

Small Group Discussion

Week 17



Chapter 17 – The Kingdom of God

Remember, teach what you learn and share life, not just information.

Coaching Conversations:

Upon reaching this chapter, your group will most likely have been together for at least four months now. Ideally, your group members will have reached the point in the group life-cycle where they are growing more and more comfortable sharing deeper and more personal prayer requests during group time. (NOTE: if you feel like your group is struggling to reach a deeper level of connecting, bring this up with your staff contact or shepherd-coach to address this.) As an intentional leader, consider some ways that you might be able to follow-up with your group members regarding those requests if you have yet to begin doing that. This could be as easy as making a quick phone call or sending a simple email or text during the week to see how they are doing in regards to their requests (i.e. – How did your test go? Is your Aunt recovering well after her surgery? How are you feeling this week in regards to _____?). Following-up apart from group time is a way that you can show your group members that you care about them and that you are praying for them. You may be surprised how far a simple check-in comment might go. If you are having trouble remembering your group's prayer requests from week to week, consider writing them down during group OR assign someone in your group to be the "scribe" and have them record and send them out weekly.

How HIS-story becomes My Story:

GOD'S STORY - God is king over ALL and He rules the earth and it's people through His anointed one; Jesus.

OUR STORY - We are to acknowledge that Jesus is King and Lord over all.

MY STORY - In viewing Jesus as my King, I need to lovingly submit and appropriately respond to His rulership and authority.

Starting the Conversation:

Begin your group by asking your members to define what we mean when we say, "The Kingdom of God." Do we know what we're really describing? Use the article below and see if your group can settle on an informed, unified decision.

Life Group Questions

1. Take a minute to think about what we learned about God by reading Genesis 1 and 2. How is God's kingship established and displayed in the creation account?

2. Read 1 Samuel 8. What does this passage tell us about the significance of Israel's choosing to be ruled by a human king?

3. Read 2 Samuel 7. What promises did God make to David in this passage?

4. Spend some time thinking about these promises of a coming King (consider looking up the passages mentioned in the last two paragraphs). How does the concept of a King arising from the line of David set the stage for Jesus's arrival in the New Testament?

5. Read Jesus's birth announcement in Luke 1:26–33. How does the language used here help us see Jesus in light of the Old Testament kingdom?

6. Why is it important for us to see Jesus as the culmination of the kingly line of David?

7. How should the kingship of God and of His Anointed affect the way we view our relationship to God and His Son?

Additional Recommended Resources:

- "What is Kingdom Theology?" – GotQuestions.org article
- "What is the Davidic Covenant?" – GotQuestions.org article

Prayer Assignment:

Pray that God would help you to lovingly submit to His rule as the King of creation. Pray that God's reign over this world would be established and that this rebellious world would see Jesus as the true King.