





## Kingdom of God - What kind of king is Jesus?

Key Vocabulary and Definitions			
<b>Bible</b>	Special religious book for Christians to learn about God (consisting of the Old and New Testaments).	<b>Kingdom</b>	An organised community led by a "king".
<b>Christian</b>	Following the teachings of Jesus Christ	<b>Lord's Prayer</b>	Prayer taught by Jesus to his followers in Matthew's Gospel.
<b>Community</b>	Group of people who share certain attitudes or interests in common.	<b>Parable</b>	Simple story used to illustrate a spiritual lesson, as told by Jesus.
<b>Equality</b>	The state of being equal.	<b>Poverty</b>	The state of being extremely poor
<b>Heaven</b>	A place regarded as being the abode (home) of God, accessible after death.	<b>Service</b>	The action of helping or doing work for someone.
<b>Injustice</b>	Lack of fairness.	<b>Worship</b>	Ways that people show how much God is worth to them.

What should I already know?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christians believe that Jesus' whole life was a demonstration of his belief that God is king, not just in heaven but here and now.</li> <li>They believe Jesus is still alive, rules in their hearts and lives through the Holy Spirit, if they let him.</li> <li>Christians believe that after Jesus returned to be with God the Father, he sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to help the Church. Christians celebrate Pentecost, as the beginning of the Church.</li> <li>Staying connected to Jesus means that the fruit of the Spirit can grow in the lives of Christians.</li> </ul>

What will I know about the kind of king Jesus is to Christians?	
<p><b>The Kingdom of God</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus told many parables about the Kingdom of God. These suggest that God's rule has begun, through the life, teaching and example of Jesus and subsequently through the lives of Christians who live in obedience to God.</li> <li>The Kingdom is compared to a feast where all are invited to join in. Not everyone chooses to do so.</li> <li>The Kingdom of God is, in essence, where God rules — not a geographical territory, but in human hearts and minds, lives and communities.</li> <li>Jesus' key teaching in the first three Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) is that he is beginning a kingdom where God's rule of love, forgiveness and inclusion will grow. The Gospels look forward to a time when this kingdom will spread across the Earth like yeast through a lump of dough, and they picture people finding the kingdom for themselves like a trader who comes across one amazing pearl and gives up everything to get it.</li> <li>Jesus compares God's Kingdom to a festival, a party, a treasure, a secret, a seed that grows, a harvest and a wedding.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Worship and Service in the Community</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For Christians today, across the world, being a member of the community of the Kingdom of God is both a precious gift and a challenge: living out the values of the Kingdom of God is the key challenge of being a disciple of Jesus, loving God and loving our neighbour.</li> <li>There is no space for hypocrisy, selfishness or personal pride. Instead, generosity, compassion, love even for enemies and a joyful willingness to put others ahead of one's own interests is the rule.</li> <li>Many Christians try to extend the Kingdom of God by challenging unjust social structures in their locality and in the world.</li> <li>Christians try to bring the Kingdom of God to Earth through organisations such as The Salvation Army, Church Action on Poverty and the Prison Fellowship.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Bible Texts</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew 6:9-13 (The Lord's Prayer)</li> <li>Luke 14:12-24 (The Feast)</li> <li>Matthew 21:33-46 (The Tenants in the Vineyard)</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>