# Connect Group Notes: Sunday 14th July

## Topic: Jesus Becomes King

**Scripture: Mark 15**

**Sharing Experience:**

If you discussed the previous week and have been praying ‘Give us today our daily bread,’ take some time to share your experiences. How have you seen God provide for your needs this week? Can you identify any specific answers to your prayers?

**Questions for Discussion:**

**1. How many times is Jesus declared as King in Mark 15?**

* Look closely at the text. How many times is Jesus referred to as "King of the Jews"? What is the significance of these declarations?

**2. In what ways does Jesus' trial and crucifixion act as an ironic coronation ceremony?**

* Identify the elements of a traditional coronation present in Jesus’ trial and crucifixion. How do these elements highlight the irony of the situation?

**3. How does understanding Jesus’ death help us through the following perspectives:**

**a. Jesus remaining silent as the suffering servant of Isaiah 53:1-10**

* Reflect on Jesus’ silence before his accusers. How does this fulfil Isaiah’s prophecy about the suffering servant? What does this teach us about Jesus’ character and mission?

**b. Barabbas being freed instead of Jesus**

* Consider the implications of Barabbas being released in Jesus’ place. How does this act of substitution reflect the broader message of the gospel?

**c. Jesus being crucified by the Roman Empire because Pilate wanted to satisfy the crowd (v15)**

* Discuss Pilate’s decision to crucify Jesus to appease the crowd. What does this reveal about Jesus as he faces the power structures of the world?

**4. In verse 32, the Chief Priests are once again looking for signs that they might ‘see and believe.’ What signs do you see from v25-38? What do you think each one means?**

**5. While some main characters in this chapter seem blind to what is happening, who is paying attention? (v39-47)**

**6. Joseph is waiting for the kingdom of God. What do you think this means?**

* Reflect on Joseph’s actions and motivations. What does it mean to wait for the kingdom of God? How does this apply to your own life?

**7. Discuss the risks and acts of faith demonstrated by Joseph and the women after Jesus’ death. How do their actions inspire us today?**

**8. Jesus taught us to pray ‘your kingdom come.’ Do we pray this regularly? What signs of God’s kingdom at work do we see in the world and in our lives today?**