

Week 1: People Welcomed Jesus as King

Discuss the Week after September 3rd

□ **Matthew 21**

□ **Mark 11**

□ **Luke 19**

□ **John 12**

- *Why did people put their robes on the road for Jesus?*
- *How is King Jesus different from earthly rulers?*
- *More than 500 years before Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the prophet Zechariah wrote that the King would come riding on a donkey. Jesus knew that riding into Jerusalem would mean the people praised Him, but only for a moment. The same people would later shout "crucify Him" and condemn Him to die on a cross.*
- *Read Philippians 2:7-8. How is Jesus a different King than the people expected?*
- *Read Psalm 107:21-22. Why is Jesus worthy of our praise?*
- *Read Revelation 19:11-13. How will Jesus arrive when he comes again?*

Week 2: Leaders Wanted to Trick Jesus

Discuss the Week after September 10th

□ **Matthew 22**

- How can you show others what Jesus is like by being truthful?
- *The religious leaders wanted a reason for Jesus to be found guilty. They thought if they could trick Him and get Him to say something wrong, then they would have reason to arrest Him. Jesus teaches truth and is not influenced by people's opinions or appearances.*
- *Isaiah 11:1-4. How do we see Isaiah's prophetic description of Jesus fulfilled in this week's reading?*
- *Read James 1:5. How can we gain wisdom?*
- *Read Psalm 139:23-24 Jesus knew the hearts of the religious leaders. What should we do about the things in our hearts that we are tempted to conceal?*

Week 3: Jesus Warned About Not Loving

Discuss the Week after September 17th

□ **Matthew 23**

- *Is it OK to want to be right all of the time? Why or why not?*
- *The religious leaders followed rules without changed hearts. They didn't honor God with their actions because their hearts were concerned with receiving praise rather than giving praise to God. They exalted themselves and by doing so taught others that the way to God is through rule following and self-righteousness. Only faith in Jesus can bring us to God and change our hearts to love Him and others.*
- *Did Jesus practice what He taught? How?*
- *Read Proverbs 29:23. What can we do when we are tempted to exalt ourselves and steal God's praise?*
- *Read John 13:34-35. How can we love others as Christ loves others?*

Week 4: Jesus Warned About Not Acting

Discuss the Week after September 24th

□ **Matthew 25**

- *Is it fair when you have to handle a problem you didn't cause?*
- *How can you serve God with what is asked of you or with what you have been given?*
- *The master entrusted each servant with a different amount of talents to honor him. We have an opportunity to use what He has given us to serve Him and show our love for Him. Anyone who trusts in Jesus has already been given the greatest gift: forgiveness of sins and eternal life.*
- *Read Romans 11:34-36. Why was the evil servant wrong to hide the talent?*
- *Read Romans 14:17-18. Why is it worth it to use what we've been given to serve God?*
- *Read 1 Peter 4:10-11. What are ways you can use what you've been given to love God and serve Him?*

Week 5: Jesus is Our Perfect Prophet

Discuss the Week after October 1st

□ **Deuteronomy 18**

- *Does Jesus being a prophet exclude Him from being God? Why or why not?*
- *How do you know if you are trusting in the words Jesus spoke?*
- *When God gave the Israelites the ten commandments, the mountain was smoky and trembling and the people were terrified. God said the people were right for being afraid because He is holy, but God provided the way for sinners to be in the presence of a holy God. Jesus is the Prophet God sent to live a perfect life in our place. Through faith in Jesus, we have a way to God.*
- *Read 1 Corinthians 1:30. How does Jesus bring us to God?*
- *Read John 17:8. If Jesus is our perfect Prophet, how can we listen to Him?*
- *Read Matthew 7:15-16. Do we need to be aware of false prophets today? Why or why not? If so, how can we be aware?*

Week 6: Jesus Was Anointed

Discuss the Week after October 8th

□ **Matthew 26**

□ **Mark 14**

□ **John 12**

- *Do we have to give God things? Explain.*
- *What are some ways you worship God?*
- *While Jesus sat at the table, Mary came and anointed Him with her most precious oil. The name Messiah means "anointed one," and God had anointed Jesus as the One who would die for the sins of others. Mary's love for Jesus as the Messiah was shown through her gift of oil.*
- *Read Revelation 5:12. Why is Jesus worthy of all worship?*
- *Read Philippians 3:8. How can we show others that Jesus is worth following and giving our lives to?*
- *Read 2 Timothy 1:9. Do our gifts or sacrifices to God save us? Why not?*

Week 7: Jesus Shared a Last Meal

Discuss the Week after October 15th

□ **Matthew 26**

□ **Mark 14**

□ **Luke 22**

- *How would you share the symbolism of the cup and the bread to someone who is new to Christianity?*
- *Why is the new covenant better than the old covenant?*
- *There is no forgiveness without the shedding of blood. Only Jesus' shed blood on the cross takes away our sin and offers us forgiveness of sins once and for all. The new covenant made a way for anyone who trusts in Jesus to be saved.*
- *Read Hebrews 8:10-13. Why is the new covenant better than the old covenant?*
- *Read 1 Corinthians 11:25-26. Jesus' final meal with His disciples is also called the Lord's Supper. Why did Jesus say to take the Lord's Supper in remembrance of Him?*
- *Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-28. Can anyone take the Lord's Supper? Why not?*

