

Small Group Study Guide

What is the Kingdom of Heaven Like: Proclaiming the Messianic Message

November 29, 2025

KEY SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

- Genesis 28:14-15 (Jacob's Ladder)
- John 1:49-51 (Nathanael and the Son of Man)
- Matthew 15:24 (Sent to the lost sheep of Israel)
- Luke 2:10-14 (The angels' announcement)
- Isaiah 52:7-10 (Beautiful feet bringing good news)
- Luke 6:40 (A disciple becomes like their teacher)

DISCUSSION QUESTION

1. Before this message, what was your understanding of Messianic Judaism? How has your perspective changed or deepened?
2. Some Jewish believers are told they are "no longer Jewish" once they accept Yeshua. Why is this problematic both theologically and culturally?
3. Read Ephesians 2:11-22. How does Paul's vision of "one new man" support the idea that Jewish and Gentile believers can maintain their distinct identities while being unified in Messiah?
4. The message states that Yeshua's healings, forgiveness of sins, and fellowship with sinners were all demonstrations of the Kingdom. What does this teach us about God's priorities?
5. When Yeshua told Nathanael, "You will see greater things," what "greater things" did the disciples witness? How do these demonstrations of the Kingdom challenge our modern understanding of the Gospel?
6. How can our actions today reveal what the Kingdom of God is like to those around us?
7. Read Luke 6:40. A talmid was expected to become like their rabbi in every way. In what specific areas of your life are you becoming more like Yeshua? Where do you struggle?

8. The message asks: "How are you doing with seeing sinners being seated with Messiah?" How does this question challenge your attitudes toward people who are far from God?
9. What does it mean practically to be a disciple of Yeshua in your workplace, family, or community?
10. The angels announced "Good News" that would bring "great joy to all the people." In context, this initially referred to the Jewish people awaiting their Messiah. How does understanding the Jewish context of the Gospel enrich your appreciation of salvation?
11. Isaiah 52:7 speaks of "beautiful feet" bringing good news. How can you be someone who brings the message of shalom and redemption to both Jewish and Gentile people?
12. The message emphasizes both individual AND collective redemption. How does this corporate understanding of salvation differ from typical Western individualism? Why does it matter?

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. **The Messianic movement exists to bridge Jewish and Gentile believers**, allowing Jewish believers to retain their identity while accepting Yeshua as Messiah.
2. **Every miracle and teaching of Yeshua demonstrated what the Kingdom of God is like**—a place of healing, forgiveness, unity, and restoration.
3. **A true disciple (talmid) becomes like their rabbi**—we are called to absorb Yeshua's heart, methods, and mission.
4. **The Good News is both individual and collective**—God is redeeming a people, fulfilling His covenant promises to Israel and extending salvation to all nations.
5. **We are at a turning point in history** where the trajectories of Judaism and Christianity are converging back toward the unity of the first-century faith.