

The Kingdom of God

Let's Go

Mark 4:26-34

5-9-21

The Kingdom is God's reign through God's people wherever God places us.

Luke 12:32 – “Jesus said, ‘Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.’”

Luke 9:62 – “Jesus said, ‘No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.’”

Luke 11:2 – “Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.”

Luke 11:20 – “Jesus said, ‘But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.’”

Luke 12:31 – “Jesus said, ‘Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you.’”

I. God promises His Kingdom will grow.

Mark 4:26-27 – “And He said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how.’”

John 6:63 – “Jesus said, ‘The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you--they are full of the Spirit and life.’”

John 14:16-17 – “Jesus said, ‘I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever...the Spirit of truth...He dwells with you and will be in you.’”

John 16:7-8 – “Jesus said, ‘Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away...if I go, I will send (The Helper) to you...He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment...’”

John 16:13 – “Jesus said, ‘...the Spirit of truth...will guide you into all the truth...’”

John 15:26 – “Jesus said, ‘...the Spirit of truth...will bear witness about me.’”

Mark 4:28-29 – “The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

II. Kingdom growth seems little and slow, but it will be big in the ways that really matter.

Mark 4:30-32 – “And He said, ‘With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.’”

Growth that really matters:

1. Worship becomes a way of life.

Acts 2:46-47 – “And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, (they were) praising God...”

2. Praying becomes a habit.

Acts 2:42 – “And they devoted themselves to...prayers.”

Prayer Requests for IMB Missionaries Jody and Sarah Fox – Nigeria, Africa

- Pray as we train our presenters/teachers. We are equipping mature African believers to teach during many of our teaching times.
- Pray for the participants in this training. Many of them are coming from areas where there is very few if any other believers. Pray for their courage and boldness to share the Gospel in their villages when they return home.
- Pray that some of these participants will be able to help teach in future trainings.
- Pray for travel safety for the participants and for their families.

3. Generosity characterizes our lives.

Acts 2:45 – “And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.”

4. Love for God’s people becomes a witness.

Acts 2:42, 44, 47 – “And they devoted themselves...to fellowship, to breaking of bread...to prayers...all who believed were together...praising God and having favor with all the people...the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

John 13:34-35 – “Jesus said, ‘Love one another. As I have loved you...By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.’”

5. Making disciples is seen as everyone’s calling.

Acts 2:47 – “...And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

Acts 20:20 – “I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house.”

Going Deeper This Week

1. Read Mark 4:26-34. What all do you notice about the ministry of Jesus and our ministry to others?
2. Since worship is declaring the worth of God by the way we live and speak, we can worship God anywhere in any situation. What helps you worship God as a way of life?
3. Why do you think some professing Christians do not take Christ’s command to be always about discipling others seriously?
4. What inspires you to persevere when progress seems painfully slow?
5. What makes some seasons in your life spiritually unproductive and stale?
6. Why is it reassuring to know that God intends the kingdom to grow slowly but surely?