

Week 1: The Coming King

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KING OF KINGS

Week 1 – The Coming King

Bottom Line: Jesus fulfilled *all* the Old Testament prophecies to prove He was the Messiah.

Bible: Matthew 5:17; Isaiah 7:14, Matt. 1:20–23; Micah 5:2; Luke 2:3–7; Hosea 11:1, Matthew 2:14–15; Isaiah 35:5–6a; Luke 7:20–22; Zech. 9:9, Matt. 21:1–5; Psalm 41:9; Luke 22:47–48; Zechariah 11:12–13, Matthew 27:3–10; Isaiah 53:7, Luke 23

OPENING GAMES

1. Crack an Egg

Supplies: 1 carton (dozen) eggs, paper towels

Select 12 students to participate in the game. If possible, select individuals from separate small groups and have the remaining members of small group be the "cheer" section.

Call each participant to the stage and give each an egg. They must hold the egg upright between their thumb (on the base of the egg) and index finger (at the point of the egg). On go, the participants will try to crack the egg by squeezing with those two fingers. It is *almost* impossible, but have paper towels on hand just in case.

The game can also be played with one student at a time trying to crack the egg. This method takes longer, but could be more competitive as students try to prove they're stronger than the previous contestant.

2. What is *Prophecy*?

Supplies: Markers, Poster Board, Dictionary

Divide students into small groups and give each group markers and a poster board. Instruct the groups to discuss the question, "What is prophecy?" Then, have each group of students write their own definition of *prophecy* on the poster board. You might want to have them read the definition from a dictionary to get started, but encourage them to put it into their own words. Give each group an opportunity to share their definition in Large Group.

TEACH

This lesson covers a lot of Scripture in the teach time, but it should not take much longer than your normal teaching time. Be sure that you present the point behind each prophecy, but move through them quickly to keep attention of students. For each prophecy, students will be encouraged to write a question in their notes that will help them think through what they are learning.

Supplies: Paper and pen for each student to take notes, definition posters created in previous activity

Today, we begin a new series that will look at the King of Kings, Jesus Christ. In just a few weeks, we will celebrate Easter Sunday, the miraculous resurrection of the Messiah.

Before we get to that Sunday, we're going to begin with this question, "How do we know Jesus really was the Messiah?" Think about that question. How did the disciples know Jesus was the Messiah? How did the people who were healed by Jesus know He was the Messiah? How do you know He really was the Messiah?

In Matthew 5:17, Jesus said, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

We can know the Jesus is the Messiah because **Jesus fulfilled** *all* the Old **Testament prophecies to prove He was the messiah.** What is prophecy? Let's take a moment to let each group give us their definition for *prophecy.*

Allow each small group time to share their definition for prophecy.

Those are great definitions. Simply put, *Prophecy is the future told in advance by God through a prophet.* The Jewish people were waiting for a Messiah. For over a thousand years, they had been hearing the prophets talk about the day a Messiah would come and change the world. In fact, the Old Testament contains over 400 prophecies about the Messiah. Jesus fulfilled every single one.

To help us answer this question, "how do we know Jesus really was the Messiah," we're going to look at 8 Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah and how Jesus fulfilled them. On your paper, number 1 through 8 and write down each of the 8 prophecies as we discuss them. Let's start with His birth.

1. Born of a Virgin

The prophet Isaiah spoke of Jesus' birth 700 years before it happened.

In Isaiah 7:14, he says, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel."

Some people will claim that Jesus *faked* the prophecies. They claim that He was just an ordinary man who knew what the Old Testament said, and so He would purposely cause those things to happen. How could that be with this prophecy? This prophecy is special because how could Jesus fake his own birth! That's crazy!

We see how this prophecy is fulfilled word for word when the angel appears to Joseph to tell him that Mary is pregnant. Listen to this Scripture from the New Testament,

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). (Matt. 1:20–23)

How does Jesus being born of a virgin help me to believe He is the Messiah?

2. Born in Bethlehem

The Old Testament prophet, Micah, spoke of Jesus 700 years before His birth. He foretold the exact city in which Jesus would be born. Micah 5:2 says, "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

The fulfillment of this prophecy is found in Luke 2:3–7:

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth, not Bethlehem. So what happened? The government was concerned that they weren't getting all the taxes that they thought they should be getting, so they made every man go back to the place of their ancestors to register. For Joseph, that place was Bethlehem. At the same time of the census, Mary was due to give birth to Jesus. And so it happened that she gave birth while they were in the town of Bethlehem, and the prophecy of Micah was fulfilled. Again, how could Jesus fake the place of His birth?

3. Jesus Spent Part of His Childhood in Egypt

The prophet Hosea spoke about Jesus' childhood in Hosea 11:1. The prophet says, "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son." This is an interesting prophecy because it refers to two events: one in the past and one in the future. We know that God used Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, but this verse also speaks of a specific time in the life of Jesus.

After Jesus' birth, King Herod heard of His birth and was afraid that He would overthrow the Government. Herod ordered all boys in the kingdom to be killed. An angel of the Lord came to Joseph and told him of Herod's plan and to take Jesus south to Egypt. Joseph and Mary obeyed the angel and fled to Egypt. Matthew 2:14–15 shows how this fulfilled the prophecy of Hosea, "So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

How do these three prophecies about Jesus birth and childhood help you believe that Jesus did not "*fake*" being the Messiah?

4. Jesus' Ministry Included Miraculous Healings

The prophet Isaiah foretold that Jesus' ministry would include miracles and healings. Isaiah said, "Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy." (Isaiah 35:5–6a)

If you've heard any story of Jesus' ministry, you know this is true. Jesus performed many miracles and healed many people of their physical problems. Jesus gave sight to Bartimaeus, healed the crippled man who was brought through the ceiling by his friends, and so many other miraculous stories.

How do the miracles and healings of Jesus help you to believe He is the Messiah?

5. Jesus Entered Jerusalem on a Donkey

The prophet Zechariah spoke 500 years before Jesus was born. He said, "Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." (Zech. 9:9)

This is exactly what happened in the life of Jesus. Jesus sent two disciples into the village and told them that they would find a donkey tied up there. They were instructed to bring it back to Jesus, and He rode into Jerusalem on that donkey (Matt. 21:1–5). It happened word for word as Zechariah had prophesied! Holy Cow...or in this case Holy Donkey!

What if the Disciples had not found the donkey or disobeyed and brought Jesus another animal? Would that change your faith that Jesus is the Messiah?

