

Life Group Discussion Guide

The Kingdom of God

Key Theme: Living under the rule and reign of King Jesus.

Welcome

Ask the group:

- When you hear the phrase "Kingdom of God," what comes to mind?
- Who or what most influences the decisions you make every day?
- Share about a time when you had to submit your will to God's will.

Opening Scripture

Matthew 6:9-10

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

Introduction

Jesus spoke extensively about the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom is not merely a future destination or religious concept. It is God's rule, authority, and reign being established in hearts, lives, families, communities, and ultimately throughout creation. The Kingdom grows wherever Jesus is acknowledged as King and His will is embraced.

Discussion 1: What Is the Kingdom of God?

Read

- Matthew 4:17
- Luke 17:20-21
- Matthew 6:33

Discuss

1. Based on these passages, how would you define the Kingdom of God?
2. Why do you think Jesus made the Kingdom the central focus of His ministry?
3. How is the Kingdom different from simply being involved in religion?
4. In what areas of your life is God's rule clearly evident?
5. Are there areas where you still struggle to surrender control?

Supporting Scriptures

- Romans 14:17

"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

- Psalm 103:19

"The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all."

Key Insight

The Kingdom of God is any realm where Christ rules and God's will is done. Jesus did not come merely to establish a religion but to restore God's rule in human lives.

Discussion 2: The Call to Repentance and Transformation

Read

- John 3:3-5
- Acts 2:36
- Romans 12:2

Discuss

1. Why did Jesus say we must be "born again" to see and enter the Kingdom?
2. How is repentance more than simply feeling sorry for sin?
3. What changes when Jesus becomes both Savior and Lord?
4. What areas of your life are currently being transformed by the Holy Spirit?
5. What does loyal citizenship in God's Kingdom look like practically?

Supporting Scriptures

- 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Ezekiel 36:26-27

Key Insight

Entering God's Kingdom requires more than intellectual agreement. It requires spiritual transformation, surrender, and allegiance to King Jesus.

Discussion 3: Reversing Adam's Failure

Read

- Romans 5:18-19
- Genesis 3:1-7

Discuss

1. What was at the heart of Adam and Eve's rebellion?
2. Why is sin ultimately a rejection of God's authority?
3. How does Jesus succeed where Adam failed?
4. How have you experienced the freedom that comes from Christ's obedience and sacrifice?
5. What areas of rebellion does God want to replace with obedience in your life?

Supporting Scriptures

- Philippians 2:8-11
- 1 Corinthians 15:22

Key Insight

The first Adam introduced rebellion and separation from God. Jesus, the last Adam, restores our relationship with the Father and opens the way back into the Kingdom.

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Discussion 4: Living as Seeds of the Kingdom

Read

- Matthew 13:3-9
- Matthew 13:37-38

Discuss

1. Jesus says believers are "sons of the Kingdom." What does that mean?
2. In what ways has God planted you strategically where you live, work, or study?
3. What are some "thorns" or distractions that can hinder Kingdom fruitfulness?
4. What helps you remain rooted in Christ?
5. What fruit does God want to produce through your life?

Supporting Scriptures

- John 15:5
- Galatians 5:22-23

Key Insight

God intentionally places His people in the world to represent His Kingdom and influence culture with His values, character, and love.

Discussion 5: Let the King Rule Through Peace

Read

- Colossians 3:15
- Isaiah 9:6

Discuss

1. What does it mean to let the peace of Christ "rule" your heart?
2. Can you identify situations where fear, anxiety, anger, or control try to rule instead?
3. How does Jesus being the Prince of Peace affect your daily decisions?
4. How can our Life Group become a community that reflects Kingdom peace?
5. What practical step can you take this week to trust Christ's rule more fully?

Supporting Scriptures

- John 14:27
- Philippians 4:6-7

Key Insight

Where Jesus reigns, His peace governs. Kingdom living is not marked by striving but by trusting in the authority and goodness of King Jesus.

Personal Application

Ask each person:

- What has God highlighted to you tonight?
- What area of your life needs greater surrender to King Jesus?
- Where is God calling you to represent His Kingdom this week?
- What is one practical action you will take before next week?

Prayer Time

Pray Together

1. Thank Jesus for making a way into the Kingdom through His death and resurrection.

2. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas that need greater surrender.
3. Pray for Kingdom influence in your families, workplaces, schools, and community.
4. Pray that Oakhill Church would be a visible expression of God's Kingdom.
5. Pray Matthew 6:10 together:

"Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

Prayer Focus This Week

"Lord Jesus, help me live as a faithful citizen of Your Kingdom by seeking Your will above my own and reflecting Your character wherever You have planted me."