

SESSION 2: I wonder what kind of kingdom Jesus wanted to create?



One day when Jesus was walking by Lake Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (called Peter) and Simon's brother Andrew. These brothers were fishermen, and they were fishing in the lake with a net. Jesus said to them, "Come, follow me, and I will make you a different kind of fishermen. You will bring in people, not fish." Simon and Andrew immediately left their nets and followed him.

This reference to Jesus choosing his followers or Disciples, comes from the Gospel of Matthew, who demonstrates how Jesus was looking for ordinary men to help him to spread the word of God. He also wanted to encourage people to make the changes required to create his kingdom on Earth.



Read this introduction of John's Gospel – 1 John 1: 1-10. You will notice that he makes the connection between the Creation and Jesus' life on Earth.

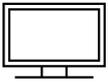
1 We want to tell you about the Word that gives life—the one who existed before the world began. This is the one we have heard and have seen with our own eyes. We saw what he did, and our hands touched him. ²Yes, the one who is life, was shown to us. We saw him, and so we can tell others about him. We now tell you about him. He is the eternal life that was with God the Father and was shown to us. ³We are telling you about what we have seen and heard because we want you to have fellowship with us. The fellowship we share together is with God the Father and his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We write these things to you so that you can be full of joy with us. ⁵We heard the true teaching from God. Now we tell it to you: God is light, and in him there is no darkness. ⁶So if we say that we share in life with God, but we continue living in darkness, we are liars, who don't follow the truth. ⁷We should live in the light, where God is. If we live in the light, we have fellowship with each other, and the blood sacrifice of Jesus, God's Son, washes away every sin and makes us clean. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we are fooling ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹But if we confess our sins, God will forgive us. We can trust God to do this. He always does what is right. He will make us clean from all the wrong things we have done. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we are saying that God is a liar and that we don't accept his true teaching.



- What do you think John means when he states that 'God is light, and in him there is no darkness.'?
- Why is it so important to Jesus that the people that love God, confess their sins and admit to the things that they have done wrong?



Write a list of five ways in which you believe that Jesus wanted his followers or Disciples to help him to change the way that people lived, in order to begin to create his kingdom on Earth.



Watch this clip of the song entitled 'Lord of the Dance'. Think about the words as you listen to the music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDdQhsjNHcw>



- What do the lyrics mean to you?

- How do you think that the song illustrates Jesus' kingdom?



This song talks about the life of Jesus on Earth starting with God's creation 'When the world was begun' and then moving onto Jesus being born – 'At Bethlehem I had my birth'. Next comes the calling of his Disciples with the words, 'I danced for the fishermen, for James and John' and his crucifixion is illustrated by 'They left me there on the cross to die'. Finally, the song ends with the promise of 'I'll live in you if you live in me. I am the Lord of the Dance said he'.



Think about our question – What kind of king was Jesus? Imagine what sort of kingdom he wanted to create on Earth. Using all of the information that you have learned and the knowledge and understanding that you have about Jesus' teachings and life, draw a picture of that kingdom. Label the different parts that you have included and explain your choices.



I have included _____

I believe that Jesus wanted to _____



Once you have completed your picture, click on the link below and listen to this song while you study your drawing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNsoXsyeUE0>