6. Jesus Was Betrayed By a Friend (Judas)

Many of the prophecies about Jesus relate to His last days. Many people, including the disciples did not understand everything that was happening to Jesus, but it all went down exactly as the Old Testament prophecies said it would. For instance, Psalm 41 was written 1,000 years before Jesus was born, and verse 9 says, "Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned against me."

Who is this prophecy referring to in Jesus' life? Judas Iscariot, of course. Judas spent 3 years with Jesus and broke bread with Him many times, and then he was the one who betrayed Jesus.

Why do you think Jesus chose Judas to be a disciple?

7. Jesus Was Betrayed for 30 Pieces of Silver

Not only was it prophesied that Judas would be the one to betray Jesus, but did you know that Old Testament prophecy actually foretold the exact price that Judas would receive for betraying Jesus. How many pieces of silver did Judas receive for betraying Jesus? That's right, 30 pieces of silver. Zechariah foretold that exact amount. (Zechariah 11:12–13)

Five hundred years before Jesus was betrayed, Zechariah's prophecy told that the betrayal price would be 30 pieces of silver. He also foretold that Judas would throw that money into the Temple when he realized what he had done. Everything happened exactly as the Old Testament said it would happen.

How does this prophecy show that God has always had a plan to save the world through Jesus Christ?

8. Jesus Was Beaten and Crucified

The prophet Isaiah told of Jesus' suffering and death 700 years before it occurred. Isaiah 53:7 says, "He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth." The prophecy of Isaiah describes the trial, the beating, and the death of Jesus Christ in very vivid detail. Each of the Gospels gives the account of Jesus trial and crucifixion, and each of the Gospels shows how Jesus fulfilled the prophetic words of Isaiah.

How does Jesus' suffering and death prove that He is the Messiah?

Wrap-Up

So, how could these prophets, who lived 500, 700, and 1,000 years before Jesus, know so much about the life and death of Jesus Christ? The only explanation is that God gave them the words to speak. God has had a plan to send a Messiah ever since the beginning. He gave the prophets these signs, so that there would be no doubt when the Messiah came to earth.

We started with the question, "How do we know Jesus really was the Messiah?" There are hundreds of prophecies that Jesus fulfilled to prove that He was the Messiah. We looked at just 8. I don't know about you, but those 8 are pretty convincing to me.

Josh McDowell is a famous Christian author and speaker. He looked at all the prophecies that Jesus fulfilled and came up with a mathematical solution for believing Jesus is the Messiah.

[Slide 11—1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000 (100 Quadrillion)]

The probability of a man fulfilling just 8 of the Old Testament prophecies is 1 in 100,000,000,000,000 (100 Quadrillion). (*Evidence that Demands a Verdict,* McDowell, 1972)

This is equivalent to covering the entire state of Texas with silver dollars two feet deep, marking one of them, mixing them all up and having a blindfolded person select the marked one at random the first time.

[Slide 12—Bottom Line: Jesus fulfilled all the Old Testament prophecies to prove He was the messiah.]

Jesus did not fulfill only eight prophecies, He fulfilled them all. **Jesus fulfilled all the Old Testament prophecies to prove He was the Messiah.** The mathematical probability of that is astronomical. Jesus left no room for doubt by fulfilling all the Old Testament prophecies. He wanted everyone, including you, to have faith and believe that He really is the Messiah.

End in prayer.

SMALL GROUP

Discuss the following questions in small groups:

- Which of these prophecies helped you the most to have faith in Jesus as the Messiah?
- How did the disciples and other early–church believers know Jesus was the Messiah? How did Scripture help them discover that?
- How have you personally experienced or seen God keep the promises He makes in Scripture?
- If there were one prophecy that was not fulfilled, how would that change your faith in Jesus Christ?
- How can you use Old Testament prophecies and their New Testament fulfillment to teach your friends about Jesus?
- Allow students to share their answers to the questions they wrote in their notes during Large Group.
- What is one thing you will do differently after studying this lesson?

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

Prophesy Timeline

Supplies: sheet of butcher paper, markers, Bibles, Large Group notes

Give each small group a set of supplies to create a timeline of the prophecies discussed in Large Group and their fulfillment. Instruct them to draw a horizontal line from left to right, and place an "X" in the center marking the birth of Jesus Christ.

Have students look up Scriptures and read each prophecy and fulfillment. After discussing each, place them in the appropriate place on the timeline. Allow small groups to hang the timeline in their small group space or in the Large Group space. Keep the timelines up throughout the *King of Kings* series.

The small group may divide into pairs to discuss the prophecies or complete the activity as a group. Make sure that each of the 8 prophecies is included on the timeline. The following information can be used to help students create the timeline:

1. Born of a Virgin Prophecy Scripture; Date: Isaiah 7:14; Approx. 750–700 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Matthew 1:20–23; Approx. 3–1 BC

2. Born in Bethlehem Prophecy Scripture; Date: Micah 5:2; 700 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Luke 2:3–7; (Mark at the "X") 3. Childhood in Egypt Prophecy Scripture; Date: Hosea 11:1; 725 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Matthew 2:14–15; Approx. 2–3 AD

4. Healings and Miracles

Prophecy Scripture; Date: Isaiah 35:5–6; 750–700 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Luke 7:20–22; 30–33 AD

5. Entry into Jerusalem Prophecy Scripture; Date: Zechariah 9:9; 500 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Matthew 21:1–5; 30–33 AD

6. Betrayed by Judas Prophecy Scripture; Date: Psalm 41:9; Approx. 1,000 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Luke 22:47–48; 30–33 AD

7. Betrayed for 30 Pieces of Silver Prophecy Scripture; Date: Zechariah 11:12–13; 500 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Matthew 27:3–10; 30–33 AD

8. Jesus Beaten and Crucified Prophecy Scripture; Date: Isaiah 53:7; Approx. 750–700 BC Fulfillment Scripture and Date: Luke 23; 33 AD



Week 2: The Servant King

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KING OF KINGS

Week 2: The Servant King

Bible: Matthew 26 & 27, Hebrews 2:17–18

Bottom Line: Jesus suffered and died so that God's plan could be accomplished.

OPENING GAME

Each week of the Easter series will have an opening game that is strictly for fun and relationship building. Many visitors will be present, so the Eggstravaganza games are to get them engaged with the group.

