

TWO KINGDOMS

DISCUSSION
GUIDE



SAVING GRACE
— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

OCTOBER 18, 2020

Two Kingdoms: Jesus is Still Lord

Pastor Tim Lawson

John 19: 1 - 16

We understand that it is difficult to connect with a group of people right now. If you are able to connect with a group from Saving Grace online feel free to use this material as a discussion guide. You may also use this material with your family or adapt it as a self-assessment tool.

Enjoy!



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WITH YOUR GROUP/FAMILY...

Answer each of the following questions prompted by today's sermon.

1. Read John 19: 10 – 11 and Romans 13: 1 - 2. What is God's perspective on earthly authority?
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2. Why is it important for the Christian to remember that: "Win or lose...Jesus is still Lord. He is Lord of this earth, the universe and all things. If your candidate gets elected - Jesus is still Lord. If your candidate loses - Jesus is still Lord."
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3. What are we as Christians supposed to do when we see sin and injustice exposed in our government and its leaders?
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4. Read each of the following Bible verses and decide what each has to say about God's role/plan for government, our responsibility as Jesus followers, or the comfort and reassurance God gives us through these sections of His word.

Scripture to Read:	What God is telling us about government:
Genesis 9: 1 – 7	
Exodus 5: 1 – 2 & Exodus 9: 14 – 17	
Leviticus 19: 34	
Judges 17: 6; 21: 25	
1 Samuel 8: 6 – 9	
Psalms 82: 1 – 8	
Jeremiah 29:7	
Micah 6:8	
Acts 16: 16 - 24; 17: 5 - 8; 19: 18 - 20; 19: 23 – 29.	
Matthew 10: 16 – 23, John 15: 18 – 19,	
2 Timothy 3: 12, Matthew 14: 1 – 12, Acts 7: 54 - 60; Acts 12: 2; Revelation 6: 9 - 11	

5. Read Revelation 1: 1 - 3; 22: 7. How is it helpful to remember that the book of Revelation is not intended to promote hopeless speculation about times and events in the future. Rather, the book of Revelation is intended to fuel hopeful obedience amidst trials and temptations in the present?

6. React to: “Imagine you got the chance to spend 10 minutes with the newly elected or re-elected President come January 2021. Imagine that you were allowed to give him guidance on his role. What would you say? Maybe something like: *“Congratulations. It appears that God wanted you to be President. Let me tell you what His Word says. Did you know your authority comes from God Almighty who sits on His throne in heaven above? He has delegated responsibility to you in this area of His earth to rule rightly and morally. I will not agree with everything you do, but I will commit to pray for you weekly. You have one of the toughest jobs in human history. I pray that you will promote good and punish evil as God defines it. You are ultimately responsible to God and will be judged by Him. Be a wise president who fears God. I am thankful for you. May God Bless you.”*
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WITH YOUR KIDS...

7. Why would God decide to let men and women be in charge of this world as presidents, kings, and dictators?
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8. What are some of the things we are to do as Christians to be a good citizen of the United States?
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ON YOUR OWN...

Read the following Scripture verses and reminders about our responsibilities with regards to government this week and use them as your own personal devotional and meditation time.

9. Romans 14:1; 15: 5 – 6. Christians honor Christ by uniting around His Word and refusing to divide over non-essential differences in the world.
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10. Romans 14: 23c. When God’s Word speaks clearly and essentially about an issue, obey the Word.
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11. Romans 14: 5 – 8. When God’s Word does not speak clearly and essentially about an issue, do what you believe best honors Jesus.
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12. Romans 12: 9 - 10; 14:15. When others in the church have different convictions on decisions that are not clearly and essentially addressed in God’s Word, love them.
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13. James 1:19; Ephesians 4: 1- 3. Listen to and respect others’ convictions.
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14. Romans 14:1. Refuse to disparage or quarrel with one another.
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15. Romans 14: 19. Build your relationships with others on what is clear and essential in God’s Word.
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16. Romans 15: 1 – 3. Look for opportunities to please others in the church who have different convictions than you.

17. 1 Timothy 2: 1 – 6. Who do we pray for? Every kind of person and leaders in high positions. What do we pray for? The promotion of peace and the spread of salvation.
- a) God desires the salvation of all peoples. 2 Peter 3:9; Ezekiel 33:11
 - b) God deserves the honor of all peoples. Isaiah 45: 21 - 22
 - c) Jesus died for the rescue of all peoples. Revelation 5: 9 - 10
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18. As we learned from last week's sermon, the pledge this election season is that:
- a) We will speak the truth in love from God's Word.
 - b) We will love and not hate.
 - c) We will bless and not curse.
 - d) We will show hospitality to all people.
 - e) We will do nothing to defame the great name of Jesus!
 - f) We will deepen relationships with people who are different from us.
 - g) We will remain united under the cross of Jesus.

Choose 1 or 2 of the above statements in the pledge that you most need to ask God's help with. Pray for God to give you the strength to improve in these areas.