



Part 2: King Jesus Received A Mixed Reaction

Note: We have provided you with more questions than you will likely need. Please don't feel pressure to talk about every question. Use the ones that you feel will be most useful in generating discussion in your group. We've designed this curriculum to be as user-friendly as possible. We've divided each week into "Hear," "Discuss," and "Apply" sections. In the different sections there will be passages of Scripture to read, notes to read to your group, and questions to ask.

Icebreaker

Ask

Share a time when your expectations about a person or situation proved to be inaccurate?

What stuck out to you from the sermon?

Hear

Say

At the start of the message Lance showed us how the New Testament teaches that Jesus existed long before He showed up in a manger in Bethlehem. For example,

John 3:13- "No one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven, the Son of Man."

John 3:31- "He who comes from above is above all. He who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks in an earthly way. He who comes from heaven is above all."

John 16:28- "I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

Ask

Why does it matter that Jesus's existed in heaven before He showed up on Earth?

Note: The theological term for this is "preexistence."

Say

One of the main passages that Pastor Lance talked about in the sermon was Jesus's temptation in the wilderness.

Read

Note: Below we have provided Lance's blended gospel account of this story. Luke is in black, Mark is in green, and Matthew is in orange.

Lk 4:1-13; Mk 1:12-13; Mt. 4:1-13 - "And *then* Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and *The Spirit immediately drove (led up by) him out into the wilderness* for forty days, being tempted by the devil, *by Satan. He was with the wild animals* and he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, *after fasting forty days and forty nights*, he was hungry. *And the tempter came and* the devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command *these stones to become loaves of bread.*" And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, *but by every word that comes from*

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*the mouth of God.’” And he took him to **the holy city**, Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “ ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,’ and “ ‘On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.’ ” And Jesus answered him, “**Again it is written** (said), ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” **Then** the devil took him up **to a very high mountain** and showed him all the kingdoms of the world **and their glory** in a moment of time, and said to him, “**All these I will give you**, all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will **fall down and** worship me, it will all be yours.” And Jesus answered him, “**“Be gone, Satan! For** It is written, “ ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.’ ” And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time **and behold, the angels came and were ministering to him.**”*

Ask

- What is noteworthy about this story? Did anything that Pastor Lance said about it stick out to you?
- How do we see Jesus confronting Satan’s authority?

Play

The video clip can be found at www.bridgeway.church/litk

Ask

- What are some examples of how the enemy use fear, lies, and accusations to convince us of his authority?
- Part of the reason why Jesus’s coming was good news was that it meant that the bully king is no longer in charge. What are some practical implications of that for our 21st century lives? (Examples: “I don’t have to doubt Jesus’s power,” “I don’t have to be ruled by insecurity or worry.”)

Discuss

Read

Pastor Lance’s ESV combo account of Matthew 13:53-58, Mark 6:1-6, and Luke 4:14-30

And he came to Nazareth, **his hometown** where he had been brought up, **and his disciples followed him**. And as was his custom, he went to **their** synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." **And he taught them, so that many who heard him were astonished** and all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, **"Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? Is not this the carpenter, Joseph the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph/Joses and Simon and Judas? And are not all his sisters here with us? Where then did this man get all these things?"** And they took offense at him. And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." **He did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief**. And he said, "Truly, I say to you, **a prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household**. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away." **And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few**

sick people and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.

Say

Four major parts of Jesus's ministry on earth were casting out demons, teaching with authority, the forgiveness of sin and healing the sick.

Ask

- Why were these elements necessary to demonstrate the new kingdom Jesus was ushering in?
- What do we learn about Jesus's ministry from the passage that He read in the synagogue? What part of that passage resonates with you the strongest?
- What caused such a strong reaction from the current leaders? Why were they so disturbed by what Jesus was saying that they wanted to kill him?

Apply

Say

In the message, Pastor Lance identified six things that Jesus did by coming the first time.

Note: Read the Scripture passages if you feel they would be helpful.

1. *He broke the hold of Satan.*

-“Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.” -Hebrews 2:14-15

2. *He broke the hold of sin.*

-“We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For the one who has died has been set free from sin.” -Romans 6:6-7

-“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”
-Romans 8:1

3. *He broke the hold of death.*

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-“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he dies, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.’” -John 11:25-26

4. *He inaugurated a movement to be followed.*

-“Being asked by the Pharisees when the Kingdom of God would come, He answered them, ‘The Kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you.’” -Luke 17:20-21

5. *He brought the Holy Spirit.*

-“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about me.” -John 15:26

6. *He put the world on notice of His return.*

-“And this gospel of the Kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” -Matthew 24:14

Ask

- Which of these six is most meaningful or exciting to you and why?
- Part of the tension of living in the “now and not yet” of this present age is that things still aren’t the way that they should be. As you look at the world today, where do you see evidence that the six things that Jesus accomplished still aren’t being fully realized?

Say

Jesus’s kingdom now is good news. We are no longer under the bully king but under the rule and authority of our good and powerful King Jesus.

Ask

- How can that good news make a difference in your life this week?

Close

- We are ambassadors of the true King, and that means the bully king has no authority over us. Close your time together by praying that you would be so sure of your identity in Christ this week that the enemy would have no power over you.

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Staff email addresses

Brian Kiley, Director of Discipleship- bkiley@bridgeway.church

Heather Johnson, Missional Communities Coordinator- hjohnson@bridgeway.church

Matt Bach, Director of Christian Development, mbach@bridgeway.church