

THE KING WE NEED

Discussion Guide: Suffering & Glory

Passage: Luke 9:18-36

Summary: Jesus blows all expectations when He tells His disciples He is going to be killed and then rise again from the dead. And to top it off, He then pulls back the curtain and reveals His glory to them. Is He going to die? Or is He going to reign as the glorious King? Jesus says “both” and reveals that our own hope of future glory is possible...but will come only through His own suffering.

Discussion Questions:

1. When Jesus tells them He is going to suffer and die, their expectations are completely shattered. Imagine yourself in their shoes. What might you have felt when the one you thought was the Messiah told you He was going to die?
2. Jesus invites them to follow Him with the invitation to “deny yourself”. To deny yourself is an act of surrender. To surrender your identities, your false self (the selves you’ve created to cope and survive), your dreams, and your expectations...you have to be honest about what these are. What are some of the identities, false selves, dreams, hopes, and expectations you have?
3. Which ones are the hardest for you to surrender? Why do you think that is?
4. Jesus invites them to “take up your cross daily.” Daily habits of surrender are necessary to follow the way of Jesus. What could “daily habits of surrender” look like? How might spiritual disciplines be part of this practical surrender?

Take time to pray for one another and ask Jesus to help you surrender.