1. Pass the Egg

Supplies: plastic egg for every student, slips of paper with each color of eggs (blue, green, yellow, etc.), slips of paper with activities, 2 baskets or bowls

Before the activity, write down every color of the eggs you are using on a slip of paper. Fold the slips of paper and place in a basket or bowl. You will also need to create 5 to 10 slips of paper with silly activities. Fold and place these slips of paper in the other bowl. Some activities you might include are: sing "I'm a Little Teapot", do 10 jumping jacks, 15 seconds of freestyle dance, have a staring contest with the person next to you, etc. Think of things that your students will find funny, but don't cross the line to embarrass or humiliate them.

How to Play: students sit in one large circle. If your group is large, you can create several circles. Give each student a plastic egg, and instruct them to pass the eggs to their right when the music starts. When the music stops, draw a slip of paper from each bowl. Call out the color written on the slip of paper and have all students who are holding an egg of that color to stand. Next, read the slip of paper and have those standing do the silly activity. Continue playing until you are ready to move to the next activity.

TEACH

Welcome back to our series *King of Kings*. Last week, we looked at how Jesus was the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. It was amazing to see how God gave us signs of Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection 700 to 1,000 years before Jesus was even born! Those signs are to help us have faith that Jesus Christ is the Messiah.

Today, we're going to look at the most dramatic and powerful seven days in history. Those seven days were Jesus' last days. For those around Jesus and for the people of Jerusalem, those seven days were extremely confusing.

On the Sunday that Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people lined the streets and shouted, "Hosanna." *Hosanna* means "save us now." The people were convinced that Jesus had come to save them from the Roman Empire. They believed Jesus would raise up a mighty army and overthrow the Roman government.

The people did not understand that Jesus had come as a different type of King. He had come as a Servant-King. He was unlike anything the people had ever seen, and definitely was not what they expected.

Instead of coming to overthrow the Roman rulers and rise to earthly power, Jesus humbled himself and became a servant. He endured suffering and shame, so that we could fully experience the grace of God. You all have heard the stories about how Jesus was arrested, put on trial, and crucified. Have you ever thought of why Jesus went through all that He went through? Why did He have to suffer? Why did He have to die? Jesus understood that it was all a part of God's plan. While in the Garden of Gethsemane, right before Judas betrayed Him with a kiss, Jesus prayed the same prayer two times in a row. His prayer was, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will." (Matthew 26:39)

Jesus knew what He was about to go through, but He chose to be obedient to God. **Jesus suffered and died so that God's plan could be accomplished.**

We often think that we know everything about these famous events, but today we're going to take a fresh look at the last days of Jesus. I want you to see, hear and feel everything Jesus went through to save you from your sin.

Today will be a little different because you will be the teacher. As small groups, you will read a passage of Scripture and work together to answer some questions. I want you to really think through each of the questions because your group will have some time to share what you learned with the rest of the groups.

Assign a Scripture passage to each group. The stories to be reviewed are: Jesus in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36–46), Jesus' Arrest (Matthew 26:47–56), Jesus

Before the Sanhedrin (Matthew 26:57–68), Jesus & Pilate & the Soldiers (Matthew 27:11–31), and Jesus' Crucifixion & Death (Matthew 27:32–54).

Instruct Small Group leaders to use the attached questions to lead the group in discussion. (A copy of these questions appears at the end of the lesson.) They are to read the Scripture passage aloud and then work with students to answer the questions. The first set of questions asks students to share about what they learned, particularly what they learned that they hadn't noticed or known before. The second set of questions focuses on the personal suffering that Jesus willingly submitted to so that He might fulfill God's perfect will. The questions ask the students to try to put themselves in Jesus' place, so that they can see what Jesus saw, hear what He heard, feel what He felt. The last question will help the children use their imaginations to think of what they envisioned the scene would look like in a movie.

Allow 20–25 minutes for small groups to work through the Scripture passage and questions. If you have less than 5 small groups, assign multiple passages to groups. Just be sure to give them more time to discuss and think through both passages. Be sure to give them a 5 minute warning, and then call them back to large group to share what they learned from their Scripture passage with the other groups. Limit the share time to 3–5 minutes per group. You may want to guide them by asking them to answer specific questions from their sheet. After all groups have shared, move to the CLOSING section of the lesson.

CLOSING

These Scriptures passages have helped us to see how much suffering and pain Jesus endured. Think about the sacrifice Jesus made, think about His decision to give up His will to do the will of God the Father. Jesus was submissive to God. Submission means you are willing to give up or sacrifice everything for a cause that is greater than you. Jesus, when He gave Himself to die for our sins, showed us what it meant to be a Servant King. When He was on the cross, you were on His mind. He came to earth to die so that you could have eternal life. This was God's plan to bring you back to a relationship with Him, and Jesus willingly endured pain and agony to make it happen.

Remember, Jesus suffered and died so that God's plan could be accomplished.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Discuss the following questions in small groups:

1. What new things did you learn about the last days of Jesus?

2. What type of king were the people expecting? How was Jesus different?

3. Why was Jesus called a Servant King? How did He serve people?

4.Why did Jesus have to suffer?

5. If Jesus could have called down angels to stop everything He was going through, why do you think He didn't?

6. How does knowing Jesus faced pain and suffering help you to deal with your own pain and suffering?

6. In what ways does God call you to submit to His will?

7. What is one thing you will do differently after studying this lesson?

Small Group Guide: Questions for Discussion Jesus in Gethsemane: Matthew 26: 36–46

What did you notice?

- 1. As you read the passage, did you learn anything new?
- 2. What was different from the way you thought "it" happened?

Now move to the specific questions below. Please understand this is not an exhaustive list of possible observation questions!

- 1. What did Jesus' closest friends do during Jesus' agony in the garden? How would you feel if your closest friends fell asleep when you needed them the most?
- 2. What did the garden look like? Where was the garden located? (On the lower slopes of the Mt. of Olives just across the Kidron Valley from Jerusalem, which means He could see the torches of the crowd that was coming to arrest Him)
- **3.** What time of day was it? [late in the night, after the Lord's supper; probably after midnight]
- 4. The word "gethsemane" means "olive press." It was a huge stone that pressed the oil out of the olives. Why, then, is Gethsemane an appropriate place for Jesus to have suffered? [because the weight of the sins world was on His shoulders; Luke, the gospel–writer who was a doctor, tells us in Luke 22:44 that "being in anguish, He prayed more earnestly, and His sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground"; this physical condition is very real; doctors call it hematidrosis, the mingling of blood and sweat under extreme strain or suffering] Jesus knows great suffering lies ahead for Him.
- 5. What does Jesus mean by "the hour is near"? How do you think Jesus spoke that line? Was He angry? resigned? sad?
- 6. <u>Key Question</u>: What example does Jesus set for us?

