

EMBRACING RADICAL VALUES IN A CONFORMING WORLD

THE UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM



EVERY NATION
CHURCH • MALAYSIA



UPSIDE-DOWN KINGDOM

- **First vs Last**
- **Weakness vs Strength**
- **Death vs Life**
- **Heavenly Treasures vs Earthly Treasures**
- **Serve vs Being Served**
- **Give vs Receive**
- **Forgive vs Hate**



WEAKNESS VS STRENGTH

A nighttime photograph of a city skyline with illuminated buildings and a dark sky. The title 'ROMAN SOCIETY' is overlaid in large, bold, yellow letters.

ROMAN SOCIETY

- Pursues Strength
- Portrays Strength
- Abuses Strength

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in **swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger**, because there was no place for them in the inn.

LUKE 2:4-7



¹ And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness ² for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. **And when they were ended, he was hungry.**

LUKE 4:1-2



¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

LUKE 4:16-17



¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the **poor**. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the **captives** and recovering of sight to the **blind**, to set at liberty those who are **oppressed**, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

LUKE 4:18-19





- **Leper (Luke 5)**
- **Paralytic (Luke 5)**
- **Man with Withered Hand (Luke 6)**
- **Widow's Son (Luke 7)**
- **Sinful Woman (Luke 7)**
- **Demon-Possessed Man (Luke 8)**

...and many more

³⁴ And they cast lots to divide his garments. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

LUKE 23:34-38



THE ALTERNATIVE WAY

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Pursues Strength | → | Pursued the Weak |
| Portrays Strength | → | Laid down His life
in Weakness |
| Abuses Strength | → | Protected the Weak |

If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

JOHN 12:26



The image features a city skyline at sunset, with a mirrored top half. The sky is a vibrant orange and yellow. The text is centered in a bold, dark blue font.

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO
FOLLOW JESUS IN WEAKNESS?**

²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² **To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak.** I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:20-22



³⁰ If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. ³¹ The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. ³² At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, ³³ but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

2 CORINTHIANS 11:30-33



⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. ⁹ But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, **I am content with weaknesses**, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10

¹ This is the third time I am coming to you. Every charge must be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ² I warned those who sinned before and all the others, and I warn them now while absent, as I did when present on my second visit, that if I come again I will not spare them— ³ since you seek proof that Christ is speaking in me. He is not weak in dealing with you, but is powerful among you. ⁴ For he was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God. For **we also are weak in him**, but in dealing with you we will live with him by the power of God.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:1-4

A nighttime photograph of a city skyline with illuminated buildings and a dark sky. The text is overlaid on the top portion of the image.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FOLLOW JESUS IN WEAKNESS?

- 1. Win the weak**
- 2. Become weak**
- 3. Boast of weakness**
- 4. Content with weakness**
- 5. Weak in Him**