

Weekly Resource: The Story of Jesus

The Christ Hymn

Purpose: to provide space to go further in study and understanding of the gospel story of Jesus Christ.

→ **What about King Jesus?**

Micah shared on Sunday that "At first glance, the idea of King Jesus seems appealing...until we learn the rest of the story." Consider reading: Psalm 47; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Revelation 19:11-16

- ❖ What thoughts/ideas come to your mind when you think about Jesus as King?
- ❖ What parts of 'the rest of the story' might discourage us from following King Jesus?

→ **What about Jesus "being in very nature God"?**

Read Philippians 2:6-8; Hebrews 1:1-14 (emphasis on verse 8)

In Sunday's message Micah shared, "The term 'being in very nature God' points to Jesus as a member of the triune God and preexistent state."

- ❖ How does Jesus 'being in very nature God' expand/strengthen your belief of the Trinity?
- ❖ In light of Jesus being God, what surprises you the most about his humility?

→ **What about the exaltation of Christ?**

In Sunday's message, we considered the exaltation of Jesus Christ. Read again Philippians 2:9-11 and Isaiah 45:22-24.

- ❖ The 'therefore' that begins verse 9 has led to two basic interpretations of Christ's exaltation: 1) God rewarded Jesus for his obedience. 2) God justified Jesus' actions. Keeping in mind the context of God's character (self-giving), which of these interpretations makes sense to you and why?
- ❖ Verse 10, "...that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow...and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord." This remarkable claim draws on Isaiah 45:22-24 to signify the wonder and beauty of the second coming of Jesus. How do you envision this scene playing out? Are people bowing and confessing voluntarily? Begrudgingly? Out of fear?
- ❖ What is the inevitable verdict about Jesus as this hymn closes?

Weekly Prayer: To our God, the only Ruler and King, who alone is faithful and lives in unapproachable light be honor, glory and dominion. Father, Son and Spirit, empower us to live as lights that reflect the love and humility of King Jesus and may others glorify your name as they see you in us. Amen.

Children's Corner: The Story of Jesus

The Christ Hymn

*NOTE: Since we are able to offer our Nursery Video and T3 Videos every week for ages 2nd grade & younger, this resource will primarily be focused on content for ages 3rd-6th grade.

As we remember Micah's sermon, let's think about how the promises of God and Jesus' second coming connect us to the gospel. Let's search for clues to help us understand what it means to follow King Jesus.

***REMEMBER** – the gospel story is the same throughout the whole Bible and all of human history = God fulfills His promises by grace to restore us & the world to Himself because God loves us so much.

***READ** – Philippians 2:5-11 {NIRV translation is often a good choice for younger readers}

***SEARCHING FOR CLUES THAT POINT TO JESUS**

- What do you think of when you hear the word "king"?
- What clues throughout scripture point to Jesus as being a different kind of king? How was Jesus different than what the Jews expected or from kings we read about in history?
- Do you think of Jesus as being "less than" God or do you think of Jesus as being "equal" to God?
- What clues from "The Christ Hymn" in Philippians point to Jesus being equal to God?

***STUFF TO TALK ABOUT WITH YOUR FAMILY**

- What does the word "humble" or "humility" mean?
- What are some ways we can follow Jesus' example of humility and obedience to God? At home with our family? At school? When someone disagrees with us? When hard things happen in life that we don't understand?
- What does it mean to have Jesus be the King of our hearts?

***VIDEO RESOURCE**

The link below is to a YouTube video from *The Bible Project*. It covers the book of Philippians in a unique way and helps us "find those clues" to connect us to Jesus with a focus on "the Christ Hymn," also called "the Messiah Poem." If your kids are not interested in following the entire video, the main area of focus for Philippians 2:6-11 is between minutes 3:40 - 5:26.

<https://youtu.be/oE9qqW1-BkU>

***PRAYER**

God, thank you for loving us and for always keeping Your promises. Thank you for Jesus - help us to keep learning how to follow Jesus and His ways. Help us to remember that we belong to You, God, and that You are always with us. We give You all praise and bow before You as the King of our hearts. We love You. In Jesus' name. Amen.