

# God Became King

A Series In the Gospel of Mark

## February 22, 2026 | First Sunday of Lent

Mark 9:2-13 | "Revealed Glory"

Jesus isn't unsure about who he is. From the moment of his baptism he has heard the Father's voice tell him he is the Son and he has received the Spirit. His disciples have finally recognized him to be Israel's Messiah from God but he has told them of his coming suffering. Now they can begin to see that suffering isn't the end of the story.

## March 01, 2026 | Second Sunday of Lent

Mark 9:42-50 | "Watch Your Step"

The kingdom has come in the person of Jesus but it won't come in its fullness until God's great day of judgment. In the meantime we have both entered it and we await it. And, in the in-between time we experience adversity—we should expect no less when we follow a crucified Messiah, but what this means is for us to walk carefully.

#### March 08, 2026 | Third Sunday of Lent

Mark 10:1–12 | "Practice Faithfulness"

It is too easy as we come to this Scripture to stand in the place of the Pharisees. We bring the same question about divorce to Jesus and the church and use it as a test. What if instead we stand in the place of the vulnerable women who could be divorced for burning a man's dinner? How does Jesus's rule bring hope and freedom?

#### March 15, 2026 | Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mark 10:35-45 | "We Have Only One Lord"

To hold positions of authority and wield power over others is always a very attractive thing to us as human beings. However, to try to function this way as God's people is to misunderstand the nature of the kingdom of God. There is only one Lord, we who would lead must follow him in taking on the position of a slave to serve the community.

### March 22, 2026 | Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mark 12:1–12 | "No Life Without God"

The human story is stuck in a perpetual cycle: we reject God and God rejects us. We want the whole of creation to ourselves free from the rule of God. That simply cannot be. This story climaxes in our rejection of Jesus, God's Son. But this also becomes our hope, the one we reject becomes the foundation of our acceptance.

#### March 29, 2026 | Palm Sunday

Mark 11:1-11 | "Return of the King"

God's rule is not simply a heavenly reality. God comes in the flesh to his capital city of Jerusalem from which his rule and reign goes out to all the earth. In a similar way, God's rule in our lives cannot simply be a thought exercise. God's rule must work on us from the inside out and extend to those around us.