

Daughters of the King: Finding Your Place in the Biblical Story

Leader's Discussion Guide



Daughters of the King: Finding Your Place in the Biblical Story

Discussion Questions & Leader's Guide © Melissa Deming

For a free downloadable workbook, please visit <http://hiveresources.com/book/>

Chapter 1: The King's Kingdom

1. A story can explain the world and how your life came to be the way it is. Each of us has a story. Describe what your story looks like today. Include any high points, low points, conflicts, and resolution that make your story unique.
2. The Word of God is indeed a lengthy story, comprised of Old and New Testaments and divided by genre – histories, writings and poems, prophecy, letters, etc. What do you believe is the most challenging aspect of connecting all of the different parts of God's story?
3. Is the goal of creation (rest) currently reflected in your life? If so, how? If not, in what areas are you experiencing the most 'unrest'?
4. What are the two ways we image God (reflect the image of God) as stated in the book?

Answer: First, Daughters of the King are a representation of the King. This is the traditional understanding of what the image of God entails. It means we bear the King's likeness in our structural capacities (gifts and abilities as humans). We reflect God in our capacity to reason, our will or volition, our capacity to express emotion, and our capacity for intellect – speech, culture, perception and creation of beauty.

Second, Daughters of the King are a representative of the King. This means that God gave mankind a very important job at the time of creation, a job that he didn't give to any other part of his creation (Gen. 1:28). Mankind is to function as God's representatives over the earth – his sub-regents over creation. God expects us to care for the earth, develop culture, tend to the animals, and to mirror the creativity of the King in doing it!

5. As a Daughter of the King, what are some creative ways you 'image' God (reflect God and act as his sub-regent/servant) in the daily activities you undertake? Think about your unique areas of responsibility (home, office, community). Think about the people God has given you to serve (family, coworkers, church members, neighbors). Think about specific tasks you perform throughout the day.

Chapter 2: The King's Subjects Rebel

1. In the space below, write out the three-part definition of the kingdom used in the book (taken from Vaughan Roberts's book *God's Big Picture*).

Answer: God's people in God's place under God's rule and blessing.

2. Describe Eve's decision to disobey the King's command in Gen. 3:6. Ultimately, what was Eve saying about herself and God when she broke God's Law? In what ways do you seek to cast off God's authority as the one to determine what is "good" in life?

Answer: In Eve's estimation, the tree was good because it is good to eat (function), it is good to look upon (appearance), and it is good for wisdom (power) (see Gen. 3:6). However, God didn't forbid the couple to eat from the tree for any of these reasons. God put his rule into effect so that man might fully enjoy the "good" God created and be protected from death. God put the rule into effect so that man might have been able to live life at its best – to dwell in the presence of the King, dwell in the King's land, and dwell under the King's rule and benefit from its blessings.

Eve put herself in God's position when she ate the forbidden fruit, acting as the judge of what is "good" and how she would enjoy that "good" apart from God's provision. And as God's sub-regent over his creation, this is the mightiest act of rebellion against the King. The sub-regent is casting off the authority of the King and acting in her own name instead. Ironically, the first couple's quest to determine what constituted both good and evil apart from their King left them unable to enjoy the 'good' at all!

3. What does sin do to the image of God in mankind? (Hint: the answer can be found in the definition of sin).

Answer: Sin corrupts the image of God in us and makes it impossible to obey God perfectly so we may continue to enjoy the blessing of his presence.

4. What are the three major relationships distorted by sin in Gen. 3:7-23? How does sin distort each of them? Think of an area of life in which you are currently experiencing conflict. How is sin at play?

Answer:

- *The relationship between man and man is distorted. After sin, mankind is unable to love others perfectly (Gen. 3:7-13)*
- *The relationship between man and creation is distorted. After sin, mankind is unable to love God's creation perfectly (Gen. 3:16-19).*
- *The relationship between man and God is distorted. After sin, mankind is unable to love God perfectly (Gen. 3:21-23).*

Sin tarnishes every area of our life. It tarnishes our relationship with God, our relationship with others (especially our significant others), and our relationship with our assigned tasks. Being a wife, mother, daughter – all these roles are encumbered by sin. Sin makes us unable to fully enjoy the 'good' God intended for us to experience. Scripture acknowledges that our life difficulties are real, and the Bible speaks to our situation. Sin has tainted the way we live – how we think, how we act, how we feel (Rom. 3:23).

