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► PRAYER

To say we are thankful for the cross is an understatement. But to understand that it was and is the King of all Kings who took upon himself the punishment due to me is an unfathomable love. We worship you today, God. Amen!

WARM UP

What's the best piece of advice you've ever received?

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⁶⁰ A the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" ⁶¹ But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" ⁶² And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." ⁶³ And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? ⁶⁴ You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵ And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards received him with blows.

"Christians often have to wrestle with the fact that Jesus Christ is both the King of Kings, and yet at the same time the sacrificial Lamb of God. Why would God who is all powerful not simply wipe out all of Jesus' enemies? God doesn't need to flex; He has all strength and chooses to give that strength to those who call upon Him."

Mark 14:60-65 (ESV)

■ GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

- 1. On a scale from 1 to 10 (1 = never, 10 = always), how do you rate your frequency in crying out to God when times are tough? Why do you rate yourself this way?
- 2. Why do you think that the high priests were so furious at Jesus? Did the anger come from a place of loving God? Why do you think that anger pushed them all the way to wanting Jesus to die?
- 3. Do you trust in Jesus as King of your life? Do you trust that his sacrifice of his life is enough to tell you that you're forgiven and loved?
- 4. Jesus endured mockery and rejection in addition to his physical beatings. How does it affect you, knowing that King Jesus knows physical, mental, emotional, and relational pain like any of us have, but in the most extreme ways?

5.	What do you find harder to wrestle with: the fact that Jesus Christ is the sovereign King in full control or that he would model power by laying his lift down as a sacrifice?
	PRAYER LIST