What was it like for Jesus to face submission to God's will?

- 1. <u>Key Question</u>: Was submission to God's will <u>easy</u> for Jesus? You might want to read them these verses from Hebrews to remind them that Jesus perfectly understands our sufferings and temptations because He experienced them Himself: "For this reason He had to be made like His brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God...Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted." (Hebrews 2:17–18)
- 2. <u>Sight</u>: What sights might he have seen?
- 3. <u>Sound</u>: What sounds might he have heard?
- 4. <u>Touch</u>: Was His body hurting? Why? From what? What could Jesus feel around Him? Rocks? Air? Wind? Cold? Heat? What do you think it might have been like?
- 5. <u>*Taste*</u>: Would Jesus have tasted anything unusual? (maybe His tears, His blood)
- 6. <u>Smell</u>: What would Jesus have smelled? (blood? the earth or trees in the garden? incense?)
- 7. <u>Feelings</u>: <u>Key Question</u>: What emotions was Jesus experiencing? How might Jesus have felt at this time?

- 1. Imagine you are a movie director. How would you film this scene?
- 2. What would you want to emphasize? What do you think is most important to get across to your audience? In other words, what would you want to make sure that the audience saw or heard?

Small Group Guide: Questions for Discussion Jesus' Arrest: Matthew 26: 47 - 56

What did you notice?

- 1. As I read the passage, did you learn anything new?
- 2. What was different from the way you thought "it" happened?

Now move to the specific questions below. Please understand this is not an exhaustive list of possible observation questions!

- Where was Jesus when He was betrayed? [in the Garden of Gethsemane] Where was the garden located? (on the lower slopes of the Mt. of Olives just across the Kidron Valley from Jerusalem; that means He could see the torches of the crowd which were coming to arrest Him)
- 2. Notice the text says, "Judas, one of the Twelve." What does that mean? [Judas was one of Jesus' 12 disciples] Why is that information important? [because someone who had been with Jesus day in and day out, someone who knew Him better than most people, betrayed Him] Have you ever been betrayed by someone you thought was a close friend? (Don't let them name names!) How did it feel? How do you think Jesus must have felt?
- **3.** How did Judas betray Jesus? [with a kiss] Why a kiss? [in Jesus' day, a kiss was a common greeting of a close friend, so that makes the kiss even more despicable as a means of betrayal]
- 4. What was the reaction of one of Jesus' followers? [he cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest] What was Jesus' reaction? [He said, "No more of this!" and healed him] Why did Jesus react in this way?
- 5. Jesus seems to be very calm. Why do you think He is so calm and willing to submit to the arrest? [answers will vary, but probably a lot had to do with His hours of prayer in the garden]
- 6. <u>Key Question</u>: What example does Jesus set for us?

What was it like for Jesus to face submission to God's will?

- 1. <u>Key Question</u>: Was submission to God's will <u>easy</u> for Jesus? You might want to read them these verses from Hebrews to remind them that Jesus perfectly understands our sufferings and temptations because He experienced them Himself: "For this reason He had to be made like His brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God...Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted." (Hebrews 2:17-18)
- 2. <u>Sight</u>: What sounds might he have heard?
- 3. <u>Sound</u>: What sights might he have seen?
- 4. <u>Touch</u>: Was His body hurting? Why? From what?
- What could Jesus feel around Him? Rocks? Air? Wind? Cold? Heat? What do you think it might have been like?
- 5. <u>*Taste:*</u> Would Jesus have tasted anything unusual? (maybe His tears, His blood)
- 6. <u>Smell</u>: What would Jesus have smelled? (blood? the earth or trees in the garden? incense?)
- 7. <u>Feelings: Key Question</u>: What emotions was Jesus experiencing? How might Jesus have felt at this time?

- 1. Imagine you are a movie director. How would you film this scene?
- 2. What would you want to emphasize? What do you think is most important to get across to your audience? In other words, what would you want to make sure that the audience saw or heard?

Small Group Guide: Questions for Discussion Jesus Before the Sanhedrin: Matthew 26:57-68

What did you notice?

- 1. As I read the passage, did you learn anything new?
- 2. What was different from the way you thought "it" happened?

Now move to the specific questions below. Please understand this is not an exhaustive list of possible observation questions!

- 1. Where was Jesus taken following His arrest? [to Caiaphas and the Sanhedrin] Who was Caiaphas? [the high priest; in other words, the most important religious leader for the Jews]
- 2. Who followed Jesus? [Peter] But how does he follow Jesus? Proudly? Defending Jesus' honor? [no, "at a distance"] What do you think about Peter's behavior? What does his behavior tell you about Peter at that time?
- **3.** What were the chief priests and Sanhedrin looking for at that time? [*false* evidence] What does this information tell you about the character of the priests?
- 4. Upon Jesus confession that He is the Christ, what does the high priest do? [he tears his clothes and accuses Jesus of blasphemy] Does any one know what "blasphemy" means? [cursing God or defiling His name] What might Jesus be thinking at this point?
- What do these religious leaders do to Jesus? [they spit in His face and hit Him with their fists]
- 6. Ultimately, they say He is <u>worthy</u> for what? [death] How does that comment make you feel? Why?
- 7. <u>Key Question</u>: What example does Jesus set for us?

What was it like for Jesus to face submission to God's will?

- 1. <u>Key Question</u>: Was submission to God's will <u>easy</u> for Jesus? You might want to read them these verses from Hebrews to remind them that Jesus perfectly understands our sufferings and temptations because He experienced them Himself: "For this reason He had to be made like His brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God...Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted." (Hebrews 2:17-18)
- 2. <u>Sight</u>: What sounds might he have heard?
- 3. <u>Sound</u>: What sights might he have seen?
- 4. <u>Touch</u>: Was His body hurting? Why? From what? What could Jesus feel around Him? Chains? Crowds? What do you think it might have been like?
- 5. <u>Taste</u>: Would Jesus have tasted anything unusual? (maybe His tears, sweat, blood)
- 6. <u>Smell</u>: What would Jesus have smelled? (the market? incense from the Temple?)
- 7. *Feelings: Key Question*: What emotions was Jesus experiencing? How might Jesus have felt at this time?

- 1. Imagine you are a movie director. How would you film this scene?
- 2. What would you want to emphasize? What do you think is most important to get across to your audience? In other words, what would you want to make sure that the audience saw or heard?

