

BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL

November 24, 2024 • Our Lord Jesus Christ the King • John:18:33-37

Proclaiming the Kingdom

On this feast of Christ the King we read John's account of Jesus before Pilate. The Roman leader is the only one who can condemn Jesus to death; the priests and scribes do not have that power. So they bring Jesus to Pilate and accuse him of treason.

On this last Sunday of the church year we celebrate Christ the King. It is an appropriate way to commemorate all that Jesus is and all that he did. It is a celebration of the kingdom of

God proclaimed and lived by Jesus, our brother and savior. The best way to celebrate this great feast is by following Jesus' example and living our lives proclaiming the kingdom.

Often when we talk about God's kingdom we focus on heaven, our afterlife. We have learned from childhood that if we are good, obey the commandments and live in God's light, when we die we will go to heaven. In heaven we will spend eternity with God and all his saints and angels. All of this is true of course, but it is a very limited view of the kingdom of God.

God's kingdom is much more than a place where we spend forever. God's kingdom is also present today, here and anywhere, any time God's will can be found. Jesus lived the kingdom because he lived in absolute truth and love. He reconciled and healed; he preached the good news and loved as only God can love. Like Jesus, Christians are expected to be kingdom builders too.

As parents, we are called to do our best to build the kingdom of God in our own homes. We are asked to reconcile and heal, speak only the truth and love as God loves. It seems an impossible task, and it would be if it weren't for our faith in Jesus. The secret is to ask God to fill us with his love and his strength so that every cell and fiber of our being will respond and react as Jesus would. If we live with this intention, God's kingdom is sure to come.

FAMILY RESPONSE

Discuss how your family can make your home more like the kingdom of God.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

What concrete steps can you take to be a kingdom builder at home and in the larger world? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?