



TALK IT OVER GUIDE- Walking with the Lion

Ice Breaker

If you could have any animal as a completely tame pet, what would you choose and why?

Key Verses

- Philippians 3:14
- Ephesians 1:18-20
- John 12:27-28
- Matthew 26:39-42

Questions

- What's your initial reaction to the idea of Jesus as both the Lamb and the Lion? Which image are you more comfortable with and why?

- Mike said, 'The relentless pursuit of new life in Christ is not a slot on my calendar. It's a way that I do everything else on my calendar.' How might this perspective change your approach to daily life?
- In what ways have you defined yourself by your weaknesses rather than by God's power working through you?
- The sermon contrasts human wisdom (power through control and accomplishment) with God's wisdom (power through submission). Where do you see these different approaches playing out in your life?
- Mike mentioned that the Lion 'takes us places we don't want to go.' Can you share about a time when following God led you somewhere uncomfortable but ultimately beneficial?
- How does Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane ('not my will, but yours be done') challenge or encourage you in your current circumstances?
- What area of your life might God be calling you to submit to Him right now that you've been resistant to?
- The sermon mentioned having 'the same power God used to raise Jesus from the dead' at our disposal. How might truly believing this change how you face challenges?

Life Application

This week, identify one area where you've been defining yourself by a weakness or where you've been resistant to following God's direction. Write it down, pray about it daily, and take one specific action to submit that area to God. Remember that true power comes not through control but through submission to the Lion. Each morning, pray: 'Father, glorify your name through me today, even if it takes me where I don't want to go.'

Key Takeaways

- Being relentless in pursuing new life in Christ means approaching all of life with that purpose, not just scheduling it as an activity.
- We often limit ourselves by defining our identity through our weaknesses rather than through God's power working in us.

- True power comes through submission to God (God's wisdom), not through control or accomplishment (human wisdom).
- Jesus demonstrated submission in Gethsemane, showing us that even when we don't want to go where God is leading, we can still say 'not my will, but yours.'
- The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to believers who submit to God's direction.

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for being both our sacrificial Lamb and our powerful Lion. Forgive us for the times we've been comfortable worshiping You but uncomfortable following You into challenging places. Help us to stop defining ourselves by our weaknesses and instead to live in the power that comes through submission to You. Give us the courage to be relentless in pursuing new life in Christ—not just in designated times but in everything we do. May we, like You in Gethsemane, learn to say 'not my will, but Yours be done.' We pray that our lives would glorify Your name, wherever You lead us. In Jesus' name, amen.