



SERMON GUIDE

## THE CHURCH & THE NATIONS

Psalm 2; Acts 4:23-31; John 18:36

Pastor | Tim Prince

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Faith Community Church | fccudson.com

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- Scripture that stands out to you while you read
- Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you
- Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- Prayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

### Conversation Questions

**Getting to Know Me:** Have you ever been surprised by unexpected evidence or proof of something you didn't believe? How did that experience affect your perspective and what did you learn?

### Read Psalm 2; Acts 4:23-31; John 18:36

- S** What do you love most about what you just read? What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** Try to imagine the scene in verses 1-3. What do you see? How is the relationship between God and the nations and rulers poetically described?
- O** How is God's response depicted in v.4-6? Why do you think he is depicted this way? What value would this kind of depiction bring and to whom?
- O** What impact do you think "I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill" is meant to have on the listener/reader?
- O** This Psalm is about Jesus (see Acts 4:25-28; Heb.1:5) and in it, we are reminded that the nations are his heritage. How does Jesus conquer the nations?
  - o** Read Colossians 2:13-15 in light of Psalm 2:8.
  - o** Read Revelation 19:14-16 in light of Psalm 2:9
- O** What is the invitation and warning in v.10-12?
- A** What applies to your life and heart from the observations you made above?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** Jesus receives the nations as his inheritance through the preaching of the gospel. The Church preaches the gospel, and many people who were once his enemies lay down their arms and come running to King Jesus. Does this understanding of our role in history convict, challenge, or comfort you? Why?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.