5. What specific hope does God give his daughters in Gen. 3:15 for restoring the image of God within us?

Answer: The biblical story is a story of great and precious hope! Gen. 3:15 tells us that sin is not the end of our story, nor is it the end of God's story for the world! Immediately after Adam and Eve sinned, God revealed to them a plan for salvation from sin. In Gen. 3:15, God promises Eve that her Seed (one of her male children) will conquer the seed of the serpent (evil). And the rest of the biblical story reveals how God is at work in our lives to defeat sin and restore us, particularly to restore his image in us that has been corrupted by sin – all through his Seed (a male Savior!)

Chapter 3: The King's Promise

1. In Gen. 12:1-9, God made a three-part promise to Abraham. Identify the three components. For extra points, describe how God's promises to Abraham line up with the definition of God's kingdom (God's people, in God's place, under God's rule and blessing).

Answer: God made a promise to Abraham. That promise had three components:

- **God's people** – God promised Abraham that his line of descendants will become a great nation, God's people. (Gen. 12:2 - "I will make you a great nation.")
- **God's place** – God promised Abraham that his descendants will be given land in which to dwell. (Gen. 12:1 – "to a land I will show you" and Gen. 12:2 – 'nation' implies territory.)
- **God's rule and blessing** – God promises Abraham that his descendants will receive blessings as they live as his people. These blessings would trickle down to all other nations. (Gen. 12:2- "I will bless you" and "you shall be a blessing," and in Gen. 12:3 – "in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.")

The promises God makes to Abraham fit with our definition of the kingdom. Here's how they line up:

- **God's people** - God promises that he will make Abraham the beginning of a great nation – not just numerically speaking, but a nation that would be set apart for God. In God's kingdom, one of Abraham's descendants will be the promised Seed of salvation. God's promise to increase Abraham's seed must mean more than becoming a great nation; Abraham's seed would be the line through which salvation would come.
- **God's place** - God promises to give Abraham land. This is not just a gift of prime real estate; this land would be the location for the future fulfillment of all God's promises to Abraham. Much hinged on acquiring this land.
- **God's Rule and Blessing** - God's third promise to Abraham was that he and his descendants would receive great blessings and protection and that through them all other nations would be blessed. So, from the very beginning we see God's intention to restore the whole world – all nations – from the effects of sin.

2. Describe God's covenant with man. What is it? Who is the responsible party? Is it conditional or unconditional? What obligations came with it?

Answer: A covenant is a binding, permanent relationship, solemnly agreed to by two parties and ratified by a sign. The covenant between God and man is permanent, because it is based on God's ability as the stronger party to uphold it.

However, this does not mean mankind has no responsibilities in the covenant relationship. Man is obligated to be loyal to the covenant and obey his King. So, while the covenant relationship is unconditional, the blessings of the covenant with Abraham are conditional. If man obeys the King, he will receive blessings. If mankind disobeys the King, he will receive curses. In short, God would fulfill all his covenant promises to Abraham, despite disobedience (cf. Gen. 15: 12-16).

3. Consider this statement: God's vehicle for salvation has always been faith. How is faith the same today as it was in Abraham's day? (Hint: think 'promises')

Answer: Gen. 15:6 reveals how Abraham was saved. It says, "And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness." God's vehicle for salvation has always been faith. It is the same today, just like in Abraham's day.

Paul sheds more light on the reality of salvation. In Eph. 2:8-9, he says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." God determines the way he will be worshipped. When we make our worship about our offerings, our gifts, our service, our traditions, we are making salvation about something other than faith. Just like Abraham, we must place our trust in God to provide a suitable sacrifice on our behalf.

4. In Gen. 49, who is the object of God's promise? What terms are used to describe him?

Answer: Gen. 49:10 says, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people." In this passage, Jacob prophesies that from the line of Judah a figure would come carrying a royal scepter and before whom people would bow in obedience.

