# The King Returns Revelation 19:11-16

#### I. Introduction: The Mountain Top of Christ's Second Coming

- 1. In our study last week heaven was rejoicing as Babylon was destroyed. This was followed by a reminder of the Lamb's marriage to His bride, the church AND of the coming marriage supper of the Lamb. I noted some of the reasons why I believe the marriage supper will be at the end of the tribulation as the literal millennium reign of Christ begins. What's more, in our passage today we find one additional reason I didn't mention last week, we actually see both Jesus and His bride. It seems as though, along with the invited guests, they should be present for the marriage supper.
- 2. Today's passage is the second of three mountaintops here in Revelation 19...a mountaintop with both OT and NT prophetic support as we see the grandeur of Christ's second coming.
- 3. Turn with me to <a href="Zechariah 9:9-10">Zechariah 9:9-10</a> as we read prophesy of Christ's first AND second coming. This is important because (1) it speaks of God's faithfulness AND (2) because it speaks to why the Jews of Jesus' day were looking for a conquering King...but they did not understand that He was to be rejected in His first coming as a suffering servant:

<sup>9</sup>"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He *is* just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup>I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion *shall* be 'from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth.'

- Zechariah 9:9-10

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4. Now go with me to **Matthew 24:27-31**:

<sup>27</sup> For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. <sup>28</sup> For wherever the carcass is, there the eagles will be gathered together.

<sup>29</sup> "Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>30</sup> Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup> And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. - Matthew 24:27–31

I share this passage as it speaks of the very time John is writing here in Revelation 19 some 2,000 years ago.

5. The imagery in our passage is magnificent...all of heaven opening, with a take-your-breath away image of Christ along with armies of saints and almost surely the heavenly hosts. Every part of this word picture speaks of the faithfulness, holiness, authority, and sovereignty of God.

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### II. Revelation 19:11-14: Behold Him

- 1. If the descriptions here in our passage ring a bell, it's because they have parallels in other parts of Scripture...a few I have and will mention, while leaving the rest for you to discover.
- 2. Riding on a white horse is the One called Faithful and True in His righteous judgment. Back in **Revelation 3:14**, we read that He is a Faithful and True witness. That these are His names indicates that His faithfulness, righteousness, and witness are part of the essence of God...they are not simply things He does, but they are a central part of His character.
- 3. His fiery eyes speak of discernment, wisdom, and justice, while His many crowns reveal His omnipotence, worthiness, and authority. Yet,

even with all that Christ has revealed of Himself in His Word (enough that we may come to and have an abiding faith), in having another name – one, at the end of v12, that NO one knows - we note that we cannot grasp all that He is – something for which we should all be grateful...that God is far bigger than what we can conceive.

- 4. In v13, we see that His robe was dipped in blood. Some have suggested that this is His blood shed at Calvary for the sins of humanity. While possible, I think it's best to see the blood in light of the immediate passage context of the judgment of His enemies.
- 5. Also in v13, we are given the second of His three names, "The Word of God." The overarching statement found in this name is of His significance, sovereignty, authority, and righteousness. His word spoke creation into existence. His word holds creation together. It is by His word we come to know Him...to know truth. It is by His word, mankind can be saved.
- 6. In v14, as I noted in the introduction, we read of the armies of heaven. In addition to the Matthew 24 passage we looked at previously, <u>Jude 14-15</u> notes Enoch's prophesy of this same time:

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Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, <sup>15</sup> to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him."

- Jude 14–15

A couple of other great passages for you to consider regarding the time of Christ's second coming in Revelation 19 include **Zechariah 14:3-9 and 1 Thessalonians 3:13**.

A. One other note regarding v14...note that the heavenly armies have NO weapons and NO armor...the fight and the victory belong solely to the Lord of lords and King of kings.

