

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

“Six Traits of the Kingdom of Heaven” – Pastor Chad Gilligan

4.21.24

1) Have you ever traveled out of the country? What was a cultural difference between where you traveled and home?

Read Matthew 10:1-7 – “Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. 2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. 6 Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. 7 As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’”

2) How do we know the kingdom of Heaven is near?

Read John 20:30-31 – “Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

3) What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit’s empowerment?

4) Has the Holy Spirit led you to do something for someone else? What was it and what happened?

Read 1 Samuel 16:7 – “But the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.’”

5) How do you feel knowing that God chooses ordinary people?

6) What extraordinary things have you seen accomplished by ordinary people?

Read Colossians 4:5-6 – “Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. 6 Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.”

7) What does this passage teach us about our role in reaching the lost?

Prayer: Take time to pray for the needs of your group.