This figure would be authoritative, law-giving, and royal. Who is this kingly figure? Jacob doesn't mention names. But for the rest of the biblical story, we will watch the tribe of Judah with interest, knowing that it is through the lineage of this tribe that we can expect to see all God's promises to Abraham and Sarah fulfilled.

5. Review the “my story” section of this chapter. How would you describe your relationship with God? Is it based on what *you* do or what God has done and promises to do in your life? In forming your answer, consider where you spend the bulk of time, money, commitments, and emotional energy.

Chapter 4: The King's Grace

1. What was the purpose of the sacrificial system in the King's kingdom? If animal sacrifices did not save God's people, then why were they offered?

Answer: For man, the sacrifice is a physical act of acknowledgment of sin and the need for forgiveness. And for God, the sacrifice fulfills the consequence of a blood sacrifice (death) for sin (cf. Gen. 3; Lev. 17:11).

2. What was the purpose of the Law in the King's kingdom? If adherence to the Law did not save God's people, then why was it given?

Answer: Israel was expected to be loyal to their covenant relationship, and they demonstrated their loyalty through obedience to the Law. As the people lived under the King's rule and obeyed his commandments, they would receive great blessings. Therefore, the Law enables a partial restoration of the blessings of the covenant to the people. The Law was intended to be the means by which God's people were brought back under the King's rule so that they might enjoy his blessings and be a blessing to other nations.

3. What did the tabernacle (and later the temple) represent in the King's kingdom?

Answer: The tabernacle was to be a dwelling place for God.

4. Do you agree with the assessment that the Law, the sacrificial system, and the tabernacle were gifts of God's grace? If not, please share why. If so, please share how these three ways of relating to God were demonstrations of grace.

Answer: Through the sacrificial system, the covenant status of being the God's people is partially restored. Through the Law, the covenant blessings that stem from the God's rule are partially restored. Through the tabernacle, the covenant promise of dwelling with God in a specific place is partially restored.

5. Reading through the Law fills me with gratitude that the King has made a better, fuller gift of grace available to his daughters! Describe the time you accepted the King's gift of grace in your life. Share how the King has repaired and restored you even as you await the final chapter in your story.

Chapter 5: The King's Subjects Demand a King

1. How would you describe disobedience? What does your own life choices reveal about the loyalty of your heart? How does Christ help you obey God's commands?

Answer: Disobedience isn't a phase we grow out of; disobedience is a pattern from which we must be rescued. Obedience is a heart issue. Furthermore, it is not the pattern of poor choices that define us; it is our relationship to the King that does. When Christ changes us, he gives us a heart to help us keep him first. That's not to say we won't ever wander. We aren't perfect. No one is. But as a Daughter of the King, we can count on the resources of faith given to us through our good and kind King who promises to finish the work he's begun and to give us strength while we wait.

2. According to Deut. 17:14-20, what are some of the qualities of a King? What did Israel's desire for a King reveal about the loyalty of their hearts?

Answer: The king must be chosen by God and be a follower of God. The Israelites demand for a human king indicated a waning trust in God alone for their welfare and security and a desire to be like the surrounding nations.

3. In 2 Sam. 7, God makes a covenant with David. Compare the covenant God made with Abraham to the covenant he made with David.

Answer: Like Abraham, God promises to make the name of David "great," situate Israel in a special "place," and give David "rest." But alongside those Abrahamic promises, God gives David additional promises: God will fulfill his promises through David (2 Sam. 7:11), and God's promises are eternal (2 Sam. 7:12-14).

4. What happened to Israel as a result of the divided loyalties of Solomon's heart?

Answer: The king's heart loyalties shifted from God to himself. And like Eve, and so many of his ancestors before him, Solomon falls prey to the lie that he was capable of seeking out and determining the "good" of life on his own. As a result, God judges Israel, and the people are divided.

5. At the end of the History Books, Israel hits an all-time low. Describe a time when your life story hit an all-time low. How did God redeem your situation for his glory? Are you at an all-time low even as you read this? What promise from this chapter can you cling to help you better orient your heart to the King?

