

Revelation 5:7-12

And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying, *"Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."*

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, *"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"*

LITTLE TWIGS: In our weekly gatherings we engage in teaching God's truth and responding through singing, collective prayer and liturgical readings. We believe it is important for our children to see, hear, and experience God's Word and His people responding in worship. In this way we corporately seek to raise children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Eph 6:4), so children remain in worship and teaching with the adults.

Here are a few ideas to engage your little ones in the service today:

- Each week sermon passages are listed in the handout; before church on Sunday read the Scripture being taught out loud as a family and pick out key words in the passage.
- Have your children listen and - pat your arm, make a mark, draw a circle, or count the number of times those key words come up in the sermon.
- Incentivize success with rewards or snacks
- Pick up a "Little Twigs" plastic tote in the entry way before church.
- Ask your little one to draw a picture of the things they are hearing in the sermon.
- Have your child help with offering.
- After church take your child to "Little Twigs" where they hear a summary of the sermon, ask them what they learned.

April 6, 2025

Today's Order of Service:

- Call to Worship: Revelation 5:7-12
- Romans 11 doxology
- Reading: The Word Made Flesh
- Ancient Words

Teaching: Mark 15:1-15, "The King of Confidence"

- Collection of Tithes and Offerings
- Come Behold
- Praise the LORD
- Christ the True & Better
- Now to Him

Upcoming Sermon Topics and Events: (also see website)

April 6 – The King Ressurrected; Mark 15:16-32
April 13 – The King Ressurrected; Mark 15:33-47
April 20 – **Ressurrection Sunday**; Mark 16:1-20
April 27 – The King of the Ordinary; Ruth 1:1-5
May 4 – The King of the Ordinary; Ruth 1:6-18
May 11- The King of the Ordinary; Ruth 1:19-22
May 18 – The King of the Ordinary; Ruth 2:1-7
May 25 – The King of the Ordinary; Ruth 2:8-13

THE WORKSHOP: Men's Bible Study. Meet's the FIRST Sunday morning of every month at 7:30 a.m. Meeting location: 4H Fair Grounds, Church Building. Next Meeting: May 4, 7:30am.

LIVE STREAMING: If you cannot attend in person, you can join us by clicking the button on our home page at **vineandbranch.family**

EMAIL LIST: If you attend regularly and want to be kept updated on church information and events provide your email to Ian Smith; iansmith@ianlabs.com.

MISSIONARIES and MINISTRIES:

Rajan & Helen Nehemiah

Agape Christian Mission – India; Agapemissionindia.org

John & Brittany Bagatya

YWAM Hopeland Base, Uganda; Bagatya.wordpress.com

40 Days for Life: 40daysforlife.com

Please check out <https://vineandbranch.family/> for a more detailed calendar of events, weekly sermon series and study passages, and to access previous sermons on both our website and Spotify.

Main Point: The physical and emotional pain experienced and endured by Jesus Christ – so to accomplish God’s sovereign plan, honor his Father, crush evil, and secure our redemption – **irrefutably display Jesus Christ as our worthy Resurrected King!** Therefore, we can **follow him fearlessly, confidently**, and full of **hope**.

- Marks Gospel is **NOT** written to **exalt crucifixion** but **the CHRIST** who endured it and why! “Consider **HIM** who endured from sinners...” Heb 12
- Jesus Christ is **the perfect human in every aspect**. He is the **humble servant**, and **fortified leader**

Key verse: Mark 10:45; “For even the **Son of Man** did not come to be served, **but to serve**, and **give his life** as a ransom for many.”

How does the physical pain endured in the crucifixion exalt Christ?

- When the soldiers mocked and beat Jesus it wasn’t just Roman/government cruelty—it was God’s word coming to pass. (Isaiah 53:3, 5; Ps 22:16-18)
- The violence of the crucifixion also links the cost of sin and necessity of sacrifice. (Lev. 17:11 Hebrews 10:4-10).
- The brutality and violence amplify the cost/wages of sin, bringing the unseen to be seen; the weight of what Jesus was carrying in his spirit: portrayed tangibly upon his flesh.
- Jesus, having experienced temptation and suffering makes Him a compassionate high priest, *uniquely qualified* to mediate for us before God. (Heb 2: 17, 4:15)
- Jesus serves as both eternal PRIEST and eternal SACRIFICE (Heb 7:17)
- Jesus wasn’t just killed. He willfully poured out his life in accordance with the Scriptures (Jn 10:18). He knowingly absorbed the full force of human evil and turned it into life! (Rom 1:16).

How does the emotional/relational ridicule and mockery endured in the crucifixion exalt Christ?

- The repeated words of ridicule reflect the intensity and multifaceted nature of the hostility directed at Jesus during his crucifixion.
 - **Mock** (v.20, 31) suggests ridicule or scorn, often with a sense of playacting or making a fool of someone.
 - **Blaspheme** or deride (v.29) is a stronger term, meaning to speak irreverently or slanderously against something sacred.
 - **Revile** (v.32) carries the sense of verbal abuse or reproach, often with personal insult.
- Each form of this mocking and ridicule came from a variety of people groups & display totality;
 - Convicted criminals/thieves crucified *and* the religious elite of the day.
 - Common citizen *and* the elite Roman soldiers.
 - ALL our voices have joined the mocking crowd at some point.

All the brutality, all the violence, all the mockery, all the reviling, all the blasphemy, all the evil was focused in one condensed effort ... on one man = Jesus, at one point in time = the cross... and Jesus Christ willingly absorbed it, killed death, and made evil do good and rescued us!

Applications:

1. **Awe, rejoicing, and Worship**
2. Following and Submission
3. **Fearless & confident** living
4. Possession of **Hope** (Isaiah 54:17; Rom 8:31-38)