Small Group Guide: Questions for Discussion Peter's Denial and Judas Hangs Himself: Matthew 26: 69-75 and 27:1--10

What did you notice?

- 1. As I read the passage, did you learn anything new?
- 2. What was different from the way you thought "it" happened?

Now move to the specific questions below. Please understand this is not an exhaustive list of possible observation questions!

- 1. Where was Peter located at the beginning of this passage? (He was in the courtyard outside where Jesus was on trial.)
- 2. Who was the first person to identify Peter as a follower of Jesus? (A servant girl)
- 3. How many times did Peter deny knowing Jesus? (3 times)
- 4. What immediately happened after the third denial of Jesus? (a rooster crowed)
- 5. What did Peter do? (He wept bitterly.)
- 6. <u>Key Question</u>: Why did Peter deny Jesus? (He was afraid that he too would be arrested and put on trial.)
- 7. What did Judas do when he realized Jesus had been condemned to be crucified? (He felt remorse and took the 30 pieces of silver he was paid to betray Jesus back to the chief priest.)
- 8. What did Judas do after returning the silver? (He hung himself.)
- **9.** What did the chief priest and elders do with the money? (They bought a field to bury foreigners.)
- **10.** <u>Key Question:</u> What would have been a better action for Judas rather than hanging himself? (He could have prayed to God and asked for forgiveness and then lived to honor Jesus.)
- 11. <u>Key Question</u>: What was it like for Jesus to have two of his disciples turn their backs on him? (He must have been very sad and hurt, but he also realized at this point they didn't really understand that He had not come to overthrow Roman rule of Israel or to establish an earthly kingdom.)
- 12. Contrast Peter's action after denying Jesus and that of Judas after his betrayal of Jesus. (Peter felt deep remorse, but he went on living and he was able to later become one of the men who preached the good news of Jesus. Judas was sorry, but he took his own life and was unable to make any positive contributions.

- 1. Imagine you are a movie director. How would you film this scene?
- 2. What would you want to emphasize? What do you think is most important to get across to your audience?

Small Group Guide: Questions for Discussion Jesus & Pilate & the Soldiers: Matthew 27: 11-31

What did you notice?

- **1.** As I read the passage, did you learn anything new?
- 2. What was different from the way you thought "it" happened?

Now move to the specific questions below. Please understand this is not an exhaustive list of possible observation questions!

- 1. Where is Jesus then taken? [to Pilate, the Roman governor in the city of Jerusalem]
- 2. As Pilate continues to question Jesus, what is Jesus' response? [He refuses to answer; He remains silent] Why do you think Jesus made no reply to the charges?
- 3. What time of year was it? What event was taking place? [the Feast; in other words, Pass- over] You might want to ask them what Passover is. What was the governor's custom? [to release a prisoner] Which prisoner do the people ultimately ask for? [Barabbas] Who was Barabbas? [a notorious (the Greek word suggests "famous" or well-known") prisoner]
- 4. What warning does Pilate's wife give him? [don't have anything to do with that innocent man] What might this tell us about the wife of Pilate? [many possible answers; she of all the people, including Jesus' own disciples, seems to understand or sense Jesus' innocence; she certainly showed more courage than any of Jesus' friends that day]
- 5. What is Pilate's reaction to Jesus? [he seems to have a grudging respect for Him]
- 6. What does Pilate do to take away his responsibility for what happens to Jesus? [he washes his hands] Does this take away Pilate's guilt? There's an old expression that says, "I wash my hands of this matter." It comes from this scene in the Bible. What's the only way we can be free of guilt for our sins?
- 7. The crowd shouts, "Let His blood be on us and on our children!" What are they actually saying? [that the responsibility for Jesus' death should be theirs and their children's; it's as though they are calling down a curse on their own heads; in their angry mood, they are certainly ignorant about what they are doing]
- 8. <u>Key Question:</u> What example does Jesus set for us?

What was it like for Jesus to face submission to God's will?

- 1. <u>Key Question</u>: Was submission to God's will <u>easy</u> for Jesus? You might want to read them these verses from Hebrews to remind them that Jesus perfectly understands our sufferings and temptations because He experienced them Himself: "For this reason He had to be made like His brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God...Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted." (Hebrews 2:17-18)
- 2. <u>Sight</u>: What sounds might he have heard?
- 3. **Sound:** What sights might he have seen?
- 4. <u>Touch</u>: Was His body hurting? Why? From what?
- What could Jesus feel around Him? Chains? Rods and whips? What do you think it might have been like?
- 5. <u>*Taste:*</u> Would Jesus have tasted anything unusual? (maybe His tears, His blood)
- 6. <u>Smell</u>: What would Jesus have smelled? (blood? the soldiers? the animals in the market?)
- 7. <u>Feelings: Key Question</u>: What emotions was Jesus experiencing? How might Jesus have felt at this time?

- 1. Imagine you are a movie director. How would you film this scene?
- 2. What would you want to emphasize? What do you think is most important to get across to your audience?

Small Group Guide: Questions for Discussion Jesus' Crucifixion & Death: Matthew 27: 32-54

What did you notice?

- 1. As I read the passage, did you learn anything new?
- 2. What was different from the way you thought "it" happened?

Now move to the specific questions below. Please understand this is not an exhaustive list of possible observation questions!

- 1. Why do you suppose that the Roman soldiers forced Simon of Cyrene to carry Jesus' cross? [perhaps because at this point Jesus was too weak to carry His own, which was the custom]
- 2. The text says "after they crucified Him." What is involved in crucifixion?
- 3. Did the soldiers believe the words on the sign that put above Jesus' head? [no] Why did they put the sign there? [to mock Him and His claims] In what other ways did the people mock Him? [they ask Him to come down from the cross <u>if</u> He was the Son of God, etc.]
- **4.** Remind them that this day is Friday: Good Friday. What time of day was Jesus crucified? [around noon] The sixth hour is 12:00 p.m., and the ninth hour is 3:00 p.m.
- 5. What changes in the physical elements took place? [the sky darkened; later the earth shook, the rocks split, tombs broke open] What do you suppose all this meant or symbolized? [many possible answers; the unnatural things occurring perhaps symbolized the most unnatural act ever committed by humans: the killing of their own Lord and Savior]
- 6. What does Jesus cry out? How deeply did Jesus feel abandoned by God?
- 7. How does the death of Jesus affect the centurion and those who were guarding Jesus? [they were terrified; it caused them to proclaim "Surely He was the Son of God; we don't know if they accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior or whether this was just an acknowledgment that Jesus was very special]
- 8. <u>Key Question</u>: What example does Jesus set for us?

