

NOVEMBER 22, 2015



# SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



DANIEL 7:13 – 14

PSALM 93:1, 1–2, 5

REVELATION 1:5 – 8

JOHN 18:33B – 37

## REFLECTION

One of the biggest questions Jesus asked his disciples was “Who do you say that I am?” He wanted to see if they, without being told, could figure him out. Today, Pilate questions Jesus’ identity. Jesus is smart, creative, and curiously evasive when answering Pilate. Sometimes we avoid answering questions when we aren’t sure what the other person wants to hear or what they will do with the answer we give. Jesus knew exactly what was going on, yet he still plays this apparent game of words with Pilate. Jesus never comes right out to say his is a king, but lets Pilate use his own words to say he is king.

So, what does it mean to be a king, to have a kingdom with followers and attendants? In our world, and in Pilate’s, it meant power. If Jesus were king in Pilate’s terms, this would not be good for the Roman empire. No one could usurp the power of the government. Pilate misunderstood Jesus’ identity. In God’s realm, kingship means something very different. The Kingdom of God is that of peace, of praise, and a willingness to offer our hearts and souls to our God simply because we want to, not because God is “lording it over us.”

Today’s solemnity is about Jesus as King of all Creation. He is the King of our hearts, and his entire Kingdom “belongs to the truth [and] listens to [his] voice” (John 18:37). Sometimes the advice of someone in authority over us feels as though they are trying to control us. If we listen and are open to Jesus’ voice, we will realize that he isn’t trying to control us. Instead he is trying to help us come to our own decisions and to respond in love—to use the gifts he gives us in this world.



“KING OF MY HEART”

**LOVE & THE OUTCOME**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3OTNMoe26g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3OTNMoe26g)

## ACTION

Spend some time in conversation with your parent(s). Ask for their advice on something you may be struggling with in your life right now. Seeking advice from people who love you allows trust to grow and a relationship to strengthen. As you do this with people on earth, it will help with our God in heaven.

## JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- Whom do you trust to have control over your life? Parents? Friends? Society? What would it be like to allow Jesus to have full control over your life?
- What do you need to change to allow your heart to be more open to accept Christ as your King?