Chapter 6: The King's Prophets

1. Describe the role of God's prophets in the Old Testament and their significance for God's people.

Answer: A prophet was a human messenger called to speak God's Word to God's people and call them back to their covenant relationship. Prophets enforced Israel's covenant with God urging the people to respond to the gift of salvation in obedience by repenting of their sin.

2. Like two sides to a coin, the prophets' message was two-fold. Briefly describe their message of judgment.

Answer: The prophets gave God's people a warning and a hope. First, the prophets' message warned them of the importance of obedience and faithfulness to their covenant relationship with God. Second, it foreshadowed a more terrible judgment to come.

3. We discussed eight hope-filled promises communicated by the prophets. Which promise speaks to your heart today, and why?

Answer: The prophets' message offered great hope that the King would restore his kingdom, and that God's people would one day be able to be in God's place and live under God's rule. Some of these hope-filled promises included:

- *A remnant would be preserved as God's people*
- *A new exodus would occur for God's people*
- *A Suffering Servant would save God's people*
- *All nations would be called God's people*
- *A new temple would be given to God's people*
- *A new creation would be made for God's people*
- *A new covenant would be made with God's people*
- *A new King would rule God's people*

4. The Prophets of the Old Testament told the people that their blessings were tied intimately to the coming King. One day, a King would come who would be their perfect King, and this King would bless them in a more permanent and perfect way. (A) Read Eph. 1:3 and describe the scope of the blessings this King gives to his daughters today. (B) Then make a list of all the blessings listed in Eph. 1:1-14 that you currently enjoy because of your relationship with King Jesus.

Answer (A): For those counted as the King's, the scope of our blessings are universal and unlimited (Eph. 1:3).

Answer (B): Here are some of the blessings I listed from Eph. 1:1-13.

- *We are extended grace and peace extended from the Father and the Son (1:2)*
- *We are chosen (1:4)*
- *We are holy (1:4)*
- *We are blameless (1:4)*
- *We are loved (1:4)*
- *We are predestined (1:5)*
- *We are adopted by Jesus Christ as his daughters (1:5)*
- *We bring God glory and praise (1: 5b-6)*
- *We are accepted (1:6)*
- *We are redeemed by Christ's blood (1:7)*
- *We are forgiven (1:7)*
- *We are extended the riches of his grace (1:8)*
- *We are informed of the mystery of the church (God's church includes both Jews and Gentiles) (1:9)*
- *We will be made to be like the King one day (1:10)*
- *We will have a great inheritance*
- *We have been given his Word of truth to help us trust him (1:13)*
- *We have been sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise (1:13)*
- *We have a guarantee of our inheritance (1:14)*

5. Reflect on the blessings you've received as a Daughter of the King (as listed from Eph. 1:1-14). What role did you play in obtaining any of these blessings? Describe a time when you tried to obtain a blessing (whether spiritual or physical) from God on your own terms, and the result.

Answer: We play no direct role in obtaining blessings from the King. He does the work in and through us for his glory.

Chapter 7: The King Comes

1. Without peeking, can you name the five women mentioned by Matthew in the family tree of Jesus? (Matt. 1). What is notable about the inclusion of each of these women? Consider their origin, backstory, and role in the King's kingdom.

Answer: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba ('her who had been the wife of Uriah' in Matt. 1:6), and Mary.

- **Tamar** deceived Judah in order to obtain the blessing due her (children of God's promise). Her intentions and activity aside, God still included Tamar in the genealogy of the One who brought all promises to bear.
- **Rahab** was a woman of a dubious background – a prostitute and a foreigner – whom God used mightily to protect his people.
- **Ruth** had two marks against her when she entered into Bethlehem; she was a Moabitess and a widow. Yet God took what was considered unclean (her alien status) and gave her an eternal spiritual citizenship in his kingdom. He took her underprivileged status as a widow and gave her a glorious and royal title as a woman in the line of King Jesus.
- **Mary** was an "insignificant" maiden who become pregnant out of wedlock. And despite the supernatural details surrounding her pregnancy, doubtless many rumors and misunderstandings swirled around this young girl by those who sought to label her as unfaithful.

