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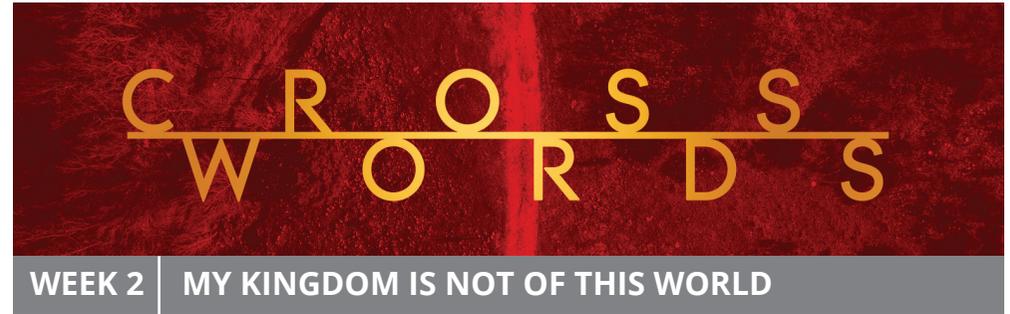
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WARM UP

If you could be the king or queen of a nation for a day, which nation would it be? What would you do?

WORD

Read **John 18:33-38**

After being arrested in Gethsemane and taken before the Jewish authorities, a trial is arranged with Pontius Pilate, the Roman prefect for the region of Judaea presiding. In his conversations with Jesus, the questioning begins with regards to the supposedly blasphemous claims of Jesus being the King of the Jews.

NOTES

1 I'm a King, but of a different Kingdom.

³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world."

John 18:36 (ESV)

It's amazing how despite being pressured from both the Sanhedrin (the Jewish authorities) and now the prefect from Rome, Jesus maintains his position as the King of a Kingdom that is not of this world. Jesus' Kingdom is holy, eternal and without blemish in nature. It is the Kingdom of God. Sometimes when we are pressed as followers of Christ, there is a strong temptation not to trust in the King of this eternal Kingdom, but to trust in the kingdoms of this world - their jurisdiction, their comfort, their provision, and their defining of our identity.

- Tell us about a time when you know of something that you should do that will have a lasting effect, but temptation for momentary gain seemed overwhelm doing that thing that would last. Have you been in a situation like this? What was it like and which way did you choose to go

2 For This Purpose

³⁷Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have

come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

John 18:37 (ESV)

There was a certainty and resilience in Jesus knowing his purpose on the earth. After revealing himself to be "the Truth" earlier (John 14:6), he describes his purpose as coming "into the world to bear witness to the truth." What is revealing is that he states that those who are "of the truth", that is of Jesus, are ones that will heed his voice. In short, Jesus' purpose is to call those who will listen to His voice of truth into His kingdom. How does he call us? By laying his life down for us that we may enter into the Kingdom of the Most High God.

- How certain are you of your purpose?
 - What are you willing to give and sacrifice in order to fulfil your purpose?
 - Jesus' purpose was to lay his life down for you. What should be our response?
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PRAYER

- Pray that God will take the throne of every area of our lives, and grant to us peace in those areas. Pray also that we would know our purpose and destiny on the earth, and glorify God as we walk in it.