

## Lordship

Throughout the Bible God's salvation is linked to acceptance of His Lordship. The promised Messiah (meaning Christ or Saviour) would also be Lord (= Master or King). In our modern culture, most people want the "good life" without making sacrifices - we want the benefits without the hard work. This attitude is also prevalent in many churches where people readily accept Jesus as their personal Saviour but avoid submitting to him as Lord of their lives. But the Bible is clear that we cannot have one or the other – to be a disciple of Christ, we need to accept him as Saviour and Lord and this has implications for every aspect of our lives.

**Opening question:** What are some ways in which people tend to take the easy option or look for quick fixes? Think of examples related to getting fit, earning money, relationships, etc. What makes people do this?

### Acts 2:32-36

- What established Jesus as both Lord (= Master) and Christ (= Saviour)?
- What is associated with living under a master?
- If you accept Jesus as your Master, is there any area of your life that you can hold back? Why or why not?

### Mathew 7:21-23

- What is the main indicator that people genuinely accept Jesus as Lord rather than just saying they do?
- If someone had to spend every moment with you for a week, would they conclude that Jesus is your Lord?

### Romans 10:9.

- What is the link between submitting to the Lordship of Christ and being saved?
- Do you think it is possible to be saved without submitting to the Lordship of Christ?

What aspect of life does each of these passages refer to that requires full submission to Jesus if we are to make him our Master/Lord?

- Galatians 3:27
- Romans 12:1-2
- 2 Corinthians 10:5
- 1 Corinthians 15:58
- Matthew 6:19-24
- 1 Corinthians 15:33 & 2 Corinthians 6:14

### Colossians 3:12-14

- What character traits of Jesus are mentioned here? Which of these is particularly challenging for you?
- Is there a link between becoming more like Jesus and submitting to his Lordship?

### Acts 2:42-47

- What evidence of Lordship do we see in these early Christians?

#### Reflection:

- Have you more readily accepted Jesus as Saviour than as Lord?
- What parts of your life do you find particularly challenging to place under the Lordship of Christ?
- What would you still need to change to submit fully to his Lordship? How willing are you to do so?

#### FURTHER STUDY

**Isaiah 43:11, Jeremiah 23:6.** What do these passages tell us about salvation?

**Colossians 3:5-10.** This describes lives before accepting the Lordship of Christ. What rules us when this type of behaviour characterizes our lives?