

# 7 -WEEK STUDY ON POWER

## WEEK 7

“Power and the Cross”

Colossians 2:13-15

**FLEX**



## WEEKLY READING

**Primary text from this week:** Colossians 2:13-15

**Secondary texts from this week:** Philippians 2:3-11, Mark 10:45

## GETTING STARTED

**Goals for this session:** To grow in our understanding of the paradoxical power of the cross

**Missed the sermon?** Watch it at [www.youtube.com/venturamissionary](http://www.youtube.com/venturamissionary)

**Break the Ice:** What is your favorite sports team? How do you feel when they win?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you every had someone bring up a mistake you made in the past? How did that experience make you feel?
2. Have someone in the group read **Colossians 2:13-14**. Why is it significant for Christians to understand that we have been justified (declared not guilty) before God because of the cross?
3. Have someone in the group read **Romans 5:1-2**. Why is this such good news for those who are in Christ?
4. Have someone in the group read **Colossians 2:15**. This verse presents a paradox: Jesus has already conquered the powers of evil, but we still see evil in the world. With that paradox in mind, (1) where do you see evil apparently still reigning? And (2) how does the cross give you hope in the face of evil?
5. Have someone in the group read **1 Corinthians 1:18**. What do you think Paul means when he says "the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing"? Why do you think he calls the cross the "power of God for those who are being saved"?
6. Have someone in the group read **Mark 14:43-51**. Do you think it's realistic to view Jesus' response to Judas and the mob as an example for how Christians should deal with the people who try to hurt us or take advantage of us?
7. Have someone read **Mark 10:45**. After a seven-week series on the subject of power, what does this verse remind us about how Jesus used His power? Now have someone read verses **Mark 10:42-44**. What does this passage remind us about how we are to use our power?



## PRAY

**Pray for each other:** Pray that the people in your group would find hope in Christ's victory in the cross.

**Pray for yourself:** Thank God for declaring you "not guilty" through Christ's death on the cross.

**Pray for your four:** Identify four people who don't know Jesus (friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers/classmates), and commit to pray for them consistently Pray that **(1)** God would reveal Jesus to them, **(2)** that God would turn their hearts towards Him, **(3)** that God would put Christians in their path to represent Christ, and **(4)** that God would give you an opportunity to share what Christ has done in your life.

## ACTION STEPS

**Action Step: Forgive a debt that someone owes you.** This might be a debt of unforgiveness, a financial debt, or a grudge that you have held against someone who has hurt you. Ask God to help you forgive the debt as a way of identifying with Christ's ultimate act of self-sacrifice, *and* as a way to participate in the paradoxical power of the cross.

## NOTES

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