What was it like for Jesus to face submission to God's will?

- 1. <u>Key Question</u>: Was submission to God's will <u>easy</u> for Jesus? You might want to read them these verses from Hebrews to remind them that Jesus perfectly understands our sufferings and temptations because He experienced them Himself: "For this reason He had to be made like His brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God...Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted." (Hebrews 2:17-18)
- <u>Sight</u>: What sounds might he have heard?
- 3. <u>Sound</u>: What sights might he have seen?
- 4. <u>Touch</u>: Was His body hurting? Why? From what?
- What could Jesus feel around Him? Wooden cross? Nails? What do you think it might have been like?
- 5. <u>*Taste:*</u> Would Jesus have tasted anything unusual? (maybe His tears, His blood, vingegar)
- <u>Smell</u>: What would Jesus have smelled? (blood? the wood of the cross? metal striking metal?)
- 7. <u>Feelings: Key Question</u>: What emotions was Jesus experiencing? How might Jesus have felt at this time?

- 1. Imagine you are a movie director. How would you film this scene?
- 2. What would you want to emphasize? What do you think is most important to get across to your audience? In other words, what would you want to make sure that the audience saw or heard?



Week 3: The Resurrected King

Created by Ministry to Youth ministrytoyouth.com

KING OF KINGS

Week 3: The Resurrected King

Bible: Matthew 27:57–28:20; Romans 3:23, 10:9; Acts 2:22–24, I Corinthians 15:12–19

Bottom Line: Jesus conquered death to bring you life

OPENING GAME

Egg & Spoon Relay

Supplies: spoons, cartons of eggs

This game is a classic and tons of fun. Prior to the activity, set up an obstacle course for the relay race. Divide students into small groups. Give each small group a spoon and carton of eggs. One at a time, students will move through the obstacle course while balancing the raw egg on a spoon. If the egg drops, that person must go back and start over. Be sure to have some extra eggs on hand.

If you're playing indoors and want to save the mess, try using hardboiled eggs. If they break, they can easily be swept up with a broom and dustpan. If you want to add a difficult twist, have students balance the egg while holding the spoon with their mouth!

TEACH

Welcome back to Week 3 of our series, *King of Kings.* Today is a special day because we are going to talk about the most important event in the history of the world—Christ's resurrection.

The people believed Jesus had come to save them, and to begin a new kingdom in Jerusalem. They had placed all their hope in Jesus, and now He was dead. If you were one of Jesus' disciples, how do you think you'd be feeling at this time? They were so disappointed and scared that they scattered and abandoned Jesus. As we'll see in a minute, they weren't even around to bury His body.

It had to be a time of sadness and disappointment. Everything they believed just seemed to fade away when Jesus died. There was no hope.

Let's look at the Gospel of Matthew and read what happened after Jesus died on the cross. Matthew 27:57–66 says:

As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb.

The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."

"Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how." So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.

When Jesus died, there was no one around but a stranger to give Him a proper burial. Joseph had become a follower of Jesus, but he was not one of the disciples that spent every day with Him. Just 5 days earlier, there were people lining the streets shouting, "Hosanna, Hosanna!" Where were those people now?

Jesus was laid in the tomb and a stone was rolled in front of the entrance. Not only is Jesus dead, but now He is dead and buried. Once the stone was in place, the people really believed it was all over, but the religious leaders were still worried that something would happen.

Even though it seemed to be over, the priests and Pharisees were still scared of what would happen next. They had seen Jesus do miraculous things, so they did not want to take any chances. They placed the guards at the tomb to make sure the disciples did not come to steal the body of Jesus.

Jesus is dead. His body is sealed in the tomb. A Roman soldier guards the tomb. The hope that was placed in Jesus as the One who would save the world is dead and sealed in the tomb with Him. But that was all about to change. Here is what Matthew 28:1–10 says:

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

When God created the universe, it was on the 1st day of the week that He commanded the light to shine out of the darkness. Christ arose from the grave on the 1st day of week. He was the light of the world coming to shine in darkness.

The most amazing part is that the women were "afraid, yet filled with joy." They still did not fully understand what was going on, but their hope had been brought back. Just then, Jesus met them. Can you imagine how they felt in that moment? To have seen Jesus being laid in the tomb, and to now see Him standing right in front of you?

Jesus commanded the ladies to go and gather the disciples. Jesus appeared many times throughout the next 40 days, and then He had one last meeting with the 11 remaining disciples. Imagine being one of the 11 going to see Jesus and hearing Him give them their final mission. Listen to Christ's words from Matthew 28:16–20:

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

A few years back there was a very popular movie called *Braveheart*. It was a rough movie to watch because of all the violence, so many of you probably didn't see it. The story was a true story about a man from Scotland named William Wallace. The people of Scotland were slaves to England, but William Wallace wanted his people to experience freedom. He went to war with England, and he won many impressive victories. In the movie, Wallace is captured and is sentenced to be tortured and killed. As they torture him, the soldiers tell him that all he has to do to receive mercy is take back everything he had said and done against England. As he is dying, he takes one last deep breath and gets ready to speak. Everyone thinks he will cry out for mercy, but instead he screams at the top of his lungs "FREEDOM!"

There were two of William's friends standing in the crowd and they were amazed at what had just happened. They had heard his final words, and they, too, were ready to die so that Scotland could have freedom. As the movie ends, it shows those two men on the battlefield charging towards the English soldiers. They were finishing the job. The last words of William Wallace had inspired them to charge against the enemy and win freedom for their people.

The final words of Jesus are even more powerful and inspiring. He isn't just speaking to the 11 disciples; he is speaking to every follower of Christ. He tells us to *make disciples*. We are to take the story of Jesus to everyone we know so that they can experience life; so they can experience FREEDOM!

CLOSING

The resurrection is the most important part of Christianity. If Jesus had died on the cross for sins but not resurrected, it would have only been a nice gesture. People may have remembered Him for His teachings and for His willingness to die, but He would still just be another dead guy.

The announcement of the angel gives us the full power of God's plan for salvation. The angel said, "He is not here. He is risen!" With those words, the world was changed. Jesus is not dead; He is alive. He was a resurrected Savior. **Jesus conquered death to bring you life.**

The Bible tells us in Romans 3:23 that the punishment for our sin is death. Jesus took our punishment upon himself at the cross. His death paid the price for our sins. Then, His resurrection overcame death. Romans 10:9 says, "If you confess with your mouth 'Jesus is Lord' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." If we will accept what Jesus did for us, the Bible says that we will be saved. Our punishment has been taken away, and we are given new life, eternal life. Believing in the resurrection of Jesus is the only way to have a relationship with God. **Jesus conquered death to bring you life.**

GOSPEL PRESENTATION

Present the Gospel in a clear, understandable way for students. Include an opportunity for response.

