

<b>Small Groups</b>  <i>Beautiful SAVIOUR</i>	<h1>Jesus the King</h1> <p>Session Five</p> 
<i>Connect. Care. Change.</i>	<b>Term: Oct/Nov, 2017 5<sup>th</sup> of 5 Studies</b>

**Don't forget: Turkeys, cooked and carved** are due at church this Fri Dec 1 or by noon Sat Dec 2! (see instructions)

### **1. Crowd-breaker** (15min) [Leaders, please don't skip this.]

How would you describe the relationship between a King and his royal subject (a citizen of a Kingdom)?

### **2. Video** (5 min) Watch the Session 5 video together.

### **3. Introduction** (please read slowly!)

*...may I dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.*" (Ps.27: 4)

John tells us that Jesus is 100% God and 100% man and that Jesus is The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! And - Jesus is the One who baptizes in the Spirit.

Today we discover that Jesus is the Messiah, the King of Israel and King over all that enter His kingdom, by faith.

John reports the reaction of the disciples: "Andrew went to find his brother, Peter, and told him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means "Christ"), and Nathanael exclaimed, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God—the King of Israel!" (John 1:41 & 42)

John wants us to know before we go any further in the Gospel of John that Jesus is Israel's Messiah and King. And at the end of the Gospel of John, we find Jesus being nailed to a cross, "And Pilate posted a sign on the cross that read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." (John 19:19)

Between these opening and closing statements about Jesus' Kingship, Jesus declares, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." and "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.

Today we discuss what it means to be a citizen of the Kingdom of God and what it means to serve King Jesus.

### **4. Scripture Read: John 1:35-51**

Leaders, only assign paragraphs to those who like to read.

### **5. Discussion** (45 min)

**1.** Jesus said to the religious leaders, "You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" (John 5:39)

- The Old Testament makes over 400 references to Christ, centuries before He appears.
- **Read Isaiah 9:6-7** What do we discover about King Jesus?

**2.** Jesus tells us that no one can enter the Kingdom of God without first being born again, which means being born of the Spirit. He describes it as a mystery. **Read John 3:1-21**

- We are born of the Spirit when we are sorry for our sin and choose to accept—believe—that Jesus died on the cross for our sins; and that he gives us eternal life, restoring us to a right relationship with the Father.
- Discuss your experience of being "born again."

**3.** Israel was waiting for their King ("Messiah" which means "Christ" or anointed One) to evict the Romans and to establish a world-Kingdom that would rival Solomon's Kingdom. But they got something quite different.

- Discuss what it means for King Jesus to reign in our hearts.

**4.** The Apostle Paul reminds us, "But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Saviour." (Philippians 3:20) and the men and women of faith "were looking for a better place, a heavenly homeland." (Hebrews 11:16)

- Knowing that we belong to the Kingdom of God means that we live with our eyes on eternity. How should that affect our decisions and how we live now?

**5. Read Revelation 19:11-21** This passage describes a time in the future when King Jesus Christ will finally conquer all evil on the earth. The spiritual Kingdom becomes a material kingdom.

- What is your reaction/response to this passage?

### **6. Prayer time**

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