

# GOSPEL PRESENTATION

## Three Crowns

"Where did I come from? "Why am I here? Where am I going?" These are three important questions everyone thinks about, eventually. The answers can be found in a story called 'The 3 Crowns.' It summarizes the main story of the Bible, which reveals the true and perfect record of humanity's origin, purpose and destiny.

The story of 3 Crowns begins with God, because the first four words in the Bible are "'In the beginning God.'" The first crown represents God; He is King over all creation. Before anything existed, God was there. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and present everywhere. God spoke and, out of nothing, He created the heavens and the earth. He created everything everywhere. Because of this He is in authority of all things. God is love and He made humanity in His image so that we could love, worship, and glorify God forever.

### CROWN 2 MAN

The problem is that we have chosen to turn and go our own way. In our pride, we rejected God's plan for our lives, we rebelled against the authority of God's crown and we crowned ourselves. This is the second crown. We have made ourselves king. The Bible calls this sin. Sin separates us from God. The penalty for our sin is death, both physical and spiritual. Our sin has brought a curse on creation and brokenness into the world. Sadness, sickness, suffering, and pain now touch all our lives. The final separation, as a result of our self-rule, is a Godless eternity in hell.

### CROWN 3 CHRIST

The good news is that God so loved the world that he sent His Son, Jesus, into the world. He came from heaven to save us and to shine His light into our darkened hearts. Jesus taught us that by following Him as King we could have a relationship with God and, one day, live in His Kingdom forever. He challenged us to love God and others first. He used his great power to heal our sadness, sickness, suffering, and pain. Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life and then He died on a cross, offering His life as payment for the debt we owe due to our rebellion against God. His sacrifice not only demonstrates His absolute love for us but it also pays the price of sin and removes the curse of separation from God for all who believe.

Miraculously, three days after Jesus died and was buried in a tomb, He was raised to life again; defeating sin, death, and the powers of darkness. Then, He ascended to heaven and was restored to His former glory at the right hand of God the Father. Jesus now rules and reigns over God's Kingdom as Lord of all. This is the third crown. Christ is King. God has sent His Spirit to open hearts and minds to this Good News. His Spirit also empowers and encourages those who follow Jesus as King to fulfill His mission to love the world and spread this story through His Church.

### RESPONSE TURN & TRUST

So, which circle reflects your spiritual condition? Are you wearing the crown? Or is Christ the King and Savior of your life? To move from the right circle to the left, you must first turn from depending

upon yourself, because you can never earn God's forgiveness through your own good works. Instead you must trust in Jesus Christ. You must trust what Jesus accomplished for you through his sinless life, sacrificial death, and triumphant resurrection. This is the only way you can be raised to life spiritually and have a restored relationship with God. You must remove the crown from your head and come to Jesus for forgiveness.

### **WHICH CIRCLE WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE IN?**

The Bible says, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13). You can call out to the Lord Jesus right now, through prayer, and ask Him to save you. Pray something like this: "Lord Jesus, I believe that you are the Son of God and Savior of the world. Today I turn from my way to yours. I take the crown off my head and come to you as King. Thank you for loving me. I trust in your death and risen life to cancel my sin, raise me to new life, and restore me to God now and forever. Fill me with your Spirit and make me a new person. In your name, Jesus, I pray. Amen."