Despite the fact that all these women precede Christ in the timeline of God's story, they are each counted as a Daughter of the King. God chooses to make daughters out of women with dubious backgrounds, previous failings, or terrible circumstances. God chooses daughters from among those who cling to his promise of salvation of above all else. No matter your own personal history, your future is secure if you are counted as the King's daughter. What is it that is holding you back from fulfilling your role in the kingdom?

2. Review God's purpose in giving his people a temple in which to worship him.

Answer: God's promise to give his people land involved not only a physical place to dwell in rest, but also a place to dwell in the very presence of God. Before sin, Adam and Eve existed in God's presence in a perfect place – the Garden of Eden. Sin caused them to be expelled from both the presence of God and the garden. God's promises to his people involved restoring to them a special place to dwell with him – a special land. Before the people entered into the Promised

Land of Canaan, God graciously gave them the tabernacle and later the temple in which to reside in his presence.

3. According to John 1:14, Jesus replaces our need for a temple or tabernacle. What is the significance of this news for the King's daughters?

Answer: In John 1:14, we are told that Christ dwells among his people. The word for "dwelt among us" is literally translated 'tabernacled' or "pitch a tent, to dwell temporarily." And so Christ becomes the living, breathing tabernacle on earth. Jesus, as both fully man and fully God, replaces the need for both the temple or the tabernacle. Because Christ came to dwell with men directly, man no longer needs these places in which to worship God. This is glorious news for the King's daughters. The King we serve lives not in a distant land; his kingdom is here and he lives among us.

Daughters of the King are afforded great blessings – dwelling in a holy and royal place and direct access to the King. We don't have to wait in line or take a ticket in order to get a hearing with the King. We don't have to scrounge to work for special blessings he brings our way. Being a Daughter of the King is more than a lifestyle that brings blessings of royalty; being related to the King IS life – eternal life. In Christ we find our position and our privilege – but we also find our life in his presence.

4. Daughters of the King go from being a slave to the Law of God to being freed from it. What role does the King play in our freedom?

Answer: It is through Christ's death that we are able to enter into God's kingdom, to live as God's people in God's place under God's rule and experience his blessings. The death of Christ fulfills the old covenant so that you and I might live in light of the new covenant. But you and I would never have been able to enter into the new covenant without help. Righteousness and blessing come only through Christ. As the substitute sacrifice for our sins, Christ's righteousness is imputed, or credited, to us. Much like Cinderella, in exchange for the filthy rags we wear, we are given Christ's clean garments. So, when God looks at us, he sees only the brilliant, shining garments of salvation given to us by the King himself.

5. As Daughters of the King, we live in light of the new covenant. Do you think it's easier to live in light of the old covenant sometimes? If yes, what are some common ways we live according to the old covenant?

Chapter 8: The King's Helper

1. What is the 'now' and 'not yet' reality of the King's kingdom?

Answer: The 'now' and 'not yet' of the King's kingdom refers to a delay between the inauguration (beginning) of the kingdom and its final restoration. Christ's resurrection inaugurated the kingdom, but it is not yet fully here. There is still a part of the plan yet to unfold. Christ promised the final kingdom and final restoration are still coming; they will occur when he returns to earth a second time (Matt. 24:27, 30-31; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thess. 4:16-17).

2. What does the 'now' and 'not yet' kingdom mean for me as a Daughter of the King?

For Daughters of the King, we live in the "now" and "not yet" kingdom. This is why we still have problems with sin despite Christ having already paid the penalty for our sin. This is why we still see injustices and suffering around us, even though Christ has ushered in a new type of world where wrong will one day be set right. This is why our relationships still fail and our bodies still break. The ugliness and consequences of sin will persist on earth until Christ comes again to finally, and totally, eradicate evil.

Yet, believers who have put their faith in Christ can still call themselves citizens of God's kingdom, even though they haven't witnessed or received the fullness of its blessings. In fact, it is imperative that we live our lives in a forward-looking fashion keeping a watchful and hopeful eye on our final restoration. Christ promised it was coming. For those who have already put their trust in Christ, we can be confident that God will fulfill that final promise of total restoration. We can be confident that life as we know it with all its brokenness and ugliness is not the end of our story as Daughters of the King!

