

Today is Christ the King Sunday and it is also our final day of our stewardship emphasis. When we proclaim that Jesus the Christ is King, we are saying that he rules in our lives as a good, just king would rule. But when we say that, have you ever stopped to think about what it actually means? Let's be honest on this. Christ the King has been celebrated since 1926, but do we really live out our proclamation?

To say Christ is King is to say that Christ Jesus reigns in our minds where we believe and trust in the doctrines of Christ. We embrace that Jesus was and currently is the son of God who came and gave his life so that we may live.

To say Christ is King is to say that he reigns in our wills. In other words, we should obey the laws of God in everything thing we do. If we just look at the 10 Commandments, we seem to fail pretty miserably there.

To say Christ is King is to say that he reigns in our hearts which would keep us from embracing our own selfish desires and instead cause us to love God above all things.

To say Christ is King is to say that he reigns in our bodies so that we may serve as instruments of justice for God. In other words, God will use us for ministry.

When we proclaim Christ as King, we are saying that he is a part of our very being; that he is so ingrained in who we are that we cannot possibly separate him from us. As we live and in all that we do, it is our goal to do so as Christ Jesus would.

Jesus looked with compassion and love upon all people. And as our King, he expects us to do the same. We are called to serve and help those in need as we are able. As disciples of Christ, we are called to a life of service and there are thousands of ways in which we can do so.

For the past couple of weeks, we have been talking about giving our whole self to God. As we give of our time, talents and resources, then ministry happens. When we give of ourselves, God uses us. Everything we give as a whole is gathered together and used to bring hope to our communities and the world.

That is actually what it means to proclaim Jesus the Christ as king of your life. You give back part of what God has blessed you with in thanksgiving for all that God has done for you.

At this time, I invite you to bring your gifts: your time and talent sheets and your pledge card and offer them to God's glory for ministry in 2016.