



GEEKS UNDER GRACE

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Aquaman (2018) | A King for Everyone | BIBLE STUDY

Facilitator Note: We encourage facilitators to take this Bible study and expound on it throughout the week, allowing it to be a springboard for deeper conversation and personal meditation.

PRESS START

Early on in the film, we see an example of how Arthur's abilities crossed into everyday life. Then, we get to see how he used those abilities for the greater good.

If you had the abilities of Aquaman, how would you use them for your daily life?

EQUIP

Mera asks Arthur what would be better than a King because a King fights for his nation. She answers her own question by telling Arthur Atlantis needs a hero because a hero fights for everyone. However, Christ happens to be a King with that heroic quality.

Not only did Christ live and die for us, he spent his time with people from all walks of life. One example of this is **Mark 2: 13-17** in which he sat with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus went places others would consider to be out of their comfort zone or never be seen in, all to reach people in need of a savior.

Have you ever found yourself amongst a crowd or in a place you didn't feel comfortable with? What was the situation like and how did you feel by the end of it?

Arthur didn't care about the events that were unfolding in Atlantis, but became concerned when a threat was made to the surface—he chose to defend the planet over his own desires. Christ didn't walk this planet because the entire world needed saving beyond one group of people.

LEVEL UP

Despite the ways of the Atlantians, Arthur spared the life of his brother and showed him mercy after his defeat. Too often we enjoy seeing the failure and defeat of one group or person we feel deserved it. Do they deserve it, or can they be shown mercy and grace?

Matthew 5:43-48 asks what we would gain from showing hatred towards our enemies. Atlantis did not have the mindset that us "surface dwellers" inhabit the same planet and only looked at us for the destruction we cause. Mera was able to see a different side of the story that her people always believed.

What are some examples of topics known to have conflicting sides? Is it possible for these groups to make a compromise or see eye to eye?

If the world could learn to love one another like we are commanded to in **Mark 12:31**, it would be a better place. We can pray for that to happen one day, but for that to happen it starts with us. Treating others as we want to be treated like our parents once told us is a great place to start.

MOD

In the movie, Arthur challenged Orm to save Atlantis, but that isn't how we get things done in real life. Many thought Jesus came to abolish the laws and commandments prophets once taught, but he tells us in **Matthew 5:17** he came to do the opposite.

Then we look back at **Mark 12:17** and see Jesus' response when asked whether people should pay their taxes. Those who asked the question were surprised at his response. Christ came to overthrow the power of sin, not any form of government or laws that had already been established.

Was there ever an authority figure you didn't like growing up, such as a teacher, a boss, or an older relative? Is there any advice or wisdom they provided you currently apply to your own life?

Christ is a king for everyone—that horrible boss, mean teacher, and those government officials we don't like. He came to resolve conflict instead of creating more, and taught us to show love through our actions in **Romans 12:17-21**. Overcoming evil with evil in any aspect is counterproductive, but overcoming with good creates a longer lasting impact with positive results.

PRAY

As we close in prayer, pray for our enemies that trespass against us that we may hold any anger against. Then, let us pray for relatives and friends that may not know the love of Christ. Pray those who inhabit his earth will one day learn Christ is a King for everyone.

THE NEXT LEVEL

In **Matthew 10:8**, we are commanded to give back as Christ gave to us. Find a place in your community in which you can serve others; preferably one out of your comfort zone.

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