

Final Kingdom: Where is it?

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Discussion and Reflection Questions

Pilate's job was to stop anything that seemed like a rival kingship

Earthly kingdoms and Jesus' kingdom are very different.

- *How would you describe the differences between these two types of kingdoms?
- *How is each one defined by their King or leader?
- *How does the source of authority play into the rule of each one?

Jesus' Kingdom is 'from another place' and has a different purpose

Read and discuss John 8:33-37(NIV)

33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

34 "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

35 "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

- *What does this passage say about where Jesus' kingdom is?
- *What does it say about the reason Jesus came?

Jesus Himself is the embodiment of the Kingdom

This Kingdom has come to earth when we see this character and love enacted.

- *What does this Kingdom look like from the characteristics you see embodied in Jesus? Share a verse or story from Scripture that is an example to you of what this embodiment looks like.
- *In what ways do you see yourself living like a citizen and acting like our King? Where are you often stuck living as a citizen of a rival kingdom?

The Kingdom is now as we act like our King

It is loving, caring and sacrificing for those around us.

- *What does it feel like to share your haves and needs? What makes this uncomfortable?
- *Where do you sense the Spirit calling you share what you have with someone? Where do you sense the Spirit inviting you to be vulnerable with a need you have?
- *Where are you being called to advance this Kingdom here and now?

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