Strong when I am Weak "Jesus on the Cross" Matthew 27:27-50 October 12, 2025

Sermon Points:

Introduction: Where is True Power Found?

1. The Paradox of the Cross (v. 32-44)

- The ultimate powerlessness of Jesus.
- The mocked King is the true King.

2. The Power in Forsakenness (v. 45-54)

- Jesus's cry of agony and trust.
- The torn veil: God's power opens the way for us.

3. Our Response: Living the C.R.O.S.S.

The cross calls us to a life where God's power shines through our weakness:

- Confess your weakness daily.
- Rejoice in Christ's ransom constantly.
- Obey God in the darkness.
- Serve from your scars.
- Shine by pointing to the Cross.

Community Group Discussion Questions

1. Looking Back - Understanding the Message

Goal: To review and ensure understanding of the sermon's main points.

- 1. What part of the sermon on "The Power of Powerlessness" was most impactful or surprising for you?
- 2. The sermon presented the cross as a paradox: power found in powerlessness. How does this flip our normal understanding of what it means to be strong?
- 3. Pastor explained that Jesus's cry, "My God, why have you forsaken me?" was both genuine agony and a profound act of trust. How does this change the way you view times when God feels distant?

2. Looking In - Sharing Our Stories

Goal: To foster openness and sharing about one's own weaknesses.

- 4. Where in your life do you feel the most pressure to project strength and hide your "powerlessness"?
- 5. **For a quieter moment of reflection:** If you feel comfortable, share about a time when you experienced God's strength or grace precisely when you felt weak or inadequate.
- 6. What would it look like for you to see your weaknesses not as liabilities to hide, but as potential places for God's power to be displayed?

3. Looking Forward - Taking Practical Steps

Goal: To brainstorm practical, "how-to" steps for living out the C.R.O.S.S. together as a group.

- 7. Looking at the C.R.O.S.S. acronym, which step feels most challenging for you to live out right now? (Confess, Rejoice, Obey, Serve, Shine)
- 8. The "Serve from your scars" step suggests our weaknesses can become credentials for ministry. As a group, brainstorm one practical way you could serve others this month that leans into your collective experiences and empathy.
- 9. How can we, as a small group, better support each other in embracing the "power of powerlessness" this week?

Personal Notes