Pray and dismiss to small groups.

SMALL GROUP

Discuss the following questions in small groups:

1. What do you think the disciples were thinking and feeling when Jesus was laid in the tomb?

2. What are some possible reasons for why the disciples did not believe Jesus would rise from the grave?

3. What feelings do you think the women felt when they saw the angel and the empty tomb? What about when they met Jesus?

4. If you met Jesus that morning, what would you have said to Him?

5. Why do you think Jesus' resurrection was not witnessed by anyone? What could God be trying to teach us through this fact? (*We don't have to see to believe*)

6. How does no eyewitness account of Jesus' resurrection affect our faith in Him? Does it take more or less faith?

7. Read Acts 2:22–24. What does this passage teach us about the resurrection?

8. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12–19. What are 2 reasons given for why the resurrection is important?

9. What is the significance of the resurrection in your life?

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

A LETTER TO A FRIEND

Supplies: stationary, pens

Give each student a sheet of stationary and a pen. Explain to students that they are to imagine that they were actually there at Jesus burial and resurrection. Instruct them to write a letter to a relative or friend that describes the events of His burial and the events of His resurrection. Encourage them to use plenty of adjectives to describe how they were feeling at each moment of that weekend. You might want to write your own letter before small group and share it as an example.

When finished, give students time to share their letters with the small group if they choose to do so. Don't force them to read their letters, as some may not be as confident in their writing or use of descriptive language.



Week 4: The King of Kings

Created by Ministry to Youth ministrytoyouth.com

KING OF KINGS

Week 4: The King of Kings

Bible: Colossians 2:15; Romans 8:34; 37–39; Revelation 19:11–21; Revelation 4; Daniel 7:13–14; 2 Peter 3:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:16–18

Bottom Line: Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God. He is our King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

OPENING GAME

King of the...Eggs?

Supplies: hardboiled egg for each small group, egg dye kits, stickers, construction paper, scissors, stapler or glue

Divide students into small groups. Give each small group a hardboiled egg, an egg dye kit, and some craft supplies (stickers, construction paper, scissors, glue, etc.). Instruct the small groups to create a "king" by decorating their egg. They may use the dye kit and craft supplies to create the best king possible. Encourage them to be creative: make a crown, draw a face, create a throne, etc. At the end of the activity, allow small groups to show their "kings" in a large group fashion show.

TEACH

Supplies: "Supremacy of Christ" Monologue, defused grenade (can be purchased at military surplus stores or order online for \$8.95 at <u>IMS–Plus</u>)

Begin large group by having a student or an adult read the dramatic monologue titled "Supremacy of Christ" by Dr. Richard Ross. Set the mood for the monologue by dimming the lights and playing instrumental music at a low volume. The added touches will help students to stay engaged throughout the whole monologue.

(The monologue is attached to the end of the lesson, and it can be downloaded at <u>richardaross.com</u>)

Welcome to the fourth and final week of our series *King of Kings*. We've had an exciting adventure so far, and today will be just as exciting.

Every word of the monologue you just heard came from Scripture. It is the story of Christ taken from several books of the Bible. These verses are powerful

because they show us that Christ always has been and always will be the King of Kings.

Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God. He is our King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

He was king in the beginning, and He is king right now. Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God. He is our King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

After Jesus rose from the grave, He appeared to His disciples and others for a total of 40 days. After those 40 days, Jesus ascended into Heaven where there was a coronation of Jesus as King of Kings. A coronation is a ceremony where a king is given authority, power, and a crown. Jesus received all of this from God the Father, and He was seated at the right hand of God.

This is an amazing part of the Bible that we often overlook. We all know that Jesus died on the cross and that He rose from the grave. However, we tend to overlook the fact that Jesus is now sitting at the right of hand of God, and He is ruling the world as the victorious King of Kings.

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ has conquered Satan and sin. Colossians 2:15 says, "And [Christ] having disarmed the powers and authorities [of Satan], he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."

Hold up defused grenade

Satan is like a grenade that, if fully armed, could be deadly. But, in fact, like this grenade, Satan has been *disarmed*. The evil forces that the Bible speaks about are real, and they are still present. But we must not be afraid of those evil forces because Jesus has taken all their power away through His death and resurrection. We can stand up against them because we have been given the victory through Jesus Christ. His power that defeated Satan has been given to all those that place their faith in Him. Listen to the power in these verses that Paul wrote:

Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:34; 37–39)

Just as the Bible tells us that Jesus Christ sits as King at the right hand of God, it also tells us that He will be coming back some day. He will return as King of

Kings and everyone, believers and unbelievers, will get to see Him for who He really is.

John gives us the best picture of Jesus returning as King of Kings. In Revelation 19:11–16, John shares the vision that God gave him of this event.

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse whose rider is called Faithful and True...His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns...He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and His name is the Word of God. Out of His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations...On His robe and on His thigh He has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. (Revelation 19:11–16(emphasis and edits added))

When Christ returns there will be no doubt that He is King of Kings. His power will be on display for everyone to see, and they will be convinced that He is Lord. It's an amazing thing to imagine. Until that day, we can live in confidence that Christ is in control. He has conquered sin and given us the victory.

Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God. He is our KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORD.

Always remember that Satan was defeated and disarmed at the Cross. Satan is real and he is still active on earth. His goal is to deceive you, and make you lose faith in what Scripture says. However, every believer has been given power and victory over Satan. We should flee from him and be aware of his tricks, but we do not have to be afraid of him. No matter how sad or difficult or awful our circumstances are—we must remember to look past these *temporary* troubles and look to Jesus. He is our victory. Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God. He is our KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS. Through Him, we are more than conquerors.

Pray and dismiss to small groups

SMALL GROUPS

Discuss the following questions in small groups:

1. Describe what you think the coronation of Christ was like.

- 2. How does the resurrection of Jesus Christ disarm Satan?
- 3. How should we respond to Satan or evil forces as Christians?

4. Imagine seeing the image that John describes in Revelation 19:11–13. What feelings would you feel if you saw that image?

5. Jesus Christ is seated at the right hand of God. He is King. How does this change the way you live and think as a Christian?

