



Sermon Growth Guide

October 19, 2025

Power

Luke 22:24-30

Key Verse: Luke 22:26 “But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves.”

Big Idea: True security and significance comes not from seeking power but choosing to follow Jesus.

Foundations

In Matt. 4:1-11 we read of the Wilderness Temptations. Jesus turned down power. In Matt. 26:53 while being arrested Jesus said to Peter, “Do you think I cannot call on my Father and he will put legions of angels at my disposal?” In Matt. 26:61-63, 27:12-14, Jesus remained silent before the accusations in the Sanhedrin and then again before Pilate. In Matt. 27: 39-42, while nailed to a cross, he was goaded to use his power, “You were going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself!” “Come down from the cross if you are the Son of God” “He saved others but he can’t save himself.” Jesus’s response, in Luke 23:24, “Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.”

Jesus didn’t embrace power even though he was given all power by the Father. (John 3:35). “Rather he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross.” Phil 2:7-8

Pastor Tim asks us, “What image pops into your mind when you hear the word power?” Did anyone picture Jesus nailed to a cross? And yet, is that not the greatest demonstration of power in our world. Victory over the power of sin and death. Unimaginable personal power restrained in obedience to the will of the Father.

Understanding God’s Word

Read together Luke 22:24-30. Why might the disciples have been discussing who would be the greatest in the new kingdom? What had Jesus said as they prepared to eat the Passover? (Luke 22:15-16) What was the promise Jesus made to his disciples. (Luke 28-30) What might Jesus have been doing when he said “For who is greater, the one is at table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at table? But I am among you as one who serves. (John 13:10-15)

Applying God’s Word

What is the attraction to power in your life? Is it security? Is it control over circumstances? Significance? How is power demonstrated and how is it honored in our culture today. Jesus was very powerful. How did he use his power? Do you choose to align yourself with the powerful? How can you take a peaceful step down into humble service?

Witnessing God’s Word

Pastor Tim asked us, “Are you calling yourself a Christian or are you following the way of Christ?” How can you descend into greatness and thereby draw others to Jesus?