



When it comes to understanding why Jesus came, we don't have to put words in his mouth. He made a number of very clear statements about the subject. So this series will explore the reasons behind the greatest mission ever.

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

1 This series is going to explore why Jesus came. Before you jump into the content of this first message take a moment to reflect on the various reasons Jesus came. Share as many as you can. Which one resonates with you the most and why?

2 JESUS CAME as a king. Rick reminded us that *“Christmas does not just celebrate the birth of a redeemer, but the arrival of a ruler.”* **Read Luke 1:32-33.** What's significant about the description the angel gives in these verses? How does that differ from the view some have of Jesus today that “robs him of his authority” and what impact has that had on our society?

3 Rick emphasized, *“I believe every other reason given for the coming of Jesus must be seen through the lens that he came to bring a kingdom. It's not that his coming brought the kingdom of God into existence, but it brought the kingdom of God within reach.”* Why do you think this viewpoint is so central to understanding why Jesus came?

4 JESUS COMES... to bring us good news. Jesus's favorite subject to preach on was the gospel of the kingdom. **Read Matthew 4:23; 24:14; Acts 1:3.** Rick noted, *“We are not just being saved from something; we are being saved into something—the kingdom of God.”* What's significant about this distinction? Follow up: how would you define the kingdom of God? (Note:

one definition for the kingdom of God is *“where what God wants done is done”* – Dallas Willard).

5 Read Matthew 4:17. Rick reminded us that *“Repent”* was not a rebuke but an invitation. How have you experienced this to be true in your life?

6 JESUS COMES... to show us true reality. The enemy wants to seduce us into believing other dominions deserve our allegiance—especially *“the kingdom of me.”* But our best possible life depends on our alignment with this one unalterable reality: it's about *“thy kingdom come.”* **Read Matthew 6:33.** How does seeking the kingdom of God above all things help us prioritize the rest of our lives correctly?

7 JESUS COMES... to call us to surrender. The kingdom is here, it can be found, and it can be entered...but only on the King's terms. **Read Luke 18:18-25.** What stands out to you the most about Jesus' response to this man? What is one thing you can take away from this man's encounter with Jesus and apply to your situation today?

8 Give thanks that **JESUS IS COMING to reign over all!** Close by reading **Colossians 1:13-18** and discuss how we can hold on to this view of Jesus in a world where he doesn't always seem in charge. Pray for God's kingdom to continue to come.

