

FORETOLD

2. THE KING

What stood out to you most from the talk on Sunday? Have you ever thought of the coming of Jesus being foretold through the Kings of Israel?

Read 1 Samuel 8.1-22

- God gave the Israelites what they wanted even though He knew it would end badly and told them so. Why do you think this is? What does it tell us about God's love for us?
- "We want a king over us. Then we shall be like all the other nations". In what ways do we want to be just like everyone else around us? How has that manifested itself in your life?

Read Zechariah 9.9-10

God promised a King who would be everything the people wanted, not a disappointment like the others before him. Yet he would be 'righteous' and 'lowly', not what they were used to or expecting.

- This is an example of God using our bad ideas to give us good things. What does this tell you about (a) His Love and (b) His power? Can you think of any other examples of this – from Scripture, from your experience? (Bonus Question!) What else does this passage point to?
- Emily talked about God's Ways being above Our Ways, with the example of her prayers for a trail of unsuitable suitors. Can you identify with this? Have you ever asked God for something and then discovered that He had something way better in mind?
- Bethlehem: Believe in the Small. What does this mean in the context of how God works? Did you resonate with this message? If so, how?

BIG IDEA: The birth of Jesus was foretold from the beginning. He was the unexpected king nobody asked for. But this humble King of Kings is the Saviour of the world. God's ways are different and better than our own.

Pray together in 2s and 3s. Pray particularly for the message of a good King to reach your friends and colleagues this Christmastime. Pray for those you want to invite to Metro Carols. Pray for everyone struggling to trust God's ways.