

King's Way Church
Message for Mar. 11, 2007
Written by Roger Miller

Reflecting on Easter: POWER'S SEDUCTION
Mark 15:1-32

THE FALLACY OF POWER

Similarly, the world is seduced by this imagery of power! From power suits to Power Rangers...We think using our human smarts and our modern equipment, with technologies that can clone human beings, manipulate genes, with our power to destroy life at any moment with a single bomb that will make Hiroshima look like an XT compared to a Pentium 4, we think we have evolved into a better society.

There seems to be an idea that the bigger you are, the more powerful you are, the more intimidation you can bring to the table, the more secure in life you can be. With more power, you will come out on top. Charles Colson, once said: ***"Power is like saltwater; the more you drink the thirstier you get."*** And it was this felt power that fuelled the events that led to Jesus' crucifixion. **v.31-32**

OUR DISAPPOINTMENT WITH GOD

So there was this cry from the people **"show the power, do your stuff, come down from the cross"** but this was met with great disappointment! We too have our ideas of heaven on earth... too often we are disappointed that God does not show His stuff the way we figure He would. We too demand like the mob, ***come down, Messiah!*** Isn't that the truth? Are we not addicted to signs, not to God? Dazzled by the signs?

THE TEMPTATION OF POWER

It was this same temptation to manipulate with power that led humanity down, that led to the first human sin! Adam and Eve were tempted to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, in order to acquire God-like power, the power that's reserved only for God. Ever since then, people have inherited this strange addiction to power. Since then, humanity has never seen real peace. It is somehow not enough to depend on God, we want to be in control.

THE POWER OF LOVE

As we think about the Easter story, we can see God's tremendous restraint. He could've wiped away His enemies, His opponents with the wave of His hand, but He would hide His power. He would not use it just to show how powerful He is. So He allowed His own Son to suffer the taunts, jeers, the pain of humiliating death as he identified Himself with the world's wounded, the world that hurts, choosing not to run away from it. He would let us know that power is not the answer, power was never the answer to life's problems, He has ample power yet He chose not to use it. Because there is something more at stake... something more beautiful, more wonderful.

Jesus comes not in power, but in love, as a sacrifice, to woo, to win over, and to tell that God so loved the world, and not for so God ruled the world... ***God chose love not power...***

As we begin to turn toward and reflect on Easter, when Jesus submitted under the power of the mob, the Roman soldiers, Pilate, chief priests... resisting the urge to use power to solve His problems, we see clearer the love of God, the strange love of the Lord Jesus Christ, the amazing love of one who determined love not power is the answer! ***Romans 8:31-39***

So heaven is available once again through the body and the blood of Jesus because Jesus chose to love, not overpower, not condemn us. The message is simple will you trust and follow Him, not your own strategies, to find heaven on earth and demands that life works apart from Him. Apart from Him, there is no peace!

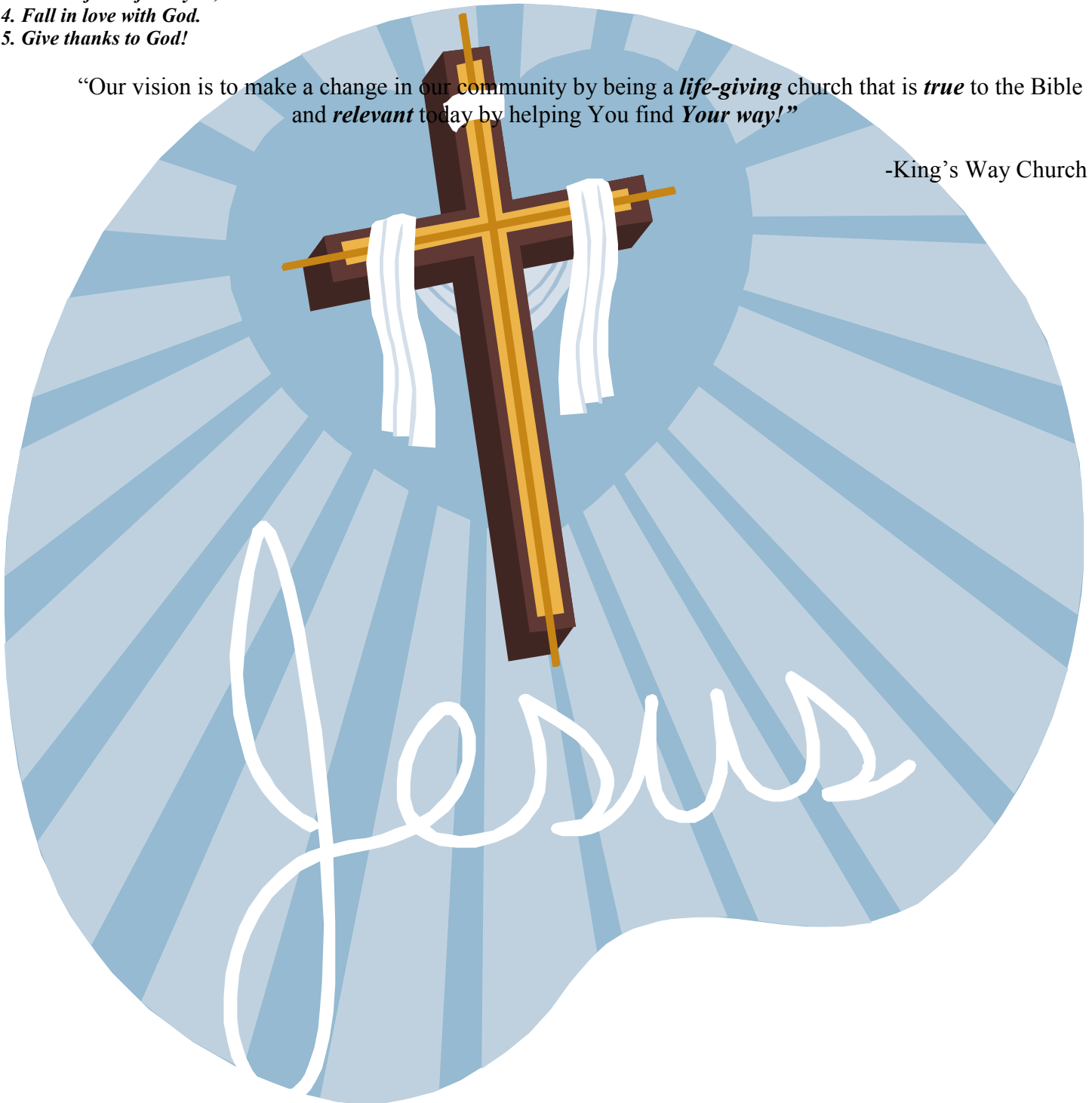
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PUT IT INTO ACTION

1. *Refuse to believe that power is everything!*
2. *Long for heaven!*
3. *When life confuses you, trust God!*
4. *Fall in love with God.*
5. *Give thanks to God!*

“Our vision is to make a change in our community by being a **life-giving** church that is **true** to the Bible and **relevant** today by helping You find **Your way!**”

-King's Way Church



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