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III. Revelation 19:15-16: Unfolding Tragedy

1. This sharp sword is prophesied in **Isaiah 11:4** and again in **2**Slide 14-15

Thessalonians 2:8. Ephesians 6:17 tells us that the word of God is the sword of the Spirit. Hebrews 4:12-13 says:

<sup>12</sup> For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account. - Hebrews 4:12–13

The tragedy is mankind's self-deception. The sword of the Spirit is righteous and true. Jesus has and will wield it with uncompromising authority and accountability as we see His wrath poured out in the imagery of a winepress noted also in **Revelation 14:14-20**. While not something most of us are familiar with in our day, stomping on grapes can produce a lot of juice (check out our teaching in Rev 14 regarding God's just winepress of wrath) while making a big mess; which may be the blood on His robe we read of in v13. Do not deceive yourself, God knows your heart.

- 2. Just a couple of points in v16 before we close:
  - A. First, His name (the 3<sup>rd</sup> of three in our passage today), "King of kings and Lord of lords" is also spoken of by the Apostle Paul in **1 Timothy 6:11-15**.
  - B. Note that there is no sword on Christ's hip. There will be no clanging of swords, no arrows sent aloft, no armor bearer needed...Jesus is the victor by the sword, the word of His mouth, as we also read in Psalm 45:3 and Revelation 19:13, 15, and 21.

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### IV. Closing: The Importance of the Second Coming

There are four principle doctrinal views relating to the millennium.
 While not considered an "essential" of being a Christian, the views do have a determinative effect on how our theology in many other areas.
 In the study notes, I have given a brief summary of the four and, of course, you can take on an in-depth study as God leads.

- A. Why even bring this up? I am glad you asked. It's because I want to remind you that we are applying a literal interpretive method while the others offer a more spiritual or figurative approach.
- B. For clarity sake, I would summarize my/our view here at Calvary Chapel Aiken as being pre-trib rapture, premillennial (we believe Jesus will literally reign here on earth for 1,000 years), and dispensational (meaning that we believe God has separate programs for different groups, including especially the church and Israel). The current dominant view is amillennialism which generally rejects the literal 1,000 yr reign, diminishes or removes Israel from end-times events, suggests the rapture occurs simultaneously with Christ's second coming, presumes the current binding of Satan, and otherwise spiritualizes end-times prophesies.
- 2. Scripture presents the 2nd coming of Christ as reasoning for the followers of Christ to think, believe, and act in certain ways, with just a few of these being:

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(1) to be watchful (Mt 24:42-44; Lk 12:35-38);
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(2) to repent (Acts 3:19-21; Rev 3:3);

(3) to be unashamed of Jesus (Mk 8:38);

(4) to reject worldliness (Mt 16:26-27; Tit 2:11-13);

(5) to hold fast to the hope that is Christ (Rev 2:25);

(6) to abide in Christ (1 Jn 2:28);

(7) to holiness and Godliness (2 Pet 3:11-13); and

(8) to bear persecution for the Lord (1 Pet 4:13).

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A. As we close, please consider the words of the Psalmist in Psalm 2:10-12:

Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. <sup>11</sup>Serve the Lord with fear, And rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup> Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish *in* the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in Him.

- Psalm 2:10-12

### The Doctrine of the Millennium Kingdom

As we come into this passage, I want to back up a bit and note the doctrine of the millennium or 1,000 year kingdom. While not considered an "essential" of our faith, it does have a determinative effect on one's theology, including prophecy WITH a special emphasis on the interpretive method employed. Specifically and without getting into all the history and differences (which is fascinating for those interested in such things), I note that there have been 4 major camps of view of the second advent of Christ and His 1,000 year reign¹. They include:

- 1. The non-literal-spiritualized view. This view denies there will be a literal return of Christ to earth. As a result, it sees the 2nd advent as being fulfilled in the destruction of Jerusalem, the day of Pentecost, the death of a saint, or numerous other 1-off crises'. This method, in effect, gives wide latitude as to just about anything in Scripture.
- 2. The postmillennial view. This view was popular among covenant theologians of the post-Reformation period until WWII. This view generally holds to the idea that the whole world will be Christianized by the preaching of the Gospel BEFORE the return of Christ. While this movement is considered "dead" today, vestiges remain under the cover (most often) of amillennialism, including dominion theology often heard in the contemporary setting as the Seven Mountain Mandate. Folks holding to this, believe in a literal millennium and a literal 2nd coming, but that Christ comes after the millennium. The postmillennial view uses a figurative interpretation of Scripture.
- 3. The amillennial view. This view is generally held by Roman Catholics along with some in both the liberal and conservative theological camps. The path from postmillennialism (which is no more) to amillennial was easy and is therefore well worn.

This group, also using a spiritualizing interpretive approach (although mostly when convenient to deny premillennialism), generally holds to there being NO literal millennium on the earth following the 2nd

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Things to Come, A study in Biblical eschatology, Dwight Pentecost, p371-373

advent. They also generally hold to the position that all the prophecies regarding the kingdom are being fulfilled spiritually by the church OR by the saints in heaven. Finally, most in this camp hold that what the 1,000 years represents is happening today – including the binding of the enemy. The rise of amillennialism today is on the world stage as many in this camp deny God's covenants remain for Israel or even attack Israel as being the synagogue of Satan.

- 4. The premillennialism view. The foundation of this view is on a literal reading/interpretive approach to the text with obvious allegories and other figures of speech used to describe a literal truth. A literal hermeneutic of the Word of God makes clear:
  - A. The 2nd advent is premillennial;
  - B. The 2nd advent is a literal advent;
  - C. The 2nd advent is necessary to fulfill the prophetic program laid out by God in the canon of Scripture.
  - D. The 2nd advent will be visible; AND
  - E. The 2nd coming of Christ is presented as reasoning for the followers of Christ to think, believe, and act in certain ways, with just a few of these being:
    - (1)to be watchful (Mt 24:42-44; Lk 12:35-38);
    - (2) to repent (Acts 3:19-21; Rev 3:3);
    - (3) to be unashamed of Jesus (Mk 8:38);
    - (4) to reject worldliness (Mt 16:26-27; Tit 2:11-13);
    - (5) to hold fast to the hope that is Christ (Rev 2:25);
    - (6) to abide in Christ (1 Jn 2:28);
    - (7) to holiness and Godliness (2 Pet 3:11-13); and
    - (8) to bear persecution for the Lord (1 Pet 4:13).

Remember to be active listeners giving all a chance to share and grow.

## Revelation 19:11-16 Discussion Prompts

Don't be shy or embarrassed, this is a safe place to talk, learn, and grow. All of us should walk with an attitude of grace and Godly love in encouraging one another to contribute to our shared growth in the Lord.

(1) In the teaching, eight ways Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> coming impacts us today. As a group, see if you can come up with additional ways this is important for us. (to be watchful (Mt 24:42-44; Lk 12:35-38); to repent (Acts 3:19-21; Rev 3:3); to be unashamed of Jesus (Mk 8:38); to reject worldliness (Mt 16:26-27; Tit 2:11-13); to hold fast to the hope that is Christ (Rev 2:25); to abide in Christ (1 Jn 2:28); to holiness and Godliness (2 Pet 3:11-13); and to bear persecution for the Lord (1 Pet 4:13).)

(2) No matter your view on the rapture, the second coming, and the millennium reign, God's wrath and justice are plain to see (as is His love, compassion, grace, and forgiveness). No matter cultural pressures to the contrary, is it important that our testimony of Christ have "both sides of this same coin?" Why? If this testimony is important, while remaining Spirit led, share ways in how can we testify of His wrath and justice in a culture not wanting to hear it?

(3) Whether for salvation, encouragement, wisdom, or for some other important reason, share your favorite Scripture and why.



