

Home Group notes for the week following Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016

## **CHRIST THE KING**

### **As we Gather**

This week all the readings point to the amazing and unique Being of Jesus Christ – Creator, Saviour, Redeemer and Head of the Church – fully human, yet truly divine.

As Christians, everything we do should aim to recognise and acknowledge the supremacy of Christ.

**Reading Scripture**      **Jeremiah 23:1-6**   **Luke 1:68-79**   **Colossians 1:11-20**   **Luke 23:33-43**

### **Thinking Together**

All devout Jews hoped and longed for the day when Messiah – God’s anointed king – would come (Isaiah 11:1-4 Jeremiah 23:5-6 Luke 1:68-79), yet when Jesus came to reflect and reveal God to the nation (John 1:14 + 18), He was rejected as Messiah (Luke 23:33-43)

#### **What were the reasons for this? Discuss**

Throughout the history of the Church there have been misconceptions about Christ. Although false teachers have not denied the importance of Christ, they have dethroned Him by failing / refusing to accept who He is

#### **Who is Jesus to you? Discuss**

#### **What does Colossians 1:13-20 tell us about Christ? Discuss**

(see also **Philippians 2:6** **John 14:1-11** **John 1:18** **Revelation 1:5 + 17:14**  
**1Peter 1:19** **2 Corinthians 5:10**)

By nature human beings are alienated from God, but through His death Christ made peace between God and all creation – including human beings.

Christ met the demands of God’s law by paying the penalty for sin (1 Peter 2:24).

Reconciliation between God and humans was completed on the cross (Romans 5:8)

#### **Discuss the statement ‘Because we are all sinners we have all played a part in putting Jesus to death**

#### **In what way does Jesus’ prayer of forgiveness on the cross apply to us today? Discuss**

Our faith – not our deeds – save us as Christ forgives us and accepts us into His kingdom.

Neither the Jews nor the Romans realised the enormity of their sin, but their sin was presumptuous and deliberate.

Jesus’ intercession postponed God’s judgement, giving additional opportunities for people to be saved (Acts 3:17-19).

The dying criminal had more faith than Jesus’ disciples

#### **Can you see beyond your present situation to the coming glory? Discuss**

Salvation and forgiveness are gifts of God (Ephesians 2:8-9), and forgiveness opens the way to fellowship with God and enjoyment of His grace as we seek His will.

It has been said that forgiveness is an encouragement to obedience

**Do you agree with this statement? Discuss**

Although the sign above Jesus' head on the cross was meant to be ironic (Luke23:38), Jesus was in fact coming into His kingdom. By His death and resurrection He destroyed Satan's rule and established His eternal authority over the earth.

**In Closing**

In his letter to the Colossians Paul explains that all things are under Christ's command. Jesus is the Sphere in which they exist, the Agent through which they came into being, and the one for whom they were made. Only He can make creation cohere (hold together).

This means Christ is supreme over all of creation – material and spiritual

**What does this mean in your life?**

**PRAYER**

Eternal Father, your Son rules over all things:  
Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at His feet. Amen

**PLEASE NOTE – THESE ARE THE LAST NOTES OF THE YEAR**

**HOME / CELL GROUPS WILL RECOMMENCE IN THE WEEK FOLLOWING  
SUNDAY 15 JANUARY 2017.**