

# CHRIST

What new thing did you learn from this week's reading?

What stood out the most to you from the reading?

Take a moment to read & reflect upon favorite passages from this week's part of the story?

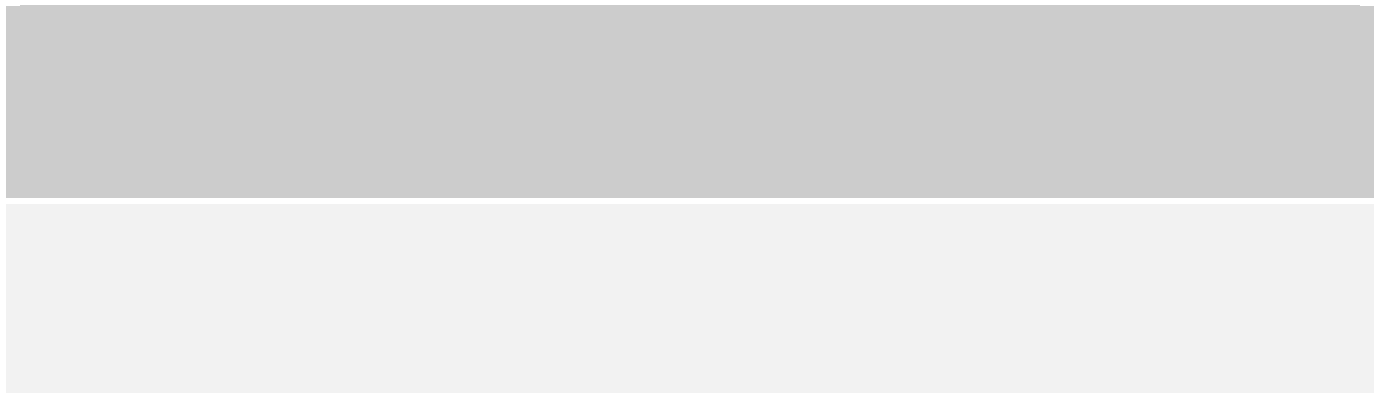
## THE STORY CONTINUES

**Matthew 5-7, 13; Mark 4-8; Luke 3-7, 15**

Three horizontal gray bars stacked vertically, intended for reflection or writing.

# THE GOSPEL

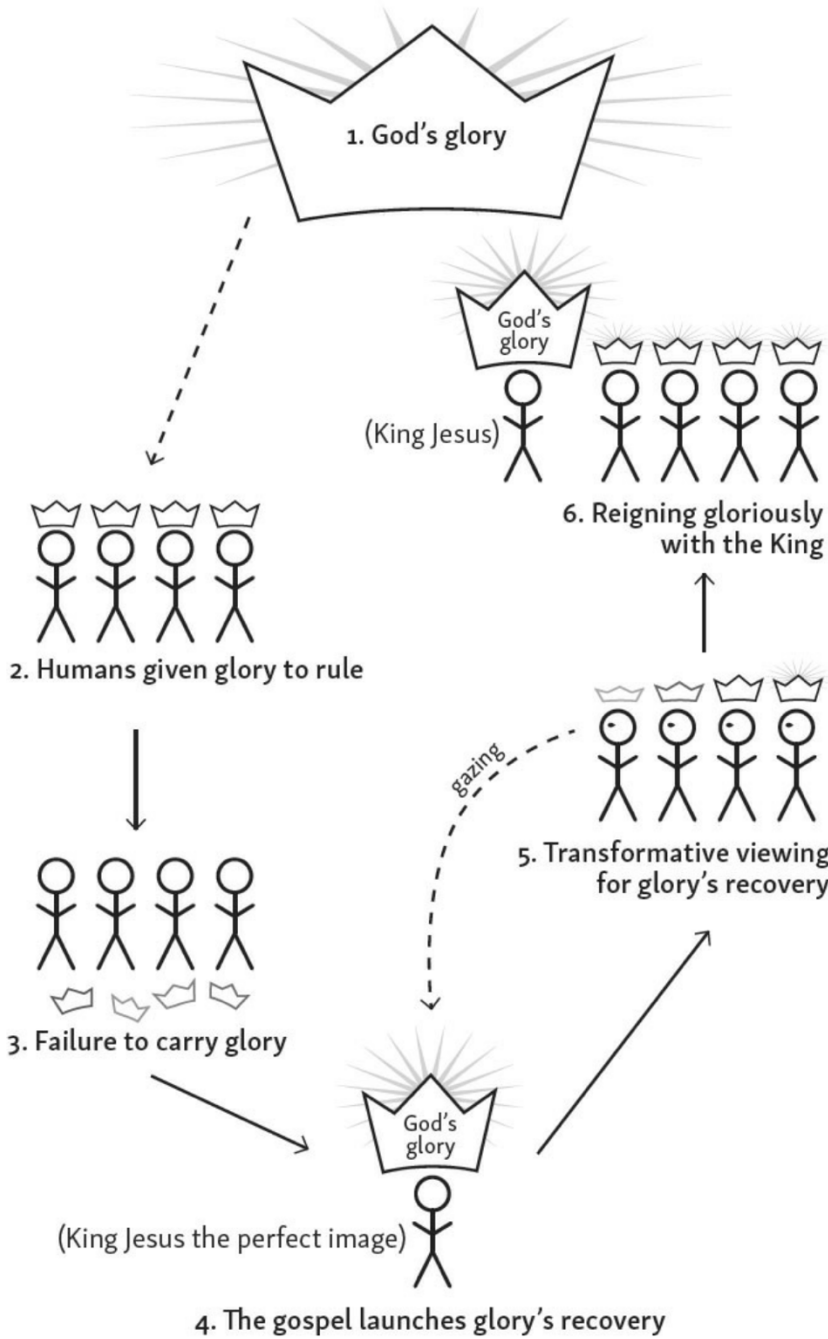
The term εὐαγγέλιον was used at the time of the Roman Empire to herald the “good news” of the arrival of a kingdom - the reign of a king that brought a war to an end (Ex. Octavian over Anthony)<sup>1</sup>, so that all people of the world who surrendered and pledged allegiance to this king would be granted salvation from destruction.