3. Daughters of the King bear the King's image in who they are and what they do. When we act as a representative of the King, we "image" God to others. When others see you, do you think they see a royal princess sitting pretty or an active and gracious servant of the throne?

Answer: Throughout the biblical story, we've noted that part of living under God's rule and enjoying his blessing was to fulfill the God-given role of being God's image bearers – to be his representatives on earth. Each one of us is a representative of God through Christ. Whether you are full-time minister or a servant in the pew, a mother of four or a single woman searching for God's best, the title of Daughter of the King is a resounding call to action. A true Daughter of the

King spends little time sitting idly in the privileged position of the throne room. Instead, she is out among the people representing the goodness, humility, and submissive spirit of the One she serves. Emulating the actions of their King, who traded his glory for scorn and thorns, Daughters of the King eagerly exchange their gowns and crowns to do the precious and sometimes messy work of the gospel.

4. Thankfully, God helps us fulfill our roles as his daughter. What are the three ways mentioned in this chapter that the Helper assists the King's daughters?

Answer: The King gives his daughters the Holy Spirit to help them fulfill their role as sub-regent over his kingdom. The Holy Spirit helps in these ways:

- *He brings new birth by convicting us of sin (Acts 2:37-39).*
- *He produces holiness when he indwells us when we trust in him (Acts 2:40-46, for indwelling see Rom. 8:9-11; 1 Cor. 3:16; 6:19, Eph. 1:13; 2 Tim. 1:14).*
- *He equips us for service by making us bold and giving us unique gifts to be used for the good of the church (Read Acts 4:1-4, 13, 23-31, for giftings see 1 Cor. 12).*

With the presence of the Holy Spirit to convict us, guide us, and equip us for service, we have all the tools to help us "live up to God's standards" and fulfill our task to be priests to the nations. It is now possible for us to live under the rule of the King and in the kingdom of God. That is not to say it's easy since the kingdom is both now and not yet.

5. When we look forward to our final restoration, we are viewing life with "kingdom eyes." What circumstances are you currently walking in that could use "kingdom eyesight"? How can your circumstance(s) be used as a light to draw others to the King?

Leader, please close your group-time by emphasizing these two truths:

- *The age in which we live is an "inbetween" time. This present age is not the end of the biblical story. And the circumstances in which your group might find themselves - abandoned by a loved one, battling illnesses, or carrying around financial regret - are not the final chapters in their story Daughters of the King.*
- *God has an important role for each woman in your group in his story for the world. The title Daughter of the King comes with the awesome responsibility to be a light, representing God to the nations so that others might be drawn to the King (1 Pet. 2:9).*

Chapter 9: The King's Priests

1. How do we become a Daughter of the King, restored to our role as a representation and representative of the King? Did you have anything to do with your royal title and position?

Answer: You and I became Daughters of the King solely because of a middle man, a mediator. The King we serve acted as our mediator, inviting us into the Father's throne room based on his royal status. We are tapped as an heir to the throne, not because of gifts, talents, or good behavior, but because the King gave us royal clothing to wear and adopted us into his royal family (Is. 61:10). We are given the title 'Daughter of the King' based on the activity of the King.

2. Turn to the Table of Contents in your Bible. What does each section of the biblical story we've studied so far say about your identity as a Daughter of the King? (Hint: Review the conclusion of each chapter and the 'My Story' sections).

*Answer: In the **Law**, God established a restful pattern for our lives in which we act as the King's sub-regents on earth. This is God's plan for his kingdom (God's people living in God's place under God's rule and blessing). But because of sin, the image of God has been distorted in each of the King's daughters, and the rest of the biblical story is the story of how God is at work to restore both mankind and all creation to its original state.*

*In the **History Books**, God still allows his daughters to participate in his plan of salvation calling them to be a holy priesthood (Ex. 19:6). But for most of Israel, the role of son and daughter of the King was too difficult to bear.*

*In the **Writings and the Prophets**, God calls his people to submit to the rule of the King, not just for their own good, but so that their lives might stand as a light to the unbelieving nations surrounding them (Isa. 43:20-1). The prophets give Daughters of the King great hope as they prophesy that one day they'll receive the permanent and perfect blessings of dwelling with the King.*

