



Daily Bible readings, a memory verse and a prayer for individual contemplation
Weekly worship song, reflection and small group questions

ARE YOU GOING THROUGH A MID-FAITH CRISIS?

CONTENT:

Sunday 20 June	Week 3	Is Jesus really Saviour and Lord of the world?
Sunday 27 June	Week 4	I don't want to be part of a hypocritical church!
Sunday 4 July	Week 5	The church has lost the plot.
Sunday 11 July	Week 6	The church will never fulfill God's mission!
Sunday 18 July	Week 7	God sees me as a disappointment.
Sunday 25 July	Week 8	God don't call me



Sunday 20 June
Week 3
 Is Jesus really Saviour and Lord of the world?

BIBLE READING:

Sunday 20 June Is 49:1-6; Mt 27:35-44; Col 1:15-20

PRAISE AND WORSHIP:



"What a beautiful name it is..." <https://youtu.be/fEwDx8YJndU>

Reflection

by Rev Kamogelo Monoametsi
 Is Jesus really saviour of the world?

The struggle of the Roman authorities was to have a person like Jesus declaring that he is the savior of the world. It is historically correct that Jews were expecting another king who will come to restore the kingdom of Israel, and to their knowledge Jesus was not that king. It was then an offense and insult to

Jewish authorities and Roman rulers that Jesus is the King of the Jews. His kingship was refuted, discredited, and disowned that even his mission of being the savior of the world was dismissed. According to the Judean authorities Jesus was not and should not claim the Lordship of Israel and of the world because he is not God. They are waiting for a king who will liberate them. The refusal to accept Jesus as the king of the world suggests that even his message of salvation was not received and accepted.

Is Jesus really the savior of the world? The question sounds like we are looking for a scientific evidence to proof that Jesus is really the savior of the world. However, the question pushes us to examine our faith, beliefs and how we connect with Jesus the savior. The theological engagement of these deep questions cannot be answered unless one revisit the historical debates and dialogue from different councils (Nicea, Chalcedon, Constantinople) Christian apologists and church fathers.

Among the second century Apologists the focal point was “Christ as the divine Logos”. The primary aim was to find an intimate connection with the Jewish and Hellenistic cultures as they had a great influence on the concept of Jesus as the Savior of the World. Apologists understood Christ not simply as a great prophet or teacher, second Moses or Socrates possessing the logos to a certain degree. Further submissions were made to emphasize that the conception of Christ as ‘Logos’ (Word) displays the Christian community’s early recognition that if salvation is to be secure, then the one who redeems must be the one who created as well. Irenaeus particularly accords to the incarnation, provides a striking example of the way in which Christology is informed by the interest in Salvation. According to Irenaeus, the second century theologian, Christ “became what we are in order to enable us to become what he is”. To understand fully the person of Christ as both divine and human and the one who embodies salvation of the world, we ought to appreciate the history of the church.

The charge written on the cross of Jesus was not a mistake because the one being crucified was indeed the King of the Jews and of the world. He is the savior of the world because without him we would not have seen reconciliation with God, redemption of our souls, defeat of evil. The focus of the mockers who perpetually said to Jesus save yourself, they were focusing on the humanity side of Christ forgetting he is both divine and human and therefore the tasks before him was for the benefit of humanity. Christ is God incarnate, he is the embodiment of the vision of the Kingdom and God’s mission. Seeing Jesus, we witness God who is present in all, lives in all and sustains all. He rules and reigns in the universe.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

1. What does kingship of Jesus mean for you and the world?
2. How do you know that Jesus is the savior of the world? What does it mean for you?
3. Identify the signs of a saved community that lives under the reign and rulership of the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Discuss the church’s understanding of Jesus as the king and savior of the world, and how it shapes the mission of the church.



DAILY BIBLE READING:

Monday

Memory Verse: Mk 1:21-28 vs 24 “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”

Prayer: Gracious God, you revealed yourself through Christ, you became one of us, carried our sins and reconciled us with our creator.

Tuesday

Memory Verse: Ex 3:13-15 vs 14 “I AM WHO I AM”. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

Prayer: God of yesterday, today and tomorrow we adore you and praise your name. Bestow upon us the wisdom to know that we cannot fathom your being, you are beyond our human comprehension.

Wednesday

Memory Verse: Phil 2:5-11 vs 4 “Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name...”

Prayer: Trinitarian God of the mountains, rivers, sea and sky you revealed God-self to humanity through nature. Find a place to dwell in our restless hearts and give us peace.

Thursday

Memory Verse: John 5:15-18 vs 17 ““My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.”

Prayer: God of all seasons, decades and centuries we come to you in humble adoration. We acknowledge that you are always working to bring justice in the world, to redeem us from the dungeons of darkness, grant us peace and understanding.

Friday

Memory Verse: Mt 13:10-15 vs 13 “Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand.”

Prayer: Forgive us merciful God for having hearts that do not understand, minds that cannot record your everlasting memories. Forgive us for failing to listen so that we understand.

Saturday

Memory Verse: John 1:1-4 vs 3 “Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Prayer: Christ our Lord, Master, King and Savior of the world have mercy on us, we have denied your salvation through our lives of darkness, hypocrisy and wickedness.



It is important for parents to take time to lead the conversations of family time and to be honest with their children in these conversations.

BY JENNY BLAKE – CHILDREN’S PASTOR
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Sunday 20th June

Pray daily: Set up family time for prayer and devotions and stick to this arrangement. All devotions should always begin by with a prayer. Ask a family member to pray or one of the children.

Scripture Reading: Col 1:15-20 Allow children/teens to read out loud for the family.

Activity/Family Moment:

In this letter Paul is addressing incorrect teachings. He addresses this by stating the truth rather than arguing that their belief is false. It’s always difficult to prove something is real when there is so much mystery in it. God is full of wonder and mystery.

This verse reminded me of a cartoon called Dexter’s Laboratory. Dexter is a scientist and needs hard evidence to believe whereas his sister is a ballet dancer and is very happy to know that some things are mysterious. In one-episode DeDe (the sister) tells Dexter of her new invisible friend. Dexter becomes frustrated with his sister. ‘I can’t see your friend to examine it so it can’t be real.’ states Dexter. DeDe asks Dexter can you see air?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2AmOKEWuPM>

For some reason that has always stayed with me. Sometimes we can’t explain and examine the wonders of God we just know. We just believe. We have faith.

As a family talk about.

- If you had an imaginary friend
- Your favourite kids show or story.
- Talk about things you can’t see know are real (e.g., The wind, love, gravity etc.)
- If you have had a moment where you just knew or had faith that Jesus is God.

Parents: Do you think it is easier to believe in something invisible now that you are an adult or when you were a child? Why?