



Week 2- “The Upside Down Kingdom”

In this series we are going to dive into one of the most incredible talks Jesus ever gave: “The Sermon on the Mount”. When Jesus arrived He knew that our attempts at lasting change, and growth doesn’t lead to the life we all strive for. This seems to come up at the start of a New Year when we set new resolutions to do and be better than the year before. In this week’s message we ask the question: “If Jesus brought a new Kingdom, how do we practically live in it?”

1. What stood out to you in the message?
2. How important is power, comfort, success, and recognition to you?
3. Are you able to recognize when you are striving to be defined by these things?

Read Luke 6:20-25

In God’s Kingdom Jesus describes 4 things that the world strives to avoid: weakness, discomfort, grief, and exclusion. Jesus says that in His Kingdom we are blessed when we experience these things.

4. In what ways do you strive to avoid these things?
5. Are you able to recognize when you are trying to avoid these things?

Christianity teaches that when we find our ultimate value in Christ, and His kingdom then we don’t fall apart when we bump into our weakness, discomfort, grief, or exclusion.

6. What does it say about God's heart for you that He provides transcendent happiness no matter the circumstances?

7. How would you answer the question: Which Kingdom defines me?

8. Why do you think it is important to ask yourself this question often?

9. What do you think it practically looks like to live in His kingdom?

Christianity clearly teaches that when we put our faith in Jesus we are defined by Him, and what He has done. When we choose to live in His Kingdom we are no longer controlled by what the world values, and instead we are blessed no matter our circumstances. With Jesus' Spirit in us we can find real life and hope today as we look to Him.