



## A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families for the week of December 24, 2023

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

### Warm Up

- What is a temptation you often bear? Why is that temptation so powerful to you?

### I Corinthians 10:1-13

### God is Faithful

<sup>1</sup>For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

- What experiences did the Israelites have in common after the Lord delivered them from bondage in Egypt? (1-5)
- Why does Paul remind the Corinthians of these events? (6-7)
- Reflect on a time you forgot that God was good, and you fell into grumbling. How did the Holy Spirit convict you that you were "putting Christ to the test"? (10)
- How would Paul minister to someone who was feeling spiritually defeated and had given up fighting temptation? (11-13)
- How are you tempted? How does our faithful God provide you the "way of escape"? (13)
- God Incarnate was **tempted in every way that we are, but without sin**. He is **able to help** those He loves when we are tempted. Reflect on this week's passage together, and use it as a guide for a time of prayer.

---

To hear sermons and access past study guides visit  
[www.wepc.org/resources/sermons-media-study-guide](http://www.wepc.org/resources/sermons-media-study-guide)

Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene,  
[kevin@wepc.org](mailto:kevin@wepc.org)





WEEK OF DECEMBER 24TH

# O King of Nations

## SING



## READ

### Isaiah 11:3b-5

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

### Revelation 15:3

And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!"

## REFLECT

*Israel's strength and consolation  
Hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of every nation  
Joy of every longing heart  
— Charles Wesley*

What images or words come to mind when you think of a king? What characteristics would you most want a king to have?

In this final antiphon, **Jesus is described as the King of the Nations, who has come to bind together our hearts and end our sad divisions.** Think of a division (break/rift/problem) in a relationship you currently have – is it easy to believe that Jesus has promised to restore peace in that relationship? Why or why not?

In our efforts to make peace, our pride, anger, and fears often get in the way. But we see in Isaiah & Revelation that Jesus is a righteous, just, and true King, judging the nations with equity, without pride and with a desire to save the needy – He has come to do what we cannot! **Jesus has come to bring us towards Himself and towards one another as the family of God – this is why we long for Him during the season of Advent.** We long for the restoration of all hearts toward Him, our Hope...our Strength, our Peace. What is one thing you are longing for Jesus to restore this advent season?

## PRACTICE

### This coming week:

Notice the ways you are tempted to judge others (or yourself) without truth, justice, or mercy this week. **Ask Jesus, our King of Peace, for help to repent and for His grace to make peace in all your relationships.**

Ask someone what they are longing for right now, and share what you are longing for this season.

## PRAY

Stir up your power, O Lord,  
and with great might come among us;  
And as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us,  
Let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
Be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen

Access the full WEPC Advent 2023 Devotional [HERE](#).