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

This activity will not be done as a typical small group. Students will have the opportunity to work on a project that will allow them to show what they have learned in this lesson. There will be 4 projects located at 4 different stations. The stations will use different learning styles to help students express what they have learned.

Learning Stations

Supplies: Each station will have their own supply list—see Station Instructions for those supplies

Explain to students that they will have the opportunity to choose a project from 1 of 5 categories. Each category will use a different learning style. Here is a breakdown of each station's learning style:

Puzzle Smart—those who like puzzles, math, problem solving Word Smart—those who enjoy writing and storytelling Picture Smart—those who enjoy drawing or using images to tell stories Music Smart—those who enjoy learning through music and rhythm Body Smart—those who enjoy drama and/or hands–on art

Give details about each project and where the activity station is located. Then, allow students to choose a project and move to that location. Be sure to have leaders at each location to explain the rules and purpose of the project. The Activity Station Instructions are included at the end of the lesson.

Instruction Sheet Activity #1: Word Smart

Supplies: paper and pencils/pens

You will be writing a story about Christ's victory over death or His role as KING OF KINGS from the viewpoint of *one* of the following people or things: one of the disciples; the angels in heaven; the wooden cross, the throne of heaven—or make up your own person or thing.

For ideas, you might want to read: Revelation 19:11–21 (the King and the battle) Revelation 4 (the throne) Daniel 7:13–14, 2 Peter 3:10, and 1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 (vision of Second Coming of Christ).

Write your story on the pages provided for you. If you have time you might want to add illustrations to your story.

Try answering some of these questions to help you get started: You do not have to answer all of them! These are questions just to help you get ideas.

1. Which object or person will you choose as your storyteller?

Will you choose to be one of the disciples? Which one?

Will you choose to be an angel in heaven?

Will you choose to be the wooden cross on which Jesus was crucified? Will you choose to be one of the defeated demons?

Here are some other ideas: Jesus' mother Mary, the rock in front of the tomb, the blind man who was healed, the angel at the tomb, one of the guards at the tomb, an eyewitness of Jesus' second coming to Earth; the white horse on which Jesus rides at His second coming

2. What does your storyteller (person or object) look like? What color? What age?

3. Where is the person or object when he or it tells the story? At the tomb? At the cross? In heaven? In hell?

4. What does that place look like? What colors are there? What other objects or people or spiritual beings are there?

5. What does your storyteller see? Jesus? A throne? A tomb? A cross? A crowd of people? A dark night? the heavenly clouds?

6. What is happening? What action is the storyteller seeing? Jesus on the Cross? Jesus as

He defeats Satan and the forces of Evil? Jesus as conquering hero?

7. How does the storyteller feel about what is happening? Sad? Excited?

8. What is the title of your story?

Instruction Sheet Activity #2: Picture Smart

Supplies:

11x 17 paper Colored pencils/Markers

1. Draw a picture of Jesus as KING OF KINGS. Imagine what Jesus looked like in His victory over death *or* what He will look like returning as KING OF KINGS *or* His appearance on the throne of heaven.

2. For ideas, you might want to read: Revelation 19:11–21 (the King and the battle) Revelation 4 (the throne)
Daniel 7:13–14, 2 Peter 3:10, and 1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 (vision of Second Coming of Christ).

Instruction Sheet Activity #3: Music Smart

Supplies:

Musical instruments (keyboard, guitar, drum blocks, tambourine) Paper and Pencils

1. Choose one of the options below for your music activity.

a. Make up a short song **or** rap about Jesus as KING OF KINGS. The song can **tell** the story of Jesus and the Cross and His resurrection or it can tell **about how someone might feel** about what Jesus did for us—**a praise song or song of celebration and victory!**.

b. If you don't want to make up your own tune, then choose a popular song and make up words for it. Here are some ideas for familiar tunes: Jesus Loves Me; Row, Row, Row Your Boat; Mary Had a Little Lamb; Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.

2. Write the words to your song on your paper.

3. For ideas, you might want to read: Revelation 19:11–21 (the King and the battle) Revelation 4 (the throne) Daniel 7:13–14, 2 Peter 3:10, and 1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 (vision of Second Coming of Christ).

Instruction Sheet Activity #4: Body Smart

Supplies:

Play–Doh Craft Supplies (yarn, craft sticks, sequins, feathers, etc.) Paper and Pencils

1. You will have to work with at least 3 or 4 others if you choose this activity.

2. Using Play–Doh create a sculpture or scene that reflects Jesus as the KING OF KINGS. You may also use the other craft supplies to add to the sculptures.

a. Decide what part/piece everyone will create with the Play–Doh. When you have finished, put your part/piece with everyone else's to create the scene.

b. On your paper, write a description of the scene by answering some of these questions:

- What is happening in the scene?
- What person or object did you create?
- What were you trying to express in your creation?

3. For ideas, you might want to read:

Revelation 19:11–21 (the King and the battle)

Revelation 4 (the throne)

Daniel 7:13–14, 2 Peter 3:10, and 1 Thessalonians 4:16–18 (vision of Second Coming of Christ).

Supremacy of Christ Monologue

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He is the image of the invisible God. By Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image . . . whom I have created for My glory." She took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and Adam ate. Through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned. And men began to multiply on the face of the land.

But all of us like sheep have gone astray. Each of us has turned to his own way. For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God. The wages of sin is death. The LORD will judge his people. It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God. But God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (Christ) emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond–servant, being made in the likeness of men.

And (Mary) gave birth to her firstborn son. And the Word became flesh. The child grew, and waxed strong, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John, and led them up a high mountain. There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. A bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" The disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" And Jesus said to them, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. And they will see the son of man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory."

Then men seized Jesus and arrested him and took him to Caiaphas, the high priest. The high priest said to him, "I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." "Yes, it is as you say. In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven." Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? What do you think?" They answered, "He is worthy of death." And when they came unto the place which is called the skull, there they crucified him.

The LORD was pleased to crush Him. Smitten of God, He laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. Christ died for sins to bring us to God. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own

new tomb. As it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. And behold, an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen."

To the apostles Jesus presented Himself alive after His suffering, appearing to them over a period of forty days. And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. He was clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like flames of fire. God said, Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet. (God) seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And Peter raised his voice and declared to them: "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. Therefore, let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said "what shall we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live righteously and godly in the present age, looking for the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus. The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord in the air. When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them one from one another. Then He will also say to those on His left, "Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels." Then the King will say to those on His right, "Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

There was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be

praise and honor and glory and power, forever and ever! Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. Behold, I am coming soon! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."