

## ELEMENTAL – Week 6: King: (Ki)

We are excited to take this journey with you into God's Word. We began two weeks ago (09/25) and will continue for 3 more weeks in hopes that this devotional study will reinforce in *your* life what Christians have been hearing from Him for the past 2,000 years. We live in a day of second-hand information: Teachers, pundits, reporters, preachers, authors, etc. Most of us have little more than a vicarious understanding of the Elemental beliefs that define who we are as the church... that define who we are as Christians. We pray this next 3 weeks will be an opportunity for you to hear from God 1<sup>st</sup> hand as you draw near to Him through His revealed Word – the Bible.

***What we believe is what makes us.*** Each week will have 5 readings related to the sermon that was preached at the beginning of the week. Think of the sermon as an introduction, and the 5 readings and thought-provoking questions as your further exploration and opportunity to hear from God.

### Day 1: Luke 2:8–14

1. Why were the shepherds filled with fear? Why did they not need to fear?
2. What is the basis of peace?
3. A king is being born. How is life different now that the king has come?

### Day 2: Luke 23:39–43

1. How do Jesus' words answer the question of the criminal?
2. Reading the context of Luke 23, what do you think caused the one criminal to recognize that Jesus had a kingdom?
3. Why do you think the other criminal not recognize it?

### Day 3: Philippians 2:5-11

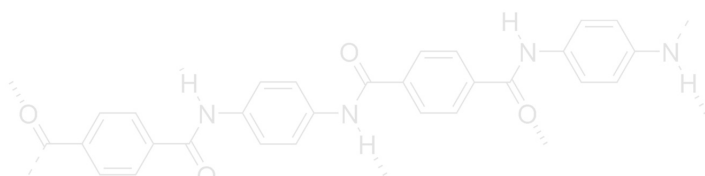
1. What is Jesus' reward in this passage? What is the basis of that reward?
2. What is the purpose of Jesus' exaltation?
3. What is the "mind" we are suppose to have? Write the answer in one sentence.

### Day 4: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

1. What are the two kinds of grief in this passage?
2. How does the bible define hope?
3. Why are we instructed to "encourage" one another with these words? When is the last time you encouraged someone with these words? Is there anyone in your life that needs this encouragement?

### Day 5: Revelation 1:12-18

1. How different is this scene of Jesus our King from the picture of Jesus in your mind?
2. Why do you think the message of "fear not" always comes when Jesus is presented?
3. How does the presence of Jesus the King bring both fear and peace?



## Life Group Questions For Discussion

Use any or as many of these questions as will be helpful for your discussion.

- Discuss anything you heard today that made a particular impact on you, and why.
- How would our lives be different today if we lived under an actual monarchy? Better or worse?
- What would our country be like if Jesus was president?
- How does seeing Jesus as wrathful and vanquishing King (see Zech. 14) change your perspective about Him? Will that have any real change in your everyday life? Why or why not?
- Is it harder for you to wrap your mind around the fact that Jesus is God, that He is man, or that He is both? How do you address those claims Scripturally?
- So, is Jesus really reigning here and now? In what sense? In what sense is He not?
- In your own words: What is The Kingdom? How do we live in it *now*?
- Read Joel 3:16-17. Until that occurs, what do you think Christians' role in Jerusalem should be?
- What are some of the things that diminish our loyalty to the King? How do we address them?
- Read Revelation 22:12. Do you think it's right that we live in expectation of a reward? Why?
- Read Psalm 2. How does this text form the lens through which we view current world events?
- Devotional Question For The Week (See Matt. 25:21): ***Are you ready for the return of The King?***

### Memory Verses (Fighter Verses)

Last Week: 1 John 2:16

This Week: Colossians 3:4

### Prayer Focus

#### For the Vision and Direction of Bethel – Both Campuses:

Bethel Bible Church will be a people that experience life-change together. May God The Father move by His Spirit to captivate us with love and loyalty for the Son.

### Missionary Support

**Johnny & Taylor Russell – Young Life Tyler:** In 1938, Jim Rayburn graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary and becomes a youth pastor at a Presbyterian Church in Gainesville, Texas. His pastor said to him, 'Jim, I can take care of the six kids who are coming to youth group, I want you to go across the street into Gainesville High School and to build friendships with kids that would never darken the door of this church.' That is exactly what Young Life has been doing since the beginning. Young Life Leaders go where teenagers are... school, athletic games, choir performances, parks, restaurants and all across town! We call this Contact Work and it's our 'Bread and Butter!' **Young Life's Mission Statement:** Introducing adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith. In Young Life, we don't push the Gospel on anyone. We let the decision to follow Jesus be the teenagers, not our own. We realize that we can't save anyone, nor is that our job! That is the job of our Lord and King!.

### In Response to the Text:

- Praising God for Christ's exaltation and exemplary life
- Praising God for the Holy Spirit's prompting to love Christ and follow Him loyally
- Praising God for His entrusting His Kingdom duty to us

### Further Resources for Study and Preparation

*King's Cross* – Tim Keller

*Jesus: The Greatest Life of All (Great Lives From God's Word Series)* – Chuck Swindoll

*The King Jesus Gospel* – Scot McKnight

### Next Week's Text: John 3

