

What Does the Bible Say About... THE KINGDOM

WEEK 10

Starter Question

What is something you saved up for as a kid that was very valuable to you?
What made it so valuable to you?

READ MATTHEW MARK 1:9-15

1. WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

- God is the absolute ruler AND the rule and reign that Jesus has in the hearts and lives of those who know Him as their Savior.
- **Exodus 15:18, Psalm 24:10, Isaiah 6:1-3, 1 Timothy 1:17, Revelation 19:6**
- The Value of the Kingdom: **Matthew 13:44-46**

2. THE KINGDOM OF GOD TODAY

- **Matthew 20:20-28**
- 1) The KoG is about glorifying God, not advancing the ambitions of men
- 2) Life within the KoG is life lived under God's authority - **John 6:38**
- 3) Life in the KoG is upside down from that of the world - **John 3:30**
- 4) Greatness in God's kingdom belongs to the servants, not to those who want to be served - **Matthew 20:28**

3. THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND MY LIFE

- MARKS OF A SPIRITUAL PERSON (A.W. Tozer, *That Incredible Christian*):
 1. They desire to be holy rather than happy
 2. They want to see God honored in their life even if they must suffer earthly dishonor or loss
 3. They want to carry their cross
 4. They see everything in this life and the life to come from God's point of view
 5. They would rather die right than live wrong
 6. They desire to others advance even if at their own expense
 7. They major decisions based on eternity instead of for temporary benefit

Further Discussion

1. Thinking about the message this past Sunday, what did you find most exciting? What do you have more questions about?
2. What are some things in our lives that we often make more valuable than the Kingdom of God? Why do you think we do that?
3. Why do you think we often look to advance our name instead of God's and find it hard to serve others? What can we do to change this?
4. Which of the marks of a Spiritual person resonates most with you? Which one do you find most difficult to embrace? Why?
5. What are some practical steps we can take as a church to encourage and help one another grow in our faithfulness to God's Kingdom?

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