

Discussion Questions



Sermon Overview

This sermon explores how the Kingdom of Heaven relates to AI, specifically focusing on AI's creative/information capabilities and the importance of distinguishing authentic faith from what merely mimics it. The core message: AI is primarily about information, but our faith is about relationship.

Key Definition: The Kingdom of Heaven is the imminent uncertainty of God's rule—God's authority over everything, everywhere, at all times (past, present, and future).

Discussion Questions

Part 1: Understanding AI & Authenticity

1. **Before this sermon, what was your general feeling about AI?** Were you more fearful (Terminator scenario) or excited about its possibilities? Has your perspective shifted at all?
2. **The sermon showed images where only one was real.** When you encounter content online (videos, images, articles), how often do you stop to question whether it's authentic? What does this say about our society's relationship with truth?
3. **Pastor Ike mentioned we're becoming "desensitized" to AI-generated content.** Do you agree? Can you think of examples where you've justified something fake because it was useful or looked good?

Part 2: What Mimics the Kingdom?

4. **The sermon listed things that try to mimic the Kingdom of Heaven in our lives:** finances, success, influence, power. Which of these do you find yourself most tempted to submit to instead of fully submitting to God?

5. **Internal mimicry was also discussed—times when we ourselves try to mimic the Kingdom:**

- Trying to control situations
- Faking spiritual depth
- Hiding brokenness
- Serving in our own strength

Which of these resonates most with you personally? Why do we do this?

6. **Read Genesis 3:1-5 together.** How did Satan use information to deceive Eve? What techniques did he employ?

- Misquoting God
- Exaggerating restrictions
- Mixing truth with deception
- Omitting consequences

Where do you see similar tactics used today (in media, culture, or even in our own thinking)?

Part 3: Our Authentic Identity

7. **The sermon emphasized: "AI is not a person. It cannot pray, repent, or bear the image of God."** Why is this distinction important? How does it affect the way we should view AI?

8. **Elon Musk's quote raised the question: "How do we find meaning in a world where AI can do everything we can do but better?"**

- How would you answer that question?
- What's the difference between our "being" and our "doing"?
- Where does our true value come from?

9. **Review the identity verses shared at the end:**

- **Who we are in Christ:** Children of God, new creation, God's handiwork
- **Our relationship with Jesus:** Friends, inseparable from His love, Christ living in us

- **Our security:** No condemnation, chosen people, hidden with Christ in God

Which of these truths do you most need to hear right now? Why?

10. **"Imagine if Adam and Eve had leaned into their relationship with God rather than debate information with the enemy of God."** What would it look like practically for you to "lean into relationship with God" when you're tempted to rely solely on information or your own understanding?

Key Takeaways

- ✓ **AI is primarily about information; our faith is about relationship**
- ✓ **We must discern between what is authentic and what merely mimics the Kingdom of Heaven**
- ✓ **Our identity is not built on performance or information—it's built on what Jesus finished on the cross**
- ✓ **We are image-bearers of God (Imago Dei)—something AI can never be**
- ✓ **Half-truths are among the most powerful forms of deception because they seem credible**

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge:

Choose one or more of the following to practice this week:

1. **Information Audit:** Before accepting information (especially about faith, identity, or important decisions), pause and ask:

- Is this the complete truth?
- What might be missing?
- Does this align with Scripture?
- Am I leaning on information or relationship with God?

2. **Identity Reminder:** Choose one of the identity verses from the sermon and write it somewhere you'll see daily (phone lock screen, bathroom mirror, car dashboard). Meditate on it each day.
3. **Relationship Over Information:** Instead of immediately googling a spiritual question or asking AI, spend time in prayer first. Invite God into the conversation before seeking information.
4. **Authenticity Check:** Identify one area where you've been "mimicking" the Kingdom (trying to control, faking spiritual depth, hiding brokenness, serving in your own strength). Confess it to God and one trusted person. Ask for prayer and accountability.
5. **Imago Dei Reflection:** Journal about what it means that you are made in God's image. How does this truth change the way you see yourself? Your purpose? Your worth?

Closing Discussion

- **What is one specific thing God is speaking to you about through this sermon?**
- **How can we pray for each other in light of what we've discussed?**

Closing Prayer

Pray together, focusing on:

- Thanking God for our secure identity in Christ
- Asking for wisdom to discern truth from deception
- Requesting strength to lean into relationship with God over mere information
- Praying for authenticity in our walk with Jesus

Looking Ahead

Next week's sermon will focus on **AI and Efficiency** and how the Kingdom of Heaven is anything but efficient (going the extra mile, leaving the 99 for the 1, first will be last). Come prepared to discuss how God's "inefficient" ways reveal His heart and character.