

Weekly Message Study Guide

ChristChurch.us/SmallGroups



Date _____ Speaker _____

The King's Gambit | Easter 2021 | April 4

These study guides are designed for individual or group study but highly encouraged to be experienced in community with a small group or other friends on the journey with Jesus.

CONTEXT | Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen Indeed!

- Growing up what were some of your family's favorite Easter memories or traditions?
- If you didn't grow up in a family that celebrated Easter, share and reflect on what moved you to embrace Easter as a celebration? What causes you to celebrate now.
- With the celebration of Easter we bring to close this years Lenten season. If you kept Lent in any way this year share some reflections on your journey. What were some highlights? What did God teach you or where did you find Jesus in unexpected and maybe surprising ways?

ALL ABOUT JESUS | During this season of Lent, we reflected on God's circles of commitment to us, known in the Scriptures as covenants. We discovered that the whole story of the Bible flows towards Jesus. All the Old Testament covenants point towards something more... the sacrifice on Good Friday and the surprise on Easter Sunday... they are all telling us that life is not checkers. It is a multi-dimensional chess game in which God is working out his glorious purposes on levels and with angles and with a passion to bless all people that you and I are invited into. These covenants reveal how God, through Jesus, has continually pursued us, to interrupt our distracted and unfaithful lives, so we may continue to be blessed to be a blessing.

- When we violate God's boundaries for our flourishing, Jesus demonstrates how to resist temptation and live in continued partnership with God. (See Hebrews 4:15)
- Jesus is of the family of Abraham and faithfully brings God's blessings and promises to the whole world. (See Matthew 1:1 and Acts 3:25)
- Jesus is the faithful one who fulfills the law in its entirety. (See Matthew 5:17-20)
- Jesus is from the line of King David and extends God's kingdom of justice and peace to everyone. (See Mark 10:46-52)
- Jesus himself is the New Covenant renewing our minds and hearts. (See 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 & Luke 22:20)



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- What stirs in you when you hear the summary of where we have been during this past Lenten season stated in this way?
- What were some of the highlights for you from this study on the covenants?
- How do you plan on enabling yourself to be drawn further and further into God's circles of commitment for you? Maybe better but more clearly how are you planning on keeping Christ at the center of your life?

PRACTICE OF THE WEEK | Listen and Give Us Your Thoughts

- Be sure to listen to our [last Lenten Audio Devotional this Monday](#) for a special perspective on the resurrection.
- If you have been reflecting on our Lenten Audio Devotionals this Lenten season we'd love to know what that experience was like for you? When did you use them? With whom? How did God use them in your life? Would you be interested in more of these type of short audio devotionals in the future? Send your reflections to Pastor Eric Haskins: ehaskins@ChristChurch.us.