

OPENING THE WORD

Ponder:

1. What comes to mind when you think of the terms Rule / Authority? Do they conjure up positive or negative emotions? Why or why not?

Discuss:

2. Why or on what basis does Jesus make the claim of being Lord of all? See Matthew 28:18 and Colossians 2:10. As a believer in Christ what are the ramifications of this knowledge to your life?
3. What does the true follower of Christ strive to do in relation to His lordship? 2 Corinthians 10:5; 1 Corinthians 2:16. What did Jesus do as an example for us? John 6:38
4. Make a list of the truth's of Scripture you can recall. Try to look them up for point of reference. Now take some time to discuss each one. *Example: Matthew 19:4-7—there are two genders and marriage is defined between a man and a women. Ephesians 5:22,29—Husbands love your wives like Christ loves the church. Wives submit to your husbands.* Are there any truth's that are hard to submit to Christ lordship? Why or why not?
5. What are God's blessings to those who submit to the lordship of Christ?
6. Take a look at Genesis 3:1-5 and Matthew 4:1-11 . Who else is vying rule and authority? And what is the fundamental commodity Satan trades in to achieve it? See John 8:44, what is the title Jesus gives Satan?
7. Satan lies about the nature and character of God but presents it as truth. In what ways do you see the mischaracterization of God today? What is the lie being presented and what is the truth?
8. What is the commodity Jesus trades in? What are we to do with it? And how are we to use it? John 14:6; Psalm 86:11; Ephesians 4:15
9. Since Jesus is Truth and his authority is from heaven to earth what is true in heaven is also true on earth. Where and with whom does his truth rest on?
10. The church, this small group, Christians are meant to live, thrive, and overcome the world in and through the authority of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. Talk about some areas that you as a group can encourage each other to grow in obedience to Christ's lordship and celebrate areas that you have. Commit to praying about these areas together.