

Let the Kingdom of God Become Your World

Week of February 3, 2019



These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Mark 2:18-22

The Kingdom of God is the transforming reign of God that we can see and become a part of here on Earth. It is seen in the places where we surrender our own lives and do God's will, showing his glory to others through actions of Spirit-led love. Kingdom living only happens when we stop trying to fit Jesus into our own lives and instead surrender our life and our will to join God in his world. God will never lead you astray when you come; he will never lead you to focus on what other people are doing or have done to you. He will never measure your life according to conformity. Living Kingdom means living from a place of love and joining God in his story of bringing everything together in Jesus. Instead of just doing a bunch of stuff "for" God as you try to fit him in your world, start living your life led by Jesus in love. Let the Kingdom of God make you new. Let the Kingdom of God become your whole world.

Pray

Lord, you came down to our world, not to fit in, but to redefine what it means to love well. Let us deeply understand what it means to stop fitting you into our own lives, but instead we ask you to fit us into your life. Radically change us to be led by you so that the things of the world grow dim. Let your Kingdom become our world, our focus, our purpose.

Getting Started

- Describe a moment in your life where you stopped and held your breath because you saw something so glorious.
- Share with the group what has captured the most of your attention in this past week.

Digging Deeper

1. Describe a moment when you saw the Kingdom of God this week.
2. In Mark 2:18 the people were judging Jesus' disciples because they were not fasting. Why doesn't judgement have a place in our lives as Jesus followers? Explain how living without judging others frees you to love.
3. Discuss and explain this sentence: Religion "measures" life in conformity, heaven overflows uniquely from life to life according to God's will.
4. Read Mark 2:21-22. In this passage Jesus uses analogies that we might not understand in our modern life while describing how we shouldn't confuse Kingdom life with our broken lives on earth. Can you think of a modern-day analogy that would illustrate that point?
5. Describe the difference between fitting Jesus into your own life and letting Jesus fit you into his life.
6. Why are those two lives incompatible with one another?
7. Discuss why the Fruit of the Spirit are the aroma of the Kingdom of God?
8. How does this make you want to change how you are living?

Living Jesus

You can't just keep living your own life and try to fit Jesus into it. What is important to you is not always what Jesus wants you to focus on. Instead, we must give up our own desires, wants, needs, ideas, and stories, and trade them for a better life. A life with Kingdom purpose, led by love, and moved by the Spirit of God who wants to direct us to live in a way that shows his glory and his love to everyone. You can change a world when you let the Kingdom become your whole world.

What's Your Story?

How have you become part of Jesus' story? Share how God is working in your life at SevernRunner.info/stories.