

Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John

March 7th, 2021

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Using Power like Jesus (John 18:28-19:16a)

1. The Impact of Power – Force Versus Freedom (18:28-38a)

2. The Intention of Power – My Advantage Versus Your Advantage (18:38b-19:6)

3. The Inception of Power – Steward Versus Self (19:7-16a)

For Further Thought and Discussion:

Getting Started:

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?

2. Think of a recent time you treated someone differently because they were in a position of power. How did the power dynamic in the relationship impact the way you treated them?

Going Deeper:

3. Jesus tells Pilate that his kingdom *"is not of this world"* (v. 36). How *shouldn't* we interpret his statement? What is Jesus trying to communicate about his kingdom and the way he wields power (compare v. 36 with what Jesus says in 17:16-18)? How is Jesus' kingdom distinct from the kingdoms of the world?
4. This passage records the trial of Christ. How is this actually a trial against the world, and its powers? How do we see this in the text?
5. This passage is filled with irony. Why is it ironic that...
 - The Jewish leaders are so concerned about ritual impurity (18:28)
 - The Jews call for the release of Barabbas, rather than Jesus (18:40)
 - Pilate and the soldiers' mockingly refer to Jesus as *"King of the Jews"* (18:39; 19:3; 19:14)
 - The religious leaders cry out, *"We have no king but Caesar"* (19:15)?

Application:

6. Compare and contrast the way Jesus uses his power with the way Pilate and the religious leaders use their power. What's Jesus' goal in wielding his power? What's his motivation? How does he view the source of power? What about Jesus' example stands out to you? What convicts you? Think about the kinds of power you possess. How can you apply Jesus' example to your life?
7. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this passage?