

Christ the King

The King Who Serves

Ages about 7-11 | Video 5:17 | Group lesson about 25-35 minutes

Central truth Jesus is the true King whose greatness appears in humble service, mercy, the Cross, and the Resurrection. Following him changes how we use our own small responsibilities.

Learning goals Children will connect three scenes with Jesus' kingship, explain why service is strength, and choose a way to lead by helping.

Gather Video access, one handout per child, pencils or crayons, and a Bible.

Watch online [Open this video on Servus Dei](#)

Before watching | 2 minutes

Ask what children expect a king to do. Keep their ideas in mind while watching the manger, basin, Cross, and empty tomb.

Watch and notice

Notice the repeated contrast between signs of worldly power and Jesus' actions. Pause after the foot washing: what kind of greatness is Jesus showing?

Talk together | 6-8 minutes

1. Why does the story begin with a manger instead of a palace?

The King of heaven comes humbly as a baby. Jesus' worth and authority do not depend on wealth or impressive surroundings.

2. What does washing his friends' feet show?

Jesus willingly serves. Caring for ordinary needs is not beneath him, and he calls his followers to serve one another.

3. How does Jesus act as King on the Cross?

He gives himself in saving love and offers mercy to the repentant criminal. His kingship is not defeated by others' mockery.

4. Why is the Resurrection essential to this story?

Jesus truly rises and lives. We follow the living Lord, not only the memory of a kind teacher who died.

Then respond and pray Allow 6-8 minutes for a handout or the activity on page 2; finish with the closing prayer.

Lead the response

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Short family lesson Watch the video, choose one recall question and one application question, then pray. About 12-18 minutes; the handout is optional.

Choose a handout

Draw & Tell Children draw three signs of Jesus' way of reigning: a basin for service, a cross for saving love, and an empty tomb for risen life. Simple symbols are enough.

Read & Write Children use a scene to explain Jesus' kingship, connect mercy with the Cross, and apply service to a small leadership responsibility.

Adapt by readiness

Ages 7-8: use serve, forgive, and live as three remembering words. Invite pointing or oral answers.

Ages 9-11: discuss how authority can protect and serve people. Explain that God's kingdom is more than a place on a map or a private feeling.

The leader's helpful job | Optional 4 minutes

Imagine you lead a game or group task. Name the usual privilege a leader might want. Then choose a service the group needs: explain rules kindly, include a newcomer, or share supplies fairly. Practice that service.

Look for understanding Look for actual video scenes and Jesus' saving work. A leadership plan should benefit others rather than merely give the child more control.

Closing prayer Christ our King, teach us to serve, forgive, and love. Reign in our hearts and guide our actions. Help us follow you, our risen Lord. Amen.

At home At a shared task, let each person name one way someone else served. Thank Jesus and try one unnoticed helpful job.

Handout answer notes Jesus washed his disciples' feet. He promised paradise to the repentant criminal. Accept fair, welcoming, practical leadership that serves the group.

Teach with care

Explain foot washing as ordinary, lowly service on dusty roads. Keep discussion of the Cross non-graphic and include the Resurrection. Jesus' kingdom is God's gift, not something children earn by being helpful. Our loving actions respond to grace. Do not assign collective blame for Jesus' death to Jewish people. Forgiveness does not require accepting ongoing harm.

Words to explain Kingdom: God's reign, present in Jesus and to be fulfilled completely. Mercy: love that reaches someone in need and offers forgiveness. Resurrection: Jesus rising bodily from death to new life.

Sources for the leader

King and risen Savior: [Benedict XVI, Angelus, 25 November 2012](#)

The servant King: [John 13:1-17; Luke 23:39-43](#)

Signs of a different kind of King

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Jesus shows his greatness through love.

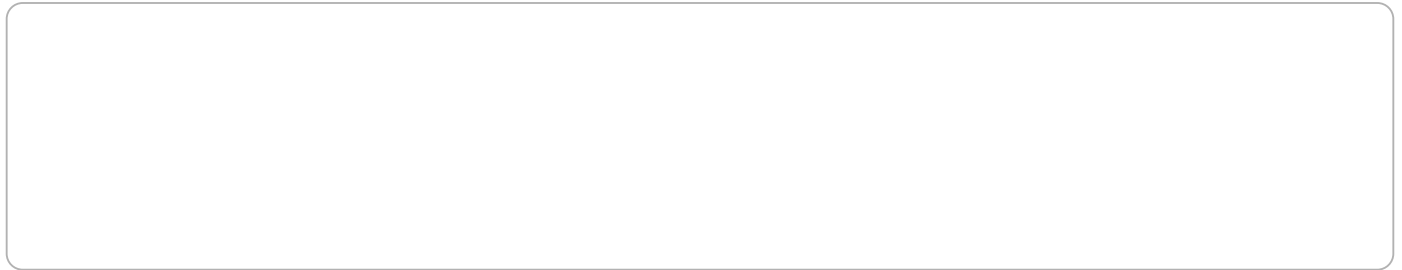
Name _____

Adult helper Read aloud. Invite drawing, pointing, or spoken answers. Writing is optional.

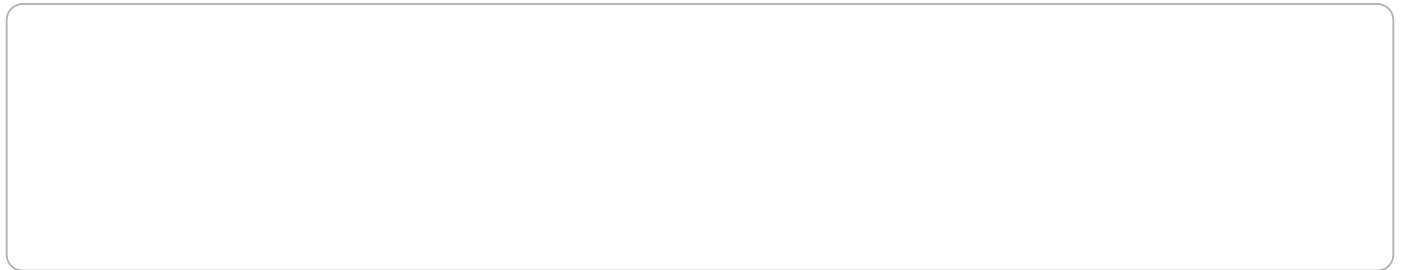
1 A BASIN: Jesus serves his friends.



2 A CROSS: Jesus gives himself in love.



3 AN EMPTY TOMB: Jesus is risen!



Tell Which scene helps you understand Jesus as King? Why?

Pray Jesus our King, teach me to serve and love. Amen.

At home Share your picture and one thing you learned about God or following Jesus.

What kind of King is Jesus?

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Use moments from the video to explain your answers.

Name _____

1 Greatness through service

What did Jesus do with a basin? What did this teach?

Jesus showed greatness by ...

2 Mercy on the Cross

How did Jesus answer the criminal who turned to him?

Jesus offered ...

3 Lead by helping

You are leading a group activity. How could you serve the group?

I could help by ...

Pray Jesus our King, teach me to serve and love. Amen.

Go deeper Why is serving others different from trying to control them?