Sermon Discussion and Application Guide The Way of the Cross Sunday, March 26, 2023

1. Open with prayer.

2. Read the passages. Mark 8:27-33, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, and Philippians 2:5-8.

3. Observe:

- a. What do you see? Who? When? Where? Why?
- b. Are there any principles, warnings, commands?
- c. Are there behaviors, attitudes, and practices that are encouraged or discouraged?
- d. What does it tell us about God? What does it tell us about ourselves?

4. Interpret:

- a. What is the main point of the passages?
- b. Any significant subpoints?

5. From the sermon:

- a. The disciples had a hard time grasping Jesus' call to suffer and serve. We often give them grief for how they handled situations, but do we struggle with this too?
- b. What is something God has called you to do that you really didn't want to do?
- c. Have you seen God use someone's weakness or past failures for his glory?
- d. Paul says he "rejoices in his weakness". Why is this a hard concept for us?
- e. What excuses do we tell ourselves to ignore God's calling on our lives?

6. Apply:

- a. What can we do in response to these passages?
- b. How can you live differently in light of these truths?

7. <u>Pray:</u>

a. Pray for one another as you seek to apply what God has shown you in his Word.