

# Kingdom: The King

January 19, 2020

**Scriptures:** Mark 1:14-15; Luke 17:21; John 1:14; James. 1:17; 1 Jn. 4:7-12;  
Ps. 24:1, 103:9.

**Bottom Line:** We grow in our awareness of the Kingdom of God when we understand the character of the King

## Our King is a Creator - Col. 1:15-17

Jesus' creative power is everywhere, and it's in each one of us: seen in our imagination, ingenuity, and innovation. When we create or experience good, beautiful things, we get a glimpse of our Creator.

## Our King Embraces the Mess - John 1:14

Jesus was human: frail, weak, capable of experiencing pain, anxiety, disappointment, temptation, and brokenness. Jesus is a King who enters our messiness to show us our value and worth.

## Our King is Good - James 1:17

Eradicating disease, people lifted out of poverty, information sharing, increased literacy, declining slavery: wherever there is good, we can be sure that God had a hand in bringing it about, and we get a glimpse of the Kingdom.

## Our King is Loving - 1 John 4:7-8, 12

We experience the King and the Kingdom when we experience and extend love into His world.

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## LISTENING

Have someone in your group answer one (or more) of these questions:

- What is your biggest fear?
- What is one regret you have in your life?
- How have you experienced God's goodness in a tangible way?

After they share, tell them what you heard.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. Which of the four characteristics of God do you find most helpful for recognizing the Kingdom in your life? Which additional characteristics would you add?
3. In which ways do you see the creativity and ingenuity of God working through humans?
4. Is it harder for you to recognize God in "man-made" efforts than through the natural elements? Why/why not?
5. Given the fact that God spreads His love out generously to all people, is it necessary (or realistic) to believe that Christians should be seen as more loving than others?

## HUDDLE UP

Break into groups of 3-5 and discuss the following questions together.

1. How have you experienced God's character in your own life? Is there one experience that stands out?
2. How do you want to experience God's character in your life? Are you waiting for Him to show up in a specific way?

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