



## PART 1: KINGDOMS COLLIDE

### INTRODUCTION

In the first century, the cross was a symbol of suffering and shame. In this series, we'll talk about how it represents an empowering invitation to a completely different way of life.

### KEY SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:5-6

Matthew 4:9-10

Luke 9:23

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what part of your life do you feel the most discontentment, or never enough-ness?
2. What are your go-to coping mechanisms for disappointment, discontentment, and never enough-ness?
3. Pastor Will taught that the only power satan has is that which we give him, by believing his lies and deceptions. Do you agree or disagree? Why? What lies or deceptions of the devil are you tempted to believe? What temptations do you think of as opportunities (even opportunities to do good)?
4. The value system of this world we're confronted with every day is "striving is surviving." Where do you spend the most energy striving? Where do you catch yourself competing and comparing, internally or externally?
5. After his resurrection Jesus' closest followers finally understood that Jesus was a different kind of king with a different kind of kingdom. They understood that the cross represented a way of life: sacrifice, powerlessness, and loss. How much time and energy do you spend trying to avoid sacrifice, powerlessness, and loss?
6. Read Luke 9:23. What would it look like to choose the way of the cross—to choose to lose or sacrifice—in those places where you spend time and energy trying to avoid sacrifice?
7. Spend a few minutes this week meditating on this statement: *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.* (1 Corinthians 1:18)

**Application Prayer:** Jesus, I choose to lose, to sacrifice for those around me as you did for us all. I surrender myself to you and the way of the Cross.