



## ENGAGE

Break the Ice: (The purpose of these first questions is to help your group open up. Please don't feel like you have to ask each question. You may even have a better question. Once you feel that the group is engaged, move on to the "Inspire" section.)

- If you had a year's wages to blow on your friends, what would you do? (throw a huge party, take a trip, buy gifts, etc)
- What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

Prayer: Take some time to pray for God's Spirit to speak to your group through His Word.

## INSPIRE

(Since the group may need time to process each question, don't let silence scare you. Try to avoid filling the space with unnecessary explanation or moving on from the question too quickly.)

This week we reach a turning point in the biography of Jesus. Here at the end of Chapter 12, we watch as John pivots from the life and ministry of Jesus to the events leading to Jesus' death on the cross. This is Jesus' public ministry coming to a close.

1. Have you ever been disappointed when someone or something didn't live up to your expectations? Share such a time with your group?
2. Read Luke 9:51 and John 12:12-50. Why was the crowd going to Jerusalem? Why was Jesus going to Jerusalem? Did the people who greeted Jesus understand why he was there? What were their expectations for Jesus at that time?
3. Have you ever thought that if you could just see Jesus, your faith would be stronger?
  - In John 12:36-37, we see that many people didn't believe in Jesus despite seeing many signs and works. Judas Iscariot followed Jesus for three-years of his ministry, yet he betrayed Jesus.
  - In his sermon, Phil said, "I don't think people reject Jesus because there's a lack of evidence; they reject Jesus because they don't want to surrender to Him." When it comes to your faith, how much (percentage) is based on evidence and how much is based on your willingness to surrender?
4. This weekend, we learned that Jesus is not the King we *want*; He's the King we *need*.
  - What are some examples of things that you want, but don't necessarily need?
  - Has there ever been a time you've expected something from God, but didn't receive it?
5. We see in this passage that people decided not to follow Jesus because it would have come with rejection by their peers and a change in their lifestyle (vv 37, 42). What reason(s) do people in our culture give for rejecting Jesus?
  - Think back to your life prior to your belief in Jesus. What kept you from receiving His grace? What was the turning point for you?
6. One impact of Jesus becoming King over our lives is that instead of being awesome (proud), we become humble. What examples of humility did Jesus display in this passage? How does His example affect you?
7. Another impact of Jesus becoming King over our lives is that we follow His example of being selfless instead of selfish. What are some ways that you can be more selfless with your family? At your workplace? In what area of your life can you give Him more control?



# EQUIP

(These questions will challenge your group members to apply the study to their daily lives. It is highly important that you go over this section with your group each week for the group study to be a success. Set aside 15-20 minutes at the end of your study to go over this section.)

It is recommended that you have the members of your Life Group pair up and discuss these questions:

- If Jesus sits on the throne of my life, how does that change me? How does Jesus' kingship change the way I live? My priorities? How does it impact my family, friendships, and career?

Pray that Jesus would become King over your entire life and that you would bring Him glory in all that you do.

Prayer:

- Take some time to pray over each group member's identified action steps and life issues.

Equip Your Mind:

I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me would not remain in darkness. If anyone hears my words and doesn't keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ~ John 12:46-47 (CSB)

Sermon Outline / Notes:

(The following is the sermon outline. This is to be used as a refresher or to help those facilitators who missed the Sunday morning message.)

Text: John 12:12:50

Have you ever had a moment when your expectation didn't align with your experience?

Jesus is not the King that we want; He is the King that we need.

Jesus only makes sense in the light of an empty tomb.

How does the fact that Jesus is King, change my life?

The Life I Want vs. The Life I Need

- I want to be awesome. I need to be humble.
- I want to be independent. I need to be obedient.
- I want to be selfish. I need to be selfless.

Growing (maturing) in Christ means wanting the life you need.