

**Cross of Hope Making Faith Connections Small Group Ministry**

**October 20, 2024**

**Getting Our Bearings**

**Who is Leading the Way?**

- 15 Minutes      **Gathering, Hospitality, Check-in with Each Other...**  
What's the clearest organizational chart you've seen?  
Why is it helpful to have someone lead the way?
- Opening Prayer      Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. (ELW p50)
- 45 Minutes      **Discussion Questions:**  
Read first Mark 10: 35-45  
What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?  
What is challenging or confusing as you read/hear it this time?  
How does this passage invite us to reflect on the question 'Who is leading the way?'  
Read Mark 10: 32-24  
How do these verse inform Jesus' dialogue with Jame and John?  
How does this dialogue (vv35-40) speak to our human inclinations?  
What is the image of 'glory' in the world/your context today?  
Why is it important for Jesus to reverse our understanding of 'glory'?  
How does Jesus do that here?  
How does Jesus' word to the disciples (vv41-45) inform the way of life in God?  
Why is this important today? How is this challenging today?  
How is Jesus giving his life integral to leading the way into life in God?  
In what ways are our lives a response to this gift?  
What is the good news in this passage?  
  
Read again Isaiah 53: 4-12  
What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?  
What images or words lead to this passage becoming known as one of four 'servant songs' in Isaiah?  
Identify together the healing ministry and redemptive suffering in the song.  
  
Read again Hebrews 5: 1-10  
What do you notice about this story as you read/hear it this time?  
What do we learn from Christ exercising his priesthood from the depths of humanity rather than an exalted place?
- 20 Minutes      **Prayer Requests and Prayer**
- 10 Minutes      **Wrap Up and Get Ready to Leave Session:** Conversation about details for the next session...place, day, time, and volunteer Host. Remember...bring a Bible, watch the Sunday worship and sermon in preparation for the group session.

Maximum amount of time...90 minutes. Time used for each component is flexible depending on the agreed upon needs of the group for that session.