*In the **Gospels**, Daughters of the King receive the good news that the much-anticipated restoration of all the King's subjects and his kingdom begins with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As the perfect and final mediator, Jesus literally acted as our middle man, giving his daughters unhindered access to the throne of God.*

*In the book of **Acts**, Jesus sends a Helper to the earth (the Holy Spirit) to encourage and equip his daughters in their calling as his sub-regents.*

3. How is Christ the better High Priest? (See Heb. 4:14-16; 9:11-15). What is the significance of having Jesus Christ as our permanent and eternal priest?

Answer: The author of Hebrews reveals that Christ is the better High Priest. In his priestly duties, Christ acted as the middle man, the mediator, representing us to God. And because he is eternal, his activity as an effective mediator is eternal as well. As a result, man and God may dwell directly and intimately together forever!

Since Scripture is clear that Christ's work as a priest on our behalf is finished, completed, and eternal, there is no longer any need for additional sacrifices. Likewise, Christ eternally represents us to the Father. So, there is no longer a need for any other human mediators between man and God. Christ is our eternal mediator. It's why the author of Hebrews says that we can approach the "throne of grace" and God himself with great boldness (Heb. 4:16). As Daughters of the King, no more barriers exist in our relationship with our Father; you and I have unhindered access to the King.

4. If Christ is the perfect, final High Priest, then why do the Epistles tell us that the King's daughters are also priests? (See 1 Pet. 2:5-9).

Answer: Despite having a final and eternal mediator, Scripture still calls all of us as his daughters to be a holy priesthood of believers. What is God's purpose in calling us a holy nation, a royal priesthood? "...that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Pet. 2:5-9).

As priests, we are to draw others to Christ. We no longer do this by representing the people to the Father (because Christ does that for us eternally), but by serving and ministering in other ways – by praying for one another, by doing good works, and by encouraging one another in living holy lives.

5. Being a Daughter of the King speaks not only to what we'll gain in the end (a royal inheritance) and where we'll sit (by our King!) but also to the loving way God views each of his daughters. Are you secure in the belief that God loves you, or do you rate God's feelings for you according to your circumstances?

Leaders: Please listen carefully to the answers shared by your group. Direct them to trust in God's Word regarding the security of their position before the throne – and not feelings, circumstances, media, cultural beliefs, and what others around them have told them or are currently telling them. They are valued, cherished, loved daughters because of the King to whom they are related. God doesn't love them more because of gifts, talents, skills, and he doesn't love them less because of mistakes, wounds, or foolish actions. Above all, the unshakeable reality of our identity as Daughters of the King is rooted in the King himself. And because he is priceless and spotless, and we bear his image, then we are viewed as priceless and spotless as well. The biblical story is indeed a love story; the story of how the King loved his daughters so much that he restored us to the glory in which we once stood.

Chapter 10: The Kingdom at Rest

1. How many of the promises made to Abraham does Christ fulfill?

Answer: All the promises of God made to Abraham are fulfilled in Christ.

2. The book of Revelation paints a vivid picture of the King when he returns at the end of the biblical story to restore his kingdom. Describe the King in Revelation 5:5-12. (Consider who he is, where he is sitting, what his subjects are doing and saying about him).

Answer: Rev. 5:5 describes the figure sitting on the throne as "...the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David..." Many of the titles used in this passage have served as flags, marking our path through the biblical story.

Here's a quick recap. In chapter 3, we learned that it would be through the tribe of Judah that the royal Seed would come (Gen. 49). In chapter 5, we learned that this promise of a coming, royal Seed would find fulfillment in the house of David. All these royal titles are combined with the image of a sacrificial lamb (Rev. 5:6) and link the King to the portrait of the Old Testament Messiah (Is. 53). In Revelation, the King is revealed to be the Passover Lamb, the Lion of Judah, and the Seed of David. There is no doubt that he is the Seed of salvation promised throughout the biblical story. This is the figure with which we reign as his daughters and co-heirs, for no other reason than his death on our behalf.

