

JESUS + NOTHING = EVERYTHING

Week 2: Christ the King

Key Text: Colossians 1:12-23

OPEN

In this section Paul describes life as citizens of the kingdom of God, and its King Jesus Christ. Paul describes not one but two kingdoms. A kingdom of darkness that these believers have been rescued out of and a kingdom of light that they have been brought into. Just as God rescued Israel from the kingdom of Egypt and brought them into a new inheritance (Canaan), God through Christ has rescued them once again but not from a physical kingdom but a spiritual kingdom. After describing the kingdom, Paul poetically describes the King whose universal reign matches the universality of the gospel. Christ as King over creation extends to the cross and our very lives as his followers.

REFLECT

- In verse 12-13 Paul describes two kingdoms, a kingdom of darkness and a kingdom of light. Why do you think Paul reminds these believers of the kingdom they have been rescued from? Why is it important to remember what Jesus has saved us from today?
- In verse 12 Paul uses the phrase “share in the inheritance” to remind these believers of the past where God saved his people out of slavery in Egypt. What specific things in your past has God redeemed and saved you from?
- In verses 15-20 Paul describes the supremacy of Christ. What stands out the most to you? How does it make you feel that the King of creation wants to be king of your life?

DISCUSS

- If we are going to be citizens of God’s kingdom it requires us to walk in the light of the King; the truth of Jesus. How has the light of God’s truth helped you live for him? What scriptures do you often turn to in times of trouble?
- Living in the kingdom of God also means living under his kingship. Jesus doesn’t just want to be our saviour but also our Lord. What does it mean to make Jesus Lord of your life? In what ways have you submitted to Jesus as your Lord.

“The bible has no category of non-discipleship Christianity, the idea that people can be Christians without making any effort to submit to and follow Christ.” -Bill Hull

- What do you think of this quote? How can we avoid communicating a gospel where Jesus is our saviour but not our Lord?

APPLY

- Making Jesus Lord can be difficult. What are some areas you struggle to let Jesus be Lord over?
- How does the supremacy of Christ bring you confidence to face challenges in your life today? What is one challenge you are facing right now that you need to trust your King with?
- Read Psalm 8 as a group. How does the truth of Jesus as King from cosmos to creatures make you feel? How does this truth impact your relationship or prayer life with Jesus?

PRAY

- Pray that just as you trust Jesus as your saviour, that you would trust him as your Lord. Ask him to reveal to you any areas of your life that need to be submitted to him.
- Pray for confidence to trust your King Jesus with whatever challenges you may be facing in your life right now.
- Pray that Jesus’ Lordship would grow in your lives.