being anointed? Who anointed Jesus? Why was Christ called the "Chosen One"? What was Jesus Chosen for? Jesus brought justice not by inflicting violence on others, but by having violence inflicted upon him. How does this subvert our expectations? As we seek to be followers of Jesus, how might this be a model in our own lives? For ideas, see Philippians 2:1-9.

DIGGING DEEPER 3

Read John 18:36-37; Psalm 20:6-9; 1 Corinthians 15:57-58. Using a good Bible Study tools like **Bible Hub** (biblehub.com), **Blue Letter Bible** (blueletterbible.org), Got Questions (gotquestions.org), and Enduring Word (enduringword.com) study through these scriptures before responding to the following questions: As Jesus was standing on trial before Pontius, Pilot asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" How did Jesus respond? What were His key points in His answer? Because Jesus is King, we build movements not monuments. As you look at your life, where do you see God "moving"? How can you join Him in that movement? What is the significance of Jesus saying, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36)? Are you trusting in God for victory, or in someone or something else? How does being arrested, beat, and crucified qualify as victory? From the outside looking in it looks like defeat. The cross of Christ was seen as a place of defeat and failure. On the cross what was defeated? How did this set in motion Jesus' victory? How does forgetting the previous battles that God has gone before us and fought for us cripple us? When the Israelites went into the promised land, they saw "giants". How did they respond? Today we see "giant" obstacles, complications, and problems that seem too large to conquer. We let the "giants" steal our faith and leave us feeling defeated with a lack of assurance that God is in control of every problem, in spite of its size. How has this Easter message changed that for you? Who goes before you? Who fights your battles? Who has secured the victory?

DOING THE WORD

Identify one practical way you will respond to this week's Easter sermon. Write it down, reflect on it, and put it into practice this week. If you are in a small group, discuss this with one another. GOD WON'T FAIL. HE DIDN'T FAIL, and HE WON'T FAIL YOU! It is only through our surrender and acceptance of Jesus as Savior and King of our lives that we find victory over sin, and Satan. Will you surrender your lives to Christ as King? Maybe you need to come back to God. Have you wandered away from Him? Do you need to crucify "your way"? Close in a prayer of repentance.