



GOD IS _____

Part 9: God is King

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What comes into our mind when we think about God
is the most important thing about us.

- A.W. Tozer

Big Idea

God is King, and the character of this king is fully revealed in the cross and resurrection of Jesus.

Big Question

If God is King, what does it mean for us to live as citizens of his kingdom?

- Being a citizen of the Kingdom of God is a voluntary society where we are in relationship with the King.
- Being in a relationship with King Jesus means we participate in his vision of the kingdom.

Suggestion 1 to participate in King Jesus' vision of the kingdom:

- Use your talents to demonstrate the rule and reign of King Jesus wherever you go, inviting others to participate too.

Suggestion 2 to participate in King Jesus' vision of the kingdom:

- Stop participating in unjust economic and social systems that create havoc and death in people's lives.
- Like Zaccheus, actively create solutions to these systems that allow for restoration, reconciliation and peace.
- Get ready for the consequences.

Resources

For the political perspective on Luke 19:

- See the article: “*Outside a Small Circle of Friends: Jesus and the Justice of God*,” by Sylvia Keesmaat and Brian Walsh
- *Jesus, Paul and the People of God: A Theological Dialogue with N.T. Wright*, Edited by Nicholas Perrin, Richard B. Hays.

For the traditional perspective on Matthew 25 and Luke 19:

- *Jesus and the Victory of God (Christian Origins and the Question of God, Volume 2)*, by N. T. Wright

For Brad Riley and iEmpathize: www.iempathize.org

For Shauna Lott and the Long I Pie Shop: www.thelongipie.com

For the civil rights movement as a movement of the church:

- *A Stone of Hope: Prophetic Religion and the Death of Jim Crow*, by David Chappell

For info on Dietrich Bonhoeffer:

- *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*, by Eric Metaxa

For theology and people with special needs:

“*Timeful Friends*” chapter in *Sanctify Them in the Truth: Holiness Exemplified*, by Stanley Hauerwas

Small Group Questions:

- 1) Do you have a story of when you decided to “come to the banquet table of Jesus?” What is it?
- 2) Who do you need to invite to come be in relationship with King?
- 3) What gifts and talents has Jesus given you to use in your spheres of influence? How can you use them there?
- 4) Have you become aware of any unjust systems you need to stop participating in? Do you think you could start concrete, Jesus-filled alternatives for any of these unjust systems?
- 5) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?

OUR MISSION | To create an authentic Christian community that effectively reaches out to unchurched people in love, acceptance and forgiveness so that they may experience the joy of salvation and a purposeful life of discipleship.