3. The book of Revelation also describes the King's kingdom as it will be when it is finally restored. According to Rev. 5:13, what does this final kingdom look like? Consider who inhabits it and what they are doing.

Answer: Among the kingdom's inhabitants, we see not only Israel, but people from all tongues, tribes, and nations. This is the masterpiece God intended when he created Adam and Eve for a restful life in his garden. This is the picture he painted for Abraham who would bear the promise of salvation to all people. This is the portrait God wanted his sons and daughters to become: priests to the nations. The King's kingdom is a place for all those who trust in him.

If the final kingdom is a place where the King's servants perfectly reflect their King, then the glory of throne room of the King will be unparalleled! It won't matter where you came from or what your past looked like, how well you can sing, what language you speak, what size dress you wear, or if you lived uptown or downtown or somewhere in the middle. The throne room

Daughters of the King: Finding Your Place in the Biblical Story

Discussion Questions & Leader's Guide © Melissa Deming

For a free downloadable workbook, please visit <http://hiveresources.com/book/>

will burst with Daughters of the King from different cultures and countries – all unified by the King.

4. How does the King restore rest to all creation and us - as his daughters? (Review Rev. 20 if needed).

Answer: The book of Revelation tells us that it is only through judgment that rest can be stored. Scripture is clear. Christ is coming again for his people to complete their restoration (1 John 3:2). But in order for the King's kingdom to be fully restored, all sin and evil must be removed first.

The book of Revelation speaks of many different events occurring at the end of the age, but there are two actions God takes as part of his judgment: the King defeats evil (Rev. 20:7-10), and the King judges the nations (Rev. 20:11-15). God clearly communicates to us what it means to be separated from him, and we see the horrific nature of that separation in this passage. It is against the horror of sin that God warned Adam and Eve in the garden, and it is for the horror of sin that Christ laid down his life on the cross.

5. In this study, we've discovered that the Bible is one, unified story all hinging on the person and work of the King and how the King goes about restoring us to his kingdom. If someone were to ask you to summarize the story of the Bible – and your role in it - in 30 seconds, what would you say?

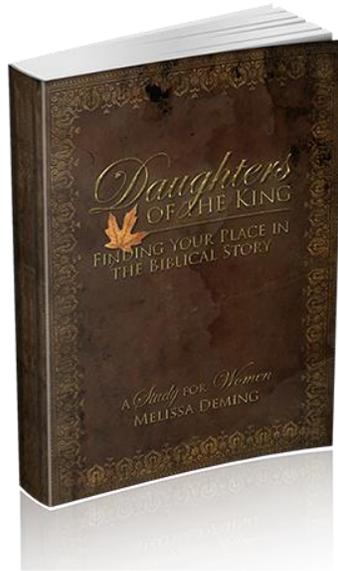
Answer: This is the story of the Bible - a good King created a good world, and although it was corrupted by sin, he is at work to completely restore it through His Son, Jesus Christ.

And as Daughters of the King, we are given the precious task to serve the King by being a light to the nations so that others might be drawn to the King and into his kingdom.

Thank you for taking this journey through the biblical story with me. If you've been touched or changed by learning about and applying the depths of this love story to your life, please email me at info@hiveresources.com. I'd love to hear from you!

With all the King's Love,

Melissa Deming



Where can I buy the book?

Buy the [Kindle version on Amazon](#) for \$4.99

Or [Buy the PDF for \\$4.99](#)

Get 30% off of the PDF during launch week with the code FALL13

Fall Read-Along

This fall, I'm hosting a *Daughters of the King* read-along at Hive Resources. We'll look at one chapter each week! Come with your questions, insight, and link up your post!

Note to churches: Churches may download this file to print and distribute to small groups, Sunday School classes, or women's Bible studies. However, I ask that individuals do not share this file directly with others. If you wish to share this file with someone, please direct them to Hive Resources where they may download their own free copy. Inquiries can be made to info@hiveresources.com.

Daughters of the King: Finding Your Place in the Biblical Story
Discussion Questions & Leader's Guide © Melissa Deming
For a free downloadable workbook, please visit <http://hiveresources.com/book/>