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<sup>1</sup> Wright, N. T. *Simply Good News: Why the Gospel Is News and What Makes It Good*. New York, NY: HarperCollins, 2015. Pg 10-11.

# GLORY CYCLE



Taken from: Matthew W. Bates. *Why the Gospel? Living the Good News of King Jesus with Purpose*. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2023.

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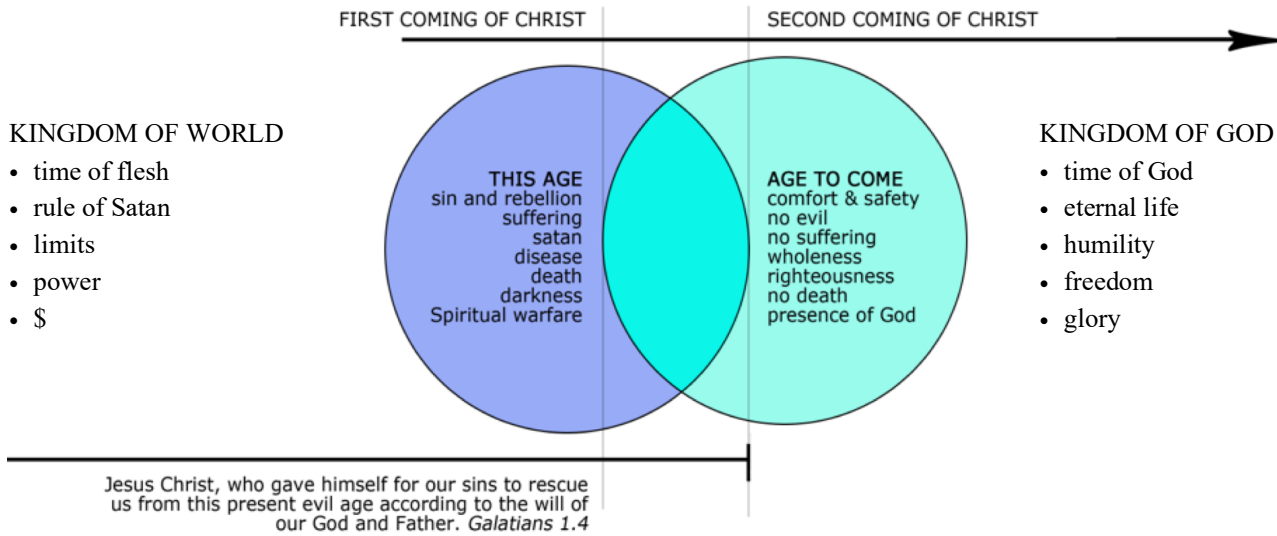
# KINGDOM OF GOD

