



The Prophet

December 3 & 4

What are your initial thoughts when you hear the word “prophet”?

Read Luke 13:31-35. This passage gives us several insights into Jesus and His understanding of His role.

- What powerful events are happening that could only happen by the hand of God?
- What category does Jesus put Himself into?
- What happens to people in this role?
- What are the words Jesus speaks over Jerusalem? What does it show us about His heart for them? What is their response back?

Read John 4:1-26

- What did Jesus say to this woman to cause her to think He was a prophet?

- Where in this passage does Jesus speak for God?
- What “future event” does Jesus speak to as a prophet?
- What does Jesus promise her that seems ridiculous, but points to eternal life?

Read Deuteronomy 18:14-16 followed by **Acts 3:17-26**

- Who is the prophet Moses was talking about?
- What follows for those who listen to “the prophet” and to those who don’t?
- Final thought: What do **verses 25b and 26** tell us will be the results of listening to “the prophet” and turning from wicked ways?

Close in prayer that we will be faithful to what Scripture calls us to from the words of Jesus. Also, that we would be aware of when He may be speaking to us/prompting us today.



The High Priest

December 10 & 11

Hebrews chapters 4-8 really focus in on Jesus' role as the New and Better High Priest that replaces the priesthood established for Israel. We encourage you to read the entire section and jot down notes and questions to discuss with your group! You can also **search "Bible Project, Jesus the Royal Priest"** for more insight into the depiction of Jesus as the High Priest in the Gospels.

When you hear the word "priest" what comes to mind? If you had to explain to someone what priests are in the Bible what would you say?

List some of the similarities and differences between Jesus' priesthood and the priesthood set up under Moses.

Hebrews 4:14-16 says Jesus is able to sympathize with us because He became human and was tempted just as we are - yet without sin. When you are tempted and sin, what is your mental picture of how God sees you? If God, the Son, knows what it's like to be tempted, how does knowing this truth impact your view of God?

When you're tempted, what is your strategy for dealing with it? Do you grit your teeth and try to fight it? Do you hide and cover it up and pretend it's not there? What does Hebrews say we should do?

In the section on Melchizedek (**Hebrews 7:1-22**) the author of Hebrews is explaining how Jesus fulfills **Psalm 110:4** and therefore guarantees a better covenant. Based on **verses 11-22** what was wrong with the old Covenant Priesthood that lead God to promise another priest like Melchizedek?

In **Hebrews 7:25** we see that Jesus always intercedes for us! What does that mean?

If Jesus' sacrifice for us is really *once and for all* then that means if you've trusted in Him, **ALL** your sin (past, present, future) has been covered. Does the way you talk about your past reflect the fact that it is all covered by Jesus' blood? Does the way you respond after you've sinned reflect the fact that it's already covered by Jesus' blood?

Spend time praising and thanking God for Jesus your High Priest!



Jesus is King

December 17 & 18

1. Who is your favorite king from movies or literature? What is it about their portrayal that you appreciate?
 2. Many such portrayals reveal someone who is reluctant to be king or unaware that they are in a kingly line. According to **John 6:14-15**, would you describe Jesus as a reluctant king? Why do you think Jesus did what He did in this passage?
 3. Sometimes when we read our Bibles, we may skip through passages containing genealogies because it doesn't seem applicable. In light of **Psalm 89:3-4**, why is **Matthew 1:1** important as it comes to the kingship of Jesus?
 4. **Read Matthew 2:1-2**. How does this passage reveal that the kingship of Jesus was not something He earned or became or that His followers made Him, but something He possessed by His being?
 5. What would you say are some of the differences between a king and a president? What role does a king play and how does Jesus perfectly fulfill that role? What does **Colossians 1:15-20** reveal about the authority and worthiness of Jesus?
 6. **Read Isaiah 9:6-7**. What does a kingdom led by Jesus look like? This is the future reality that every follower of Jesus has. Why is it important for us to remember that our current political parties or candidates cannot bring this about?
 7. What do people miss out on if they only think of Jesus as the humble baby born in a manger or a meek and mild teacher? If we embraced Jesus as King, how would our lives reflect it? What would they look like?
 8. The biggest decision we face every day, moment to moment, is who sits on the throne of our lives. We live in a culture that has numerous opportunities on demand from entertainment choices, convenient shopping, or even meal delivery. How do you keep Jesus at the forefront in a time when there is so much power in your hands to do things your own way?
 9. Jesus reigns as the conquering King. He has purchased our freedom through His sacrifice on the cross and resurrection from the dead. Sin, the grave, and the devil are defeated and as we see in Revelation, will one day be done away with and we will never experience them again. Why is this good for us to remember now in the regular ebbs and flows of life?
 10. Jesus was and is the awaited King. He is returning, but we do not know the day. **Read Revelation 19:11-16**. Are you ready for this King to return? Is there anything you would do differently if you knew His return was soon?
- THIS CHRISTMAS, CELEBRATE THE KING WHO HAS COME, HAS OVERCOME, AND IS COMING AGAIN!