**Growth Group Preparation Questions**

**For the week of: April 13, 2025**

**Sermon Title: The Three Crosses**

**Big Idea:** The 2nd thief sees Jesus as a King, a forgiver, and approachable.

**Prepare:** Listen to the sermon (if you haven’t already), read Luke 23:39-43, Matthew 27:44, and Mark 15:32, and spend a few minutes praying for your group. (Leaders, take time to do this throughout the week but also before your discussion. Pray that God will reveal the truths of His Word and our hearts will be changed!

**Connect:** (10 min)

Do you drink water from your bathroom faucet?

**Discuss:** (30 min) These questions are a guide. Add and remove as best fits your group and flow of discussion. (Leader: Remember that we've left a good amount of time for your group to pray together this week!)

**HEAD: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?**

1. What stood out to you about this week's sermon?

1. Read Luke 23:43 and Revelation 21:5. How do these verses bring us hope amidst a chaotic present reality? How are you living as if Jesus really will make all things new?

**HEART: HOW DOES THIS CHANGE MY ATTITUDES AND AFFECTIONS?**

1. How would your life have been different this past week if you had seen Jesus as the Sovereign King in a situation? What if you had seen him as an approachable friend?

1. The Gospel tells us that we are more sinful than we'd ever dare believe, and more loved than we'd ever dare hope. How have you come to realize you're more sinful than you'd believe? How have you experienced the love of Jesus in a way you couldn’t even have hoped for?  
   1. How do you continue to grow as you gain a deeper understanding of these two truths?

**HANDS: WHAT IS THIS PASSAGE ASKING US TO DO?**

There is great joy when we see Christ for who He is and think about the hope of Heaven! Read the following passages out loud and pray together as a group.

1. **Psalm 65:1-5.** God is a God of salvation that He has provided for us through Christ Jesus. As you read and contemplate the beauty of who Christ is, prepare your hearts and minds to come before Him together.
2. **Psalm 57:1-3 and Psalm 40:1-5.** Considering the needs of those in your group, or the struggles you face individually, remind yourself of how God brings forgiveness, and healing and is our defense.
3. **1 John 4:9-11**. Rejoice in the love of God to us. Pray for His love to be shown through you and each member of your G2.
4. **Revelation 5:11-14 and Revelation 21:3-7**. As you close your prayer time, praise the Holy God of Heaven alongside the thousands of angels. Remember the hope we have of Heaven and our security in God.

**Serve and Share (S2) Reflection and Action**

Last week, an S2 Team traveled to Texas. Take time in your gathering to have those going on S2 Trips share about the work they will do and what they are excited about. Pray for God to work in and through them. Encourage your group to join the prayer team of one of these trips to pray for their preparation while they’re in the field and attend the prayer send-off. (For a list of prayer send-off dates, email krinta@4fbc.org).