

Feast of Christ the King – 21st November 2021

Read John 18.33-37

You may like to use this material as a basis for discussion in your family.



Today's Bible reading is from St John's gospel, describing what happened when Jesus was arrested. Jesus was sent to the leader of the Romans, Pontius Pilate. Pilate was worried that Jesus wanted to be a king and would try to get rid of the Romans in the land of Judea, so Pilate asked Jesus "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus told Pilate that his kingdom was not of this world. He said that he came into the world to speak the truth. This shows the difference between Pilate and Jesus in the way they each think about kingship and authority. Pilate thinks about power and authority; Jesus thinks about truth and community.

It is sometimes hard for us to know what is the truth or if someone is telling the truth. Over the last few years we have heard a lot about "fake news", when someone twists the truth in order to grab the headlines. Social media can make it difficult for us to sort out what is true.

Which of these statements is true? Use the internet to find the answers if you're not sure.

Penguins sleep with one eye open.

The planet Mercury is bigger than Jupiter.

Giraffes can't swim.

Some truths are easy to find out; some are more difficult. How do we know what is true from what we are told? Can you think of something which you have been told which turned out not to be true? How did you feel when you found out? How important is it to you that people tell the truth?

We usually believe the people we love because we trust them to tell us the truth. Jesus wants us to listen to him so that we understand the truth of God's love for us. What can you do to make sure that you are listening to Jesus, and hearing what he is saying?

Activity

- Write the word "Truth" down the centre of a piece of paper, and write the word "Trust" across it using the letter "U" as the centre of both words, so that the paper is divided into 4 quadrants. In each quadrant write one Bible truth e.g. Nothing can separate us from the love of God (Romans 8.39), God will never leave us (Deuteronomy 31.6). You could use the internet to help you.

Read your truths each day as you pray and ask God to help you to trust in Him.

Prayer

God of gods and King of kings,
be with us as we seek to know more about you.
Speak to us by your Word and your Spirit.
Help us to see Jesus and to hear his voice -
not just for today, but for all days,
and for the glory of your kingdom. **Amen**