Weekend Message Questions
The Kingdom, Week 5: The Upside-Down Kingdom
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Check-In: What's something you once thought you absolutely needed to be happy or successful, but now realize wasn't nearly as important as you thought?

Section 1: Living for God's Approval

Read Matthew 6:1–4

Kingdom people live for the Father's approval, not people's applause.

1. Jesus warns us about doing good things for the wrong reasons. Why do you think it's so easy to become focused on how others perceive us, even when we're doing something good?
2. What is the difference between doing something to be noticed by others and doing something out of genuine love for God?
3. How might our relationships, generosity, or spiritual habits look different if we were more concerned with God's approval than the recognition of others?

Section 2: Investing in What Lasts

Read Matthew 6:19–24

Kingdom people invest in what lasts, not just what they can accumulate.

1. Jesus says, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." What do you think He means by this, and how do our priorities reveal what we treasure?
2. Our culture often measures success by what we own, earn, or accomplish. How does Jesus challenge that definition of success in this passage?
3. Generosity is about more than money. What are some practical ways we can invest our time, talents, relationships, and resources in things that have eternal significance?

Section 3: Trusting God With Tomorrow

Read Matthew 6:25–34

Kingdom people trust their Father more than they fear the unknown.

1. Jesus points to the birds and flowers as reminders of God's care. What do these examples teach us about His character and how He sees us?
2. Why is it sometimes difficult to trust God with our future, even when we've experienced His faithfulness in the past?
3. In verse 33, Jesus tells us to seek first His Kingdom. What does that look like practically when we're making decisions about our finances, families, careers, or future?

Section 4: Personal Reflection — Putting the King First

1. Of the three priorities discussed in this message—worth, wealth, and worry—which one do you find yourself struggling with most in this season of life? Why?
2. What's one area of your life where you sense God inviting you to surrender control or rearrange your priorities?
3. The message ended with the question, "What have You entrusted to me that You want to use for Your Kingdom?" What comes to mind when you consider that question, and what might taking a step of obedience look like this week?

Closing Prayer

As a group, pray that God would help you recognize the ways you've allowed the world's priorities to compete with His Kingdom. Thank Him for the love, provision, and generosity He's already shown through Jesus. Ask Him to free you from the need for others' approval, help you invest in what has eternal value, and give you greater trust in His provision for tomorrow. Pray that your group would become people who live generously with everything God has entrusted to you, so that others might experience His love through your lives.

Need prayer outside of the group? Submit a request here