

## Confronted by Calvary Part 2: Smoothing our Edges

### Discussion Guide – March 30, 2025

Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light.”  
Matthew 11:28-30

<sup>25</sup> If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. <sup>26</sup> And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?  
Matthew 16:21-26

#### Quotes:

"Admirers are only all too willing to serve Christ as long as proper caution is exercised. Give heed, therefore, to the call of discipleship."  
Soren Kierkegaard

#### The Fruit of the Spirit:

- **Love** – selfless, sacrificial, unconditional care for others
- **Joy** – deep gladness not based on circumstances
- **Peace** – inner calm and wholeness, even in chaos
- **Patience** – endurance, especially with people and circumstances
- **Kindness** – active compassion and consideration
- **Goodness** – moral integrity and generosity
- **Faithfulness** – loyalty, trustworthiness, commitment
- **Gentleness** – strength under control; humility and care
- **Self-control** – the ability to say no to selfish desires and impulses

“Discipleship doesn’t usually happen in dramatic leaps of faith. It takes place over small, consistent, everyday choices.” – Pastor Steve

#### Discussion Questions

1. Jesus says, “My yoke is easy and my burden is light.” How do you make sense of that promise when discipleship often feels hard or costly? What has made following Jesus feel heavy for you — and what has made it feel light?
2. Are there any “edges” in your life or character that you sense the Spirit might be inviting you to smooth out? What would it look like to welcome discipline rather than resist it?
3. Steve talked about the difference between *ginoskein* (head knowledge) and *yada* (experiential knowledge). Which type of “knowing” has shaped your faith most? How can both work together in your formation?
4. How do you typically respond to correction or discipline — from God, others, or even your own conscience? What helps you receive it as love rather than shame?
5. Have you ever experienced God using a difficult life experience to shape or “disciple” you? Looking back, what did that experience teach you about God, yourself, or others?
6. What is one small, intentional step of discipleship you feel prompted to take this week? (It could be related to generosity, justice, prayer, rest, courage, humility... wherever the Spirit is nudging.)