Jesus went into Galilee and proclaimed the gospel of God.<sup>5</sup> He said, “The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the gospel!” Mark 1.14b-15

According to Scot McKnight’s book *Kingdom Conspiracy*, the kingdom of God has 5 elements summarized here:

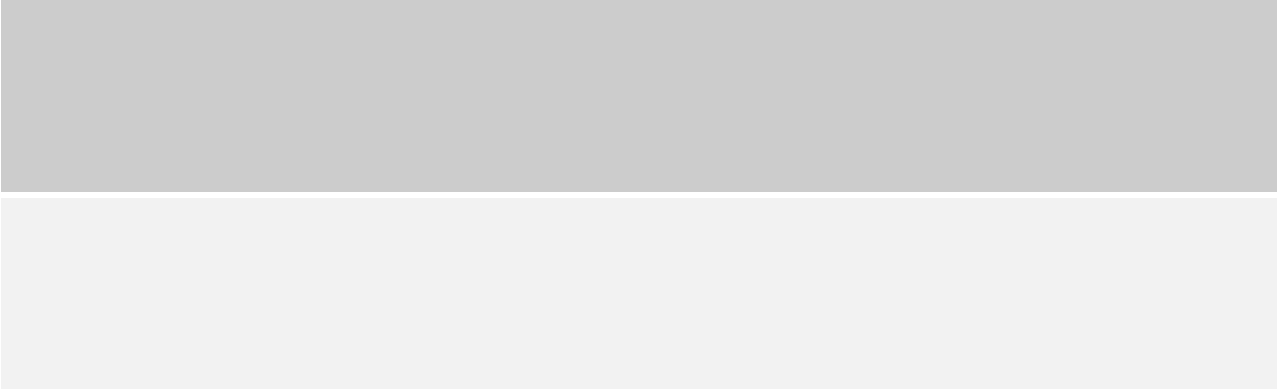
1. God--the Lord of the kingdom. The King.
2. Redemption/ Lordship of the kingdom. A rule or governing.
3. People of the kingdom – a people – a church people.
4. Ethic of the kingdom – law, a way of life. Instruction. Teaching. A way to live. Life in the Spirit to know how to live.
5. Territory of the kingdom. – a land. A place. A sacred place, developed in the NT by wherever the people of God take up residency.

# KINGDOM OF GOD CON'T

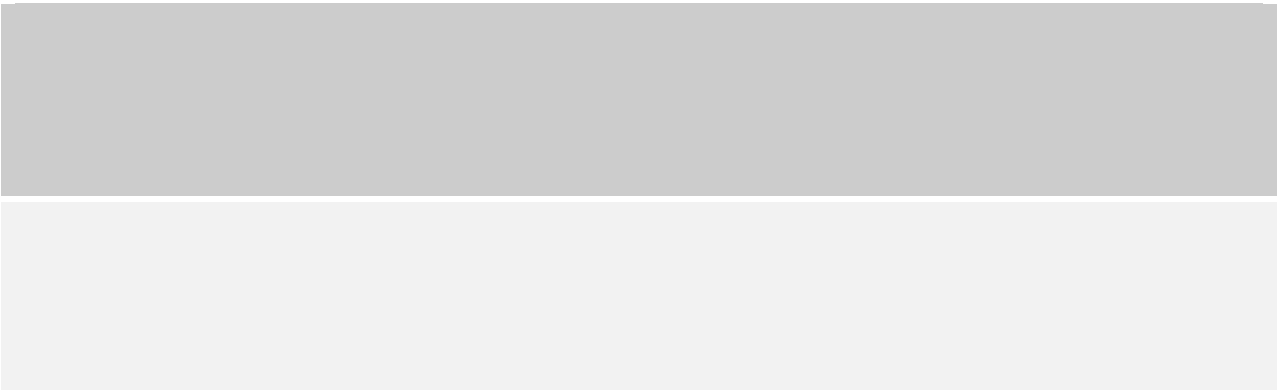


L. Ann Jervis has challenged this tradition view of time in her book *Paul and Time*. Believers have access to the exalted Christ's own temporality by virtue of their life in Christ. Paul frames the believer's life in union with Christ. There are two types of time: life-time and death-time. Our union with Christ enters the believer into life-time. This union breaks the believer free from death-time.