### Revelation 19:11-16 The King Returns

### V. Introduction: The Mountain Top of Christ's Second Coming

Additional Scriptures Referenced: Zech 9:9-10; Mt 24:27-31

#### VI. Revelation 19:11-14: Behold Him

- 2 Names of God and one unknown name.
- The battle and the victory belong to God.

Additional Scriptures Referenced: Re 3:14; Jude 14-15; Dech 14:3-9; 1 Thes 3:13

#### VII. Revelation 19:15-16: Unfolding Tragedy

 Don't be deceived. God knows your heart, His word is true, and His judgment is sure.

<u>Additional Scriptures Referenced</u>: Is 11:4; 2 Thes 2:8; Eph 6:17; He 4:12-13; Re 14:14-20; 1 Ti 6:11-15; Ps 45:3; Re 19:13, 15, 21

#### VIII. Closing: The Importance of the Second Coming

Additional Scriptures Referenced: Ps 2:10-12

#### 5-Day Devotional Revelation 19:11-16 The King Returns

Reading: Rev 19:11-14, Zec 9:9-10

Day 1: Faithful and True

<u>Devotional</u>: When heaven opens, we behold Christ as "Faithful and True"—not merely actions He performs, but the very essence of His character. Unlike human promises that falter, Jesus' faithfulness never wavers. His eyes of fire pierce through our pretenses, seeing us completely yet loving us unconditionally. The many crowns upon His head declare His absolute authority over every area of your life.

Today, reflect on areas where you've doubted God's faithfulness. His track record is perfect—He fulfilled prophecies of His first coming and will complete those of His second. What situation in your life needs you to trust His faithful character rather than your limited understanding?

Day 2: The Word Made Flesh Reading: Jn 1:1-14, Heb 4:12-13

<u>Devotional</u>: Christ is called "The Word of God"—the ultimate revelation of divine truth. Through His Word, creation sprang into existence; by His Word, all things hold together. This same Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and now lives within believers through the Holy Spirit. The sword proceeding from His mouth isn't physical but spiritual—truth that cuts through deception, exposes hidden motives, and brings righteous judgment. Are you regularly allowing God's Word to examine your heart? The Bible isn't merely information to know but transformation to experience.

Spend time today letting Scripture speak into your decisions, relationships, and character. Let His Word shape your thoughts before your thoughts shape your day.

Day 3: King of Kings and Lord of Lords Reading: 1 Tim 6:11-16, Ps 2:1-12

<u>Devotional</u>: Jesus bears the ultimate title: King of kings and Lord of lords. Every earthly authority—presidents, monarchs, CEOs—will bow before Him. Yet remarkably, this conquering King invites us into intimate relationship. The armies following Him need no weapons because the battle belongs entirely to the Lord. This truth should liberate you from anxiety about outcomes beyond your control. You don't fight for victory; you fight from victory already secured.

Today, identify areas where you've been striving in your own strength. Surrender your battles to the King. Kiss the Son, as Psalm 2 instructs—submit joyfully to His lordship. His reign isn't tyrannical but redemptive, not oppressive but freeing.

#### Day 4: Watching and Waiting

<u>Devotional</u>: Christ's return should radically affect how we live today. Scripture repeatedly calls us to watchfulness—not passive waiting but active readiness. The blessed hope of His appearing trains us to reject ungodliness and live self-controlled, upright lives. This isn't legalism but love-motivated obedience. When you truly believe Jesus could return at any moment, it transforms your priorities. Petty grudges lose their grip. Worldly pursuits fade in significance. Eternal investments become paramount. Examine your schedule and spending this week. Do they reflect someone expecting their King's imminent return? Let the reality of His coming purify your motives, strengthen your witness, and fuel your perseverance through trials.

