

Jesus Is . . . | Week 4 - Jesus is King**Message Big Idea**

Jesus is King! In Jesus, we find someone to worship and follow.

Scripture

Mark 11:1-11, Zechariah 9:9-10, Colossians 1:13-14, Revelation 19:16

Points to Keep In Mind

1. Our image of a King might be a person who gives commands from on high but is disconnected from the struggles of everyday people. What is remarkable about Jesus is that he became human, walked a mile in our shoes, experienced suffering and pain, and showed compassion and concern for everyday people. He also pushed against the religious status quo of the day and advocated for those being left behind in his society.
2. The triumphal entry happened right before Passover, which was a time Israel told the story of their ancestor's rescue from slavery in Egypt. It was a time of high expectations, hoping that God would restore Israel and make them great among the nations. Jesus played into those expectations, but he communicated that he was a different kind of king. A king that is gentle and humble riding on a donkey.
3. What does it mean for God to have brought us into his Kingdom out of the domain of darkness? Notice it says God has done the work of bringing us into the Kingdom. We weren't the ones to make that happen; God was the one who acted to make this a reality. The theme of darkness could go in multiple directions. What are all the ways humans cut themselves off from God and others through their words and actions? Sin can be a personal reality, but we also see that humankind has found ways of creating systems that oppress and harm others. Jesus established a different kind of Kingdom, exercising a different kind of power in the world as all other earthly kingdoms. God's Kingdom is from heaven and is invading our world today, bringing transformation to those who put their faith in Jesus.
4. You might see Matthew Bate's book, "Salvation by Allegiance Alone", for more information about faith as allegiance.
5. When asking the group what it means to give allegiance to Jesus, help the group get practical. Press beyond answers like "Put God first" or "Have a relationship with Jesus." How does someone demonstrate their faith in Jesus? One hint would be to practice the teachings of Jesus. Think about what Jesus says in Matthew 5-7. How would living life in alignment with Jesus' teaching reveal faith in him?

Additional Questions and Resources

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey?
3. Have you considered getting baptized? communitychristian.org/baptism