# PARABLES



# MIRACLES



# HOMework

## Memorize

- Mark 10.45

## Biblical Text (Choose 1)

- Mark 8-10 / Complete Writing Assignment 13-3 pg 182.
- Luke 9-19 / Complete Writing Assignment 13-4 pg 182.
- John 5-12 / Complete Writing Assignment 13-1 pg 182.

## Biblical Text (Choose 1)

- Matthew 19-27 / Complete Writing Assignment 14-1 pg 206.
- Luke 20-23
- John 11-19 / Complete Writing Assignment 14-3 pg 206.

## Read

- Duvall/ Hays – *Living God's Word*, Chapter 13, pg 165-174.
- Duvall/ Hays – *Living God's Word*, Chapter 14, pg 183-205.

## Complete

- OPTIONAL – Kingdom of God primer
- OPTIONAL – Writing Assignment 13-2 – Table Fellowship
- OPTIONAL – Writing Assignment 14-3 – Peter's Denial pg 206.
- OPTIONAL – Writing Assignment 14-4 – Seven Last Words pg 206.

# KINGDOM OF GOD PRIMER

1. What do you currently know about the kingdom of God? (For example, How would you describe it? Who are its citizens? What is its purpose?) Write here your description of the kingdom.

## The King and His Realm

2. How is God's kingly authority described in the following verses?

Ex.15:1-21

Ps.99:1-5

Is.40:10-26

3. What stands out to you in these Old Testament descriptions of a coming King?

Psalm 2

Is.9:6-7

4. In what ways did Jesus exercise His royal authority on earth?

Mt.12:22.28

Mk.4:35.41

Jn. 13:3-5

5. What do the following passages tell you about Christ's kingly reign?

1 Cor. 15:20-28

Eph. 1:9-10

Phil. 2:9-11

Rev. 19.11-16

6. What do you believe is an appropriate response to a King such as this?

7. What has been your personal response to Jesus as King?



## The King's Teaching

8. The bulk of Jesus' teaching directly concerned the kingdom of God. Much of the time, He taught with parables-stories or illustrations that made a single point about His kingdom. Below are references to 16 kingdom parables. Choose eight to read; then summarize each in a sentence or two.

Mt 13.1-23

Mt 13:24-30,36-43

Mt 13.31-32

Mt. 13:33

Mt.13:44

Mt.13:45-46

Mt.13:47-52

Mt. 18:1-9

Mt. 18:21-35

Mt 20:1-16

Mt 21:33-46

Mt 22:1-14

Mt.25:1-13

Mt 25:31-46

Mk.4:26-29

Lk.19:11-27

9. Taken together, what have these parables taught you about the kingdom?

10. What did Jesus teach about the kingdom in the following verses?

Mt.4:17

Mt.12:28

Mt. 16:19

Mt.19:23-24

Mk.9:1

Mk.12:34

Mk.14:25

Lk.4:43

Lk.9:62

Lk.12:37-32

Lk.16:16

Lk.17:20-21

Lk.18:29-30

Acts 1:6-7

11. What new insight did you gain about the kingdom from the verses above?

## **The Apostles' Emphasis**

12. The apostles also made the kingdom a centerpiece of their teaching. What additional truths about the kingdom do you discover in the following verses?

Ro. 14:17

1 Cor. 4:20

1 Cor 6.9-10

Heb.12:28-29

Jas.2:5

Rev. 5:10

Rev. 11:15

Rev. 12:10

13. How do we balance a “kingdom focus” with a “church focus” or “people focus?”

14. What do you think are the unique challenges of maintaining a kingdom focus (for example, "The kingdom is invisible")?

## **Citizenship in the Kingdom**

15. In Matthew 5-7, Jesus describes the values and procedures of the kingdom of God. Use a pen or highlighter to mark these references to the kingdom in your Bible (or list words or phrases from this passage that refer to the kingdom on a separate sheet of paper).

16. What do citizens of the kingdom consider important as they make choices and decisions?

17. How do we get into the kingdom? Who is in it?

18. How do kingdom citizens view money and possessions? In what ways do material things pose a danger or risk to kingdom citizens?

## **Summing It Up**

20. How has your understanding about the kingdom changed from what you wrote in question 1?

21. How does what you've learned about the kingdom affect the way you define success?  
excellence?

22. What new questions do you now have about the kingdom?

23. What new insights have you gained?

24. Complete the following statement: If I were to live more like a citizen of  
God's kingdom, I would need to:

25. How has Living God's Word helped you live as a kingdom citizen?