Reading: Mat 24:27-44, Titus 2:11-14

#### Day 5: Living in Light of His Coming Reading: 1 Jn 2:28-3:3, 2 Pe 3:10-14

<u>Devotional</u>: The doctrine of Christ's return isn't mere theological speculation—it's meant to transform daily living. Those who have this hope purify themselves, knowing they'll stand before a holy God. Peter asks the penetrating question: "What sort of people ought you to be?" His answer: holy and godly, looking forward to and hastening the coming day. This perspective enables us to endure persecution, reject worldliness, and maintain hope when circumstances seem hopeless. Today, ask the Holy Spirit to make Christ's return real to your heart. Let this reality motivate holiness without producing anxiety. Abide in Him so that when He appears, you'll have confidence rather than shame. Live today as if Jesus returns tomorrow—with urgency, purity, and joyful anticipation.

#### Small Group Study Guide Revelation 19:11-16 The King Returns

**Opening Prayer**: Begin your time together by asking God to open your hearts to His Word and give you wisdom to apply His truth to your lives.

**Opening Question**: What comes to mind when you think about the second coming of Christ? Excitement? Confusion? Fear? Hope?

#### Sermon Recap:

- Heaven rejoices as Babylon falls and the marriage supper of the Lamb approaches
- Christ returns as The King Returns on a white horse
- Three names of Christ revealed: Faithful and True, The Word of God, King of kings and Lord of lords
- The victory belongs solely to Christ—no weapons or armor needed for the heavenly armies
- A literal, premillennial interpretation of Scripture reveals Christ will reign on earth for 1,000 years

<u>Discussion Questions</u>: Did the Holy Spirit prompt any questions with you? Start with those.

- Read Revelation 19:11-14 together. What specific details about Christ's appearance stand out to you most? Why do you think John uses such vivid imagery?
- 2. Of the Three Names of Christ given in the passage (Faithful and True, The Word of God, King of Kings and Lord of Lords) which of these names is the most meaningful to you and why?
- 3. Verse 12 mentions Christ has a name "that no one knows." What does this teach us about the nature of God? How should this affect our humility and worship?
- 4. Why is it significant that the armies following Christ have no weapons or armor (v. 14)? What does this reveal about who wins the victory?
- 5. The sermon outlined four views of the millennium. Without getting into debate, discuss: Why does our interpretation method (literal vs. spiritual/figurative) matter for how we read Scripture?

- 6. Read Zechariah 9:9-10 and discuss how Christ's first coming (Palm Sunday) was literal. How does this give us confidence that His second coming will also be literal?
- 7. The sermon mentioned that God has separate programs for Israel and the church (dispensationalism). Why is it important to recognize God's faithfulness to His covenant promises with Israel?
- 8. The sermon listed several ways believers should live in anticipation of Christ's return. Which of these areas do you find most challenging? Which one is God calling you to focus on this week?
  - a. Be watchful
  - b. Repent
  - c. Reject worldliness
  - d. Hold fast to hope
  - e. Abide in Christ
  - f. Pursue holiness and godliness
  - g. Bear persecution for the Lord
- 9. Read Hebrews 4:12-13 and Ephesians 6:17. Christ conquers with the sword of His mouth—the Word of God. How does this encourage you to engage more deeply with Scripture?
- 10. Read Psalm 2:10-12. For believers, Christ's return is glorious hope. For unbelievers, it is terrifying judgment. How does understanding this motivate you toward evangelism and prayer for the lost?

#### **Key Takeaways**:

- 1. Christ is Faithful and True His character guarantees He will fulfill every promise, including His return as conquering King.
- 2. Victory belongs to the Lord We don't fight for victory; we fight from victory already won by Christ.
- 3. The Word of God is Powerful Christ conquers by His Word. We must know, believe, and live by Scripture.
- 4. The Promise of His return should change the way we live The pressure to conform is real and ongoing; we must remain vigilant.
- 5. God is bigger than we can comprehend Even with all He has revealed, there remains mystery about God that should produce humility and awe.