Week 8: Jesus Was Arrested

Discuss the Week after October 22nd

□ **Matthew 26**

□ **Mark 14**

□ **Luke 22**

- *What do we do if we have wronged a friend in some way?*
- *Why will Jesus never turn against you?*
- *Jesus called His disciples to pray, and yet they chose to sleep. The disciples were unable to stay awake to pray much less save themselves from sin. Every person is helpless and unable to save themselves. Because Jesus followed God's plan and laid down His life, we can be saved.*
- *Read 1 Peter 2:22-23. Jesus was not guilty of any crimes or sin, but we are guilty before God. Why did He take our place?*
- *Read Romans 5:8. Jesus' friends left Him, and Judas betrayed Him. How did Jesus show that he loved them?*
- *Read Luke 22:28-29. Why can we trust God even when our circumstances are difficult?*

Week 9: Jesus is Our Perfect Priest

Discuss the Week after October 29th

□ Hebrews 7

- *If Jesus was tempted, how did He never sin?*
- *How can Jesus help you when you are tempted to sin?*
- *Jesus guarantees us a better covenant because it is made on better promises. The old covenant required people to obey the law perfectly, but no one could follow it perfectly. God promised that our salvation is not dependent on what we can do, but on what Jesus has done for us. Jesus lived a perfect life, died in our place, and rose again.*
- *Read Romans 3:20. Can you work hard enough to earn God's love or favor? Why or why not?*
- *Read Hebrews 10:10. Are our future sins forgiven? Why or why not?*
- *Re-read Hebrews 7:25. How do you feel knowing Jesus lives forever to speak to God for you and always acts for your good?*

Week 10: Jesus Was Put on Trial

Discuss the Week after November 5th

□ **Matthew 26-27**

□ **Mark 14-15**

□ **Luke 22-23**

□ **John 18**

- *Why do you think the people chose Barabbas to be freed rather than Jesus?*
- *Why is it important that Jesus never did anything wrong?*
- *Pilate was confused by Jesus' actions and words. Jesus is the King, but He is a different kind of King. His kingdom is not of this world and does not follow the ways of this world. Jesus offered something much better than freedom from the Roman Empire. He came so that through Him we can have forgiveness of sins.*
- *Read John 15:13. Jesus willingly laid down His life. How does this demonstrate His love for you?*
- *Read 1 Peter 1:18-19. Why is Jesus our perfect substitute?*
- *Read Hebrews 1:3. Jesus told Caiaphas that in the future He would be seated at the right of God. Why would Jesus be at God's right hand?*

Week 11: Jesus Was Crucified

Discuss the Week after November 12th

□ **Matthew 27**

□ **Mark 15**

□ **Luke 23-24**

□ **John 19-20**

- *What happened to the people who died before Jesus? Did they go to heaven?*
- *How does Jesus' death cover the sins of everyone who believes in Him?*
- *When Jesus said "It is finished" and died, the temple curtain tore in two and there was an earthquake. The curtain stood between the Holy of Holies and the rest of the temple. The Holy of Holies was the place where God dwelt and where no man could enter, except for the high priest once a year to offer a sacrifice for the people's sins. Sin causes us to be separated from God but anyone who trusts in Jesus is no longer separated from God.*
- *Read 1 John 4:9-10. How does Jesus' death show that God loves us?*
- *Read Acts 16:30. How can someone trust Jesus as his or her Savior?*
- *Read Romans 1:16. With whom can you share the gospel?*

Week 12: Jesus Was Raised

Discuss the Week after November 19th

□ **Matthew 27-28**

□ **Mark 15-16**

□ **Luke 23-24**

□ **John 19-20**

- *Since Jesus was raised from the dead, is He a ghost? Why or why not?*
- *How can you tell others, like Mary did, that Jesus is alive and that He saves?*
- *When the women arrived, they were shocked to find the tomb empty. The angels reminded the women that Jesus had told them He would suffer and die, but rise on the third day. God's plan for salvation could only be carried out if Jesus suffered, died, and rose from the dead.*
- *Read 1 Corinthians 15:54-57. Why is it important that Jesus rose from the dead?*
- *Read 1 Timothy 1:15. Who needs to be saved?*
- *Read Romans 5:17. How does Jesus' resurrection power live in us today?*

Week 13: Jesus Is Our Perfect King

Discuss the Week after November 26th

□ **Colossians 1**

- *Why does the Bible say we were God's enemies?*
- *How can you make Jesus the King of your life? Have you made Jesus the King of your life? Why or why not?*
- *Paul points out what is true about Jesus throughout his letter. Jesus is fully God, He created all things and everything was created for Him, and He is in control of everything. To know Jesus and be known by Jesus is why we were created.*
- *Read 1 Corinthians 8:5-6. How can knowing that Jesus is King over all encourage believers?*
- *Read Acts 17:11. How can we know what is the true gospel or a false gospel?*
- *Read Revelation 1:5. How can we make Jesus King of our lives?*