

DISCUSSION GUIDE

THY KINGDOM COME

DISCUSSION GOAL



Discuss the importance of Jesus' reign being advanced through his shared word. Discuss what it looks like to be a sower of the gospel in your communities. Help your group members recognize that God has called them to help advance his kingdom through the sharing of His word in faithful, deep, and ordinary ways.

ICE BREAKER



Share a time where you experienced something so incredible (a meal, book, movie, music, etc.), you could not help but tell those around you about it so they could experience the same thing as you.

TEXT



Have a member of your group read the passage aloud.

Mark 4:21-34 ESV

²¹ And he said to them, “Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket, or under a bed, and not on a stand? ²² For nothing is hidden except to be made manifest; nor is anything secret except to come to light. ²³ If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.” ²⁴ And he said to them, “Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you. ²⁵ For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.” ²⁶ And he said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷ He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸ The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

(Turn to the ESV Bible to continue reading verses 30-34)

MESSAGE OUTLINE



This is what our pastoral team observed about the passage.

Big Idea: Jesus' reign advances through his shared word.

Key Question: How does the Word of God advance Jesus' reign?

1. Deeper leads to greater. (vv. 24-25)
2. Faithful leads to fruitful. (vv. 26-29)
3. Small leads to expansive. (vv. 30-34)

DISCUSSION



- This passage is about the advancement