**<u>Practical Applications</u>**: Query the group for applications first...you may explore one or more of those.

- 1. <u>Daily Bible Reading</u>: Commit to reading God's Word daily, recognizing it as the sword of the Spirit.
- 2. <u>Examine Your Heart</u>: Ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart (Hebrews 4:12-13). What areas need repentance or realignment?
- 3. <u>Share the Hope</u>: Identify one person who doesn't know Christ and pray for an opportunity to share the Gospel with them this week.
- 4. <u>Reject Worldliness</u>: Identify one area where worldliness has crept into your life. Take practical steps to remove it.
- 5. <u>Study Prophecy</u>: Read one of the cross-reference passages mentioned in the sermon (Zechariah 14:3-9, Matthew 24:27-31, or 1 Thessalonians 3:13).
- 6. <u>Worship Anticipation</u>: Spend time in worship this week specifically thanking God for the hope of Christ's return.

#### **Closing Prayer:** Pray Together for...

- A deeper love for God's Word
- Boldness to live holy lives in anticipation of Christ's return
- Opportunities to share the Gospel with urgency
- The peace of Israel and God's purposes for His chosen people
- Hearts prepared to meet the King of kings and Lord of lords

#### Discussion Questions Revelation 19:11-16 The King Returns

- How does understanding Christ's names in Revelation 19 (Faithful and True, The Word of God, King of kings and Lord of lords) deepen your comprehension of His character and authority?
- 2. What significance does the imagery of Christ's fiery eyes and many crowns hold for how we approach Him in worship and daily life?
- 3. Why is it important that the heavenly armies in verse 14 have no weapons or armor, and what does this teach us about where true victory comes from?
- 4. How does the literal interpretation of Christ's second coming and millennial reign affect your understanding of God's faithfulness to His promises?
- 5. In what ways does the blood-dipped robe of Christ in verse 13 challenge our modern sensibilities about God's justice and judgment?
- 6. How should the reality of Christ's coming judgment with the sword of His mouth influence the way we share the Gospel and live out our faith today?
- 7. What does the distinction between Christ's first coming as a suffering servant and His second coming as conquering King reveal about God's redemptive plan?
- 8. How does recognizing that there is a name of Christ that no one knows (verse 12) impact your humility and reverence before God?
- 9. In light of Psalm 2:10-12 and the call to kiss the Son, how should believers balance the fear of the Lord with intimate relationship with Christ?
- 10. Which of the practical applications of Christ's second coming (watchfulness, holiness, rejecting worldliness, bearing persecution) challenges you most, and why?

## Dinner Conversation Starters Revelation 19:11-16 The King Returns

#### 1. Discussing Symbols

The sermon mentions Christ's robe dipped in blood, the white horse, and His titles like "Faithful and True" and "The Word of God." Which of these symbols do you find most intriguing, and what do you think they symbolize about Jesus's character and mission?

#### 2. Exploring Christ's Return

The sermon references the idea of Jesus's second coming. How do you envision the world will react when Jesus returns, and how do you think it will affect our everyday lives?

#### 3. Understanding Prophecy

We often see prophecies in both the Old and New Testaments, such as those from Zechariah and Matthew mentioned in the sermon. How do you think these prophecies were understood by people in biblical times, and what lessons can we learn from them today?

#### 4. Interpreting the Millenium

The sermon discusses different views about the millennium. Which view do you think is most convincing, and how do you believe this period would look according to your understanding?

#### 5. Applying Scriptural Lessons

The sermon highlights various scripture passages encouraging believers to live with watchfulness, repentance, and hope. How can we apply these principles in our daily routines to strengthen our faith and relationship with God?

## Family Conversation Guide for Children & Early Teens Revelation 19:11-16 The King Returns

#### AGES 5-7: SIMPLIFYING THE MESSAGE APPLICATION POINTS

1. <u>Trust and Obedience</u>: Just as Jesus is faithful and true, we can learn to be trustworthy and obedient in our friendships and family relationships.

#### Discussion Questions:

- When you're with your friends, how can you show them that they can trust you to be kind and fair?
- Why is it important to listen to and trust your parents or teachers, just like we can trust Jesus?

#### **AGES 8-12: BUILDING UNDERSTANDING APPLICATION POINTS**

 Courage and Integrity: Jesus's second coming shows us the importance of standing firm in our values. In social groups or online, staying true to what is right can influence others positively.

#### Discussion Questions:

- Have you ever felt pressured by friends to do something that didn't feel right? How can remembering Jesus's faithfulness help you make the right choice?
- How can you use your online presence or conversations to reflect honesty and kindness, like Jesus did in his life on earth?

#### AGES 11-15: DEEPENING THE CONNECTION APPLICATION POINTS

 <u>Discernment and Leadership</u>: In the online age, being discerning about the content we consume is vital. Like Jesus's discernment, we should lead by example in our online and offline interactions.

#### Discussion Questions:

- Think about a time you saw something online that you weren't sure was appropriate. How can you use discernment to decide whether it's something you should engage with?
- Discuss how you can lead by example among your friends, both in-person and online, showing integrity and respect, even when it's difficult. How does Jesus's leadership inspire you to make those choices?

#### **Tips for Parents**

- Be patient and listen: Give your child time to think and respond.
- Relate to everyday life: Use real-life examples and stories familiar to your child to make abstract concepts more tangible.
- Encourage questions: Let your son or daughter know it's okay to ask questions, even if things don't make sense right away.

## Family Conversation Guide for Gen Z Revelation 19:11-16 The King Returns

#### 1. Faithfulness and Integrity

<u>Biblical Application:</u> Revelation 19:11 describes Jesus as "Faithful and True." In group settings, we are called to emulate these characteristics, showing integrity and faithfulness to our commitments and values.

<u>Scenario</u>: You are part of a group project at school where some members suggest cutting corners to finish early. You remember the faithfulness of Christ and feel convicted to propose that the group sticks to honest and ethical work.

<u>Discussion Question</u>: How can we maintain faithfulness and integrity in group settings despite peer pressure, and what impact do you think this has on our witness as Christians?

#### 2. Understanding and Respect

<u>Biblical Application</u>: Revelation 19:12 speaks to the wisdom and discernment of Christ. In personal relationships, we are called to exercise understanding and respect, recognizing that we cannot fully grasp everything about others, just as we cannot fully comprehend Christ.

<u>Scenario</u>: You learn that a friend has been going through a tough time, but they haven't shared much about it. You want to be supportive without prying too much, respecting their privacy and waiting for them to share when they're ready.

<u>Discussion Question</u>: In what ways can we demonstrate the wisdom and discernment of Christ in our relationships, and how can that wisdom be applied when friends and loved ones choose not to share everything with us?

#### 3. Speaking Truth

<u>Biblical Application</u>: Revelation 19:13 names Jesus the "Word of God," highlighting the importance of truth and righteousness. In digital spaces, we are called to speak and reflect truth, using our platforms to share God's love and truth.

<u>Scenario</u>: You see misinformation spreading on social media that can hurt others or damage someone's reputation. Inspired by Jesus' commitment to truth, you decide to post reputable sources and loving messages to correct these falsehoods.

<u>Discussion Question</u>: How can we use our digital presence to spread truth without becoming confrontational, and how can this align with Christ's example as the "Word of God"?

#### 4. Relying on God's Power

<u>Biblical Application</u>: Revelation 19:15-16 describes the power and authority of Christ. In times of personal struggle, we are reminded to rely not on our strength but on God's power and authority to overcome challenges.

<u>Scenario</u>: You are overwhelmed by the workload and pressures of life and feel close to burnout. Inspired by the imagery of Christ's authority and power, you decide to pause, pray, asking for God's strength and guidance to navigate this season.

<u>Discussion Question</u>: In what practical ways can we rely on God's power in challenging times, and how does recognizing Christ's authority change our approach to these situations?