

# GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

## The First Gifts of Christmas Week 1: GOLD – Fit for a King John 18:33-36

December 4, 2022  
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Our new series is a study of the identity of the Christmas child. The three gifts given to Jesus, Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh, point to a major aspect of His identity. In this, the first week of the series, we studied the gift of gold and the kingship of Jesus.

**Kicking It Off:** When you were a child, did you think Santa was the bringer of gifts? How long did you believe in Santa?

### Discussion:

1. Reread John 18:33. Monarchy was a popular form of government back in the first century, but it is not today. Why have many countries replaced their monarchy with democracy?

*Pilate summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"*

2. Reread John 18:36. What does Jesus mean by this statement?

*Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world."*

3. Reread John 10:10. According to this verse, how does the leadership philosophy of Satan differ from that of Christ?

*"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*

4. Reread Matthew 8:20. Jesus could have come to earth as a king living in a luxurious palace, but He chose to come as one who was poor and homeless. This choice was strategic. Why did He make this choice?

*"Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."*

5. Reread Matthew 20:25-26 (NLT). Have you ever seen someone in authority live as a servant leader? Tell the group about them.

*Jesus said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant."*

6. Reread John 19:19,22. Speculate as to why Pilate insisted on keeping this sign on the cross of Christ.

*Pilate had a sign fastened to the cross. It read: "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews." The chief priests protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'King of the Jews,' but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews." Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."*

7. What should change in our lives when Jesus is our King?

**Wrapping Up:** Ask the Lord to reveal the beauty of His heart more and more in the days ahead.