

# Mount Olive Life Guide

## Christ the King Sunday

### November 23-25, 2024

**John 18:33-37: Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?”<sup>34</sup> “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?”<sup>35</sup> “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?”<sup>36</sup> Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place.”<sup>37</sup> “You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”**

1. Looking back in history (before 2010) who are your top three favorite U.S. presidents? What characteristics do/did they possess that you find admirable?

*answers/examples will vary*

2. Why can “patience” be a valuable virtue for any leader?  
thorough thought processes when making decisions  
avoid impulsive reactions  
gives opponents opportunity to think through their behavior
3. What is the first example of God’s patience in the Bible?  
Genesis 3, Garden of Eden  
God could/should have let them suffer the full consequence of hell.
4. List 3 other examples of God’s patience in the Old Testament:  
time of the Flood  
Abraham when he pleaded for Sodom & Gomorrah  
Moses—made excuse after excuse when God called him  
Israelites after they left Egypt  
Israelites in the wilderness  
David after his sins of adultery, murder and deceit  
Israelites in captivity

5. List 3 examples of Jesus’ patience found in the Gospels:  
with the disciples when they didn’t understand his mission  
the rich young ruler—Jesus looked at him and loved him  
Peter, James & John in Gethsemane  
Peter, when Jesus looked at him after Peter’s denials  
with the people of Jerusalem: (Matthew 23:37)  
with Pilate
6. What comfort can we find today in these historical examples of Jesus’ patience?  
Jesus has no less patience with me
7. When Jesus didn’t meet their expectations, the Jewish leaders used false accusations to put Jesus on trial. What are examples of when we do the same thing?  
we doubt Jesus’ rule in our lives  
we question Jesus’ love for us when our lives fall apart  
we question Jesus’ ability to help us fight temptation
8. Jesus said, “I came into the world to testify to the truth.” What makes the concept of “truth” difficult for people to understand today?  
  
truth is relative, skepticism, we “fact check” and yet don’t trust the “fact checkers”, our opinion of “what is truth” can be shaped by the innate bias of the source of our information
9. Jesus said, “I came into the world to testify to the truth.” Jesus **is** the Word, and all of his Word is truth. None of it is negotiable. What are two of the most important truths found in his Word?  
  
law & gospel: all have sinned, and all sins have been paid for by Christ our King
10. When having a conversation with someone who struggles with the truths of God’s Word (evolution vs. creation, pro-life, sexual orientation, gender issues, etc.), why is it important to remember those two most important truths?  
  
“don’t major in minors”—don’t let an argument about evolution/creation put a stumbling block in way of you sharing Jesus with someone who doesn’t know him