

Longing for a King

December 11, 2022 | Judges 17-21 | Mercy in the Night | Pastor Mike Foster

Notes on text:

Points to ponder:

- We are utterly lost in darkness without a king
- The good and glorious King - the Light of the World - has come to save us!
- King Jesus sends us as His ambassadors to spread the news and shine His light!

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Complete the statement: All I want for Christmas is _____.
3. Read Proverbs 14:12. What are some ways you see this Proverb play out in Judges? In our world or in your life?
4. Read Isaiah 9:1-7. In what ways has Jesus turned your darkness into light?
5. Read Isaiah 9:6. Which name of Jesus in this verse means the most to you this Christmas season, and why?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 4:6 and Daniel 12:3. Who is someone who shined the light of Jesus into your life at a time when you were in darkness? How did God use that person in your life?
7. Take some time to read out loud Psalm 98, which “Joy to the World” was drawn from. What stands out to you in these verses?
8. In what ways have you experience true and deep joy lately? How are you expressing that joy? Or, are there ways in which it is difficult for you to feel joy lately?
9. What is something you specifically look forward to about the Lord’s future reign as King?
10. Spend some time praying for people who need the light and joy of Jesus this Christmas in a special way. Consider how the Lord might use you to bless them or to share the good news about Jesus with them.

FOR FURTHER REFLECTION

Read Psalms 95-100, Proverbs 3:5-8, Proverbs 14:12, Matthew 5:14-16, 2 Corinthians 4:6, Daniel 12:3

Read “Israel Falls Apart” – <https://bit.ly/Israelfallsapart>

Read “Never be wise in your own eyes” – <https://bit.ly/wiseinyourowneyes>

Listen to “Is He Worthy?” – <https://bit.ly/isheworthy>

Listen to “Joy to the World / Joy of the Lord” – https://bit.ly/jttw_jotl

Listen to “Joy to the World (Joyful, Joyful)” – https://bit.ly/joyful_joyful

Read *Come Let Us Adore Him* by Paul David Tripp – a great Advent devotional

The “Jesse Tree” is a great activity for families at Christmas - great for young kids - check it out here - <https://www.fithward.org/jesse-tree/>