

# ***Discussion Guide: The Dishonoring Of The King***

## **Matthew 27:27-31**

*Unedited AI-generated document from a sermon preached by Rev. John Vermeer*

### **Opening Reflection**

1. Read Matthew 27:27-31 together. What details in this passage stand out to you that you may not have noticed before?

### **Appearances Can Be Deceiving**

2. The sermon emphasized that "we are called to live by faith, not by sight." What are some situations in your life where appearances have been deceiving, and faith in God's Word provided a different perspective?
3. How might focusing too much on what we see with our eyes, rather than what we understand through faith, cause us to "lose inspiration" or "despair of life"?
4. In what ways do you find yourself tempted to judge situations only by what you can see rather than by what God's Word reveals?

### **The World's Hatred for Christ's Kingship**

5. The soldiers mocked Jesus because they couldn't recognize His true kingship. What aspects of Christ's authority do people in our culture find most difficult to accept today?
6. The sermon stated: "It is never time to hate Christ, mock Christ, or undervalue Christ... it is always time to rely on Christ, trust

Christ, and submit to Christ." How does this challenge you personally?

7. Why is it significant that Christ "won't share the throne with anyone else"? How does this exclusive claim impact how we understand salvation and authority?

## **Worldly Glory vs. True Glory**

8. Contrast the "worldly glory" portrayed by the soldiers with the true glory revealed in Christ. How do these different understandings of glory manifest in today's culture?
9. The sermon suggested that worldly glory focuses on "image without substance." Where do you see this emphasis on outward appearance rather than inward reality in your own life or in society?
10. How does Christ's example challenge the world's definition of power, authority, and glory?

## **The Self-Portrait of Fallen Humanity**

11. The preacher suggested that the soldiers unwittingly painted a portrait of fallen humanity. In what ways do you see your own sinful nature reflected in their actions toward Jesus?
12. The sermon states: "We're the ones who deserve to have our heads beaten, not the one who came to crush the serpent's head." How does this perspective deepen your appreciation of Christ's sacrifice?
13. What does it mean that Christ was "willing to identify and suffer for a cursed humanity"? How should this shape our response to Him?

## **The Opportunity of a Lifetime**

14. The sermon concludes by describing knowing Christ as "the ultimate opportunity of a lifetime." What makes this relationship so significant compared to other opportunities we might pursue?

15. What specific areas of your life need to be reoriented around honoring "the King of Glory" rather than pursuing worldly glory?
16. How might remembering Christ's willingness to be mocked and humiliated change how you approach difficult or humbling circumstances in your own life?

## **Closing Application**

17. What is one concrete way you can live this week that demonstrates you are living by faith rather than by sight?

## **BONUS QUESTION**

Explain the irony of the mocking soldiers mentioned by the Preacher.