



FOLLOW: Citizens of A Great Kingdom

First DISCIPLESHIP
FOLLOW JESUS

“ ¹⁴ Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ ‘The time has come,’ he said. ‘The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!’”
~ MARK 1:14b-15 (NIV)

Discipleship begins with a great _____ (*Follow Me*), is rooted in a great _____ (*Love God, Love Others*), as citizens of a great _____ !

Jesus and the Good News of the Kingdom: _____ *euangelium*.

- “ After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him.” ~ LUKE 8:1 (NIV)
- “ When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.” ~ LUKE 9:1-2 (NIV)
- “ He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.” ~ ACTS 1:3b (NIV)
- “ (Paul) proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!” ~ ACTS 28:31 (NIV)

It can be said the central message of Jesus’ ministry is the Good News of the Kingdom of God!

Kingdom referred to by Jesus _____ .

The Mysterious Nature of The Kingdom of God

When? _____ . Compare Mark 1:14 to Matthew 16:28 or 26:29

What? The Kingdom starts _____ , seems _____ and _____ when it is allowed to flourish.

- “ ¹⁸ Then Jesus asked, ‘What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to?’ ¹⁹ It is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his garden. It grew and became a tree, and the birds perched in its branches.” ~ LUKE 13:18-19 (NIV)
- “ ²⁰ Again he asked, ‘What shall I compare the kingdom of God to?’ ²¹ It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.” ~ LUKE 13:20-21 (NIV)

Value? _____ .

- “ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” ~ MATTHEW 6:33 (NIV)

Key Characteristics of the Kingdom of God

1. The Kingdom of God is an _____ .

- “ ³ Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
⁵ Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
⁷ Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

~ MATTHEW 5:3-10 (NIV)

Counter Cultural Values in the Sermon on the Mount:

- Love and pray for your enemies.
- Forgive those who have wronged you.
- Don't worry about material possessions.
- Give generously.
- Turn the other cheek.
- Go the extra mile.
- Be humble in how you practice your faith.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD:

Humility

Love

Generosity

Self Sacrifice

Serve Others

THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD:

Pride

Force

Greed

Self Protection

Self Promotion

2. Our Job as Disciples is to Bring What's Up There, _____ .

“ Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” ~ MATTHEW 6:9-10 (NIV)

“ ²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. ²⁴ News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them.”

~ MATTHEW 4:23-24 (NIV)

3. Becoming a citizen of the Kingdom starts with knowing Jesus as _____ of your life.

“ ²¹ Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'"

~ MATTHEW 7:21-23 (NIV)

So What

Become a Kingdom Bringer!

DISCUSSION Questions: COMMUNITY GROUP VIDEOS available on the APP |     Roku

1 - Who did you first hear the Gospel from? Where and how?

2 - How would you describe the Gospel to someone?

3 - Read Mark 1:14b-15, Luke 8:1, Luke 9:1-2, Acts 1:3b, Acts 28:31.
How would you describe the Gospel of the Kingdom?

4 - Pastor Glen suggested that the Kingdom of God can be somewhat mysterious. Do you agree or disagree? Why or why not? Review in your notes what is "mysterious about it."

5 - Would you agree or disagree with the statement that the Kingdom of God is an Upside Down Kingdom? Why or why not?

6 - Read Matthew 6:9-10. What does it teach us about the Kingdom. What does it mean to "make the up there come down here?"

7 - How can you help live in and bring the Kingdom of God to others this week?

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