

Read: Luke 1:26; John 17:22; Revelation 19:16

Living It Out:

Jesus offers complete peace and security, but only when our eyes are fixed on him alone as our King.

1. Jesus' kingship is exclusive and subversive.
2. Jesus' kingship is odd but beautiful.

Looking Back:

- Thinking back to Advent **1: PEACE**
Did you do an inventory of your time, finances, relationships, resources and allow the Holy Spirit to ask if your peace is because of your circumstances / situation or is your peace, a peace that is beyond understanding, so that even when those things are not going as you planned or hoped, you still experience God's peace in your life?
- Thinking back to Advent **2: WONDER**
Did you take some time this last week, to sit in the Christmas story and hear / experience it fresh this year?
 - If you did, what stood out to you?
 - If you didn't, will you plan on doing it this week?

Reflect on these statements:

- In Jesus we find the love we've been longing for.
- In Jesus we return to the home we've been missing.
- In Jesus, the wonder of our childhood, and of our world, and of our lives is restored, because He makes all things new! *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."* 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)

If those statements are true, how then do we live? What difference does it make for how we view people around us – both those close to us and those we casually interact with?

Reflection Questions:

- What is an area of your life where you wanted to be "king" or "queen"?
- Revelation 19:16 says that Jesus is the "king of all kings, lord of all lords". How does this passage speak to those who say that we offer allegiance to Canada and to God's kingdom?
- By calling him Lord and King, those early followers of Jesus were not only saying that Jesus' kingship was exclusive (there was no other one worthy of being called Lord and King) they were also being subversive.
 - In what ways?
 - What happened to some of those early followers of Jesus?
- In what ways is Jesus' kingship different or maybe even opposite to what most kings are like?
 - Can you trust that our king really is this beautiful? Why or why not?
 - Will you submit to this King?
Believing is not enough. Submitting to him is what he wants.
 - Will we live for the glory of this King?
What does this mean? What does it practically look like in your stage of life?
 - How do you understand the link between Jesus' self-sacrificial love and his glory?
What are the implications of this for us, as individuals, as OCC, as the (city-wide and world-wide church)?
- If we are fully committed, there should be a self-sacrificial character to everything we do. Only to the degree that we are fully committed, will we have his perfect Peace in our life.