

Sermon Title: Life in the Kingdom: An Invitation to God's Kingdom

Sermon Scripture: Mark 1:14-15



Sermon Discussion Guide (3/09)

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

Scripture

Read Mark 1:14-15 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

Observation

What is the relationship between the Kingdom and the call for repentance and belief in the Gospel? Why do you think this relationship exists in the way that it does?

In your own words, what does it mean to “repent and believe in the good news”?

Read Mark 8:34-38. What do these verses reveal to us about the purpose of self-denial?

Why will those who seek to save their life ultimately lose it? Why will those who lose their life ultimately save it?

Application

The Kingdom of God is present wherever the will of God is lived out. In what ways, do you seek and live out God's will for your life?

To live in the Kingdom of God, we must deny the kingdom of the self. How have you experienced your own desires and plans keeping you from living according to God's will in God's Kingdom?

In the Kingdom of God, we will face suffering. How can you stay focused on life in God's Kingdom during times of suffering? How might God be calling you to use your suffering as a way to draw nearer to Him?

For this week, the invitation to service is an invitation to fast and to use the resources you would have spent should you had not fasted for the purpose of serving others. How do you sense God calling you to participate in this fast? What is one step you will take this week to respond?

Prayer

Praise God for the ways He shows His love to us and draws us closer to Himself. Ask God for forgiveness for any sin you have been convicted of during this time. Thank God that through Him we are sent to live out God's will in the world. Ask God to give us eyes to see Him, ears to hear Him, and a heart to know Him so that we may be able to see how God is calling us to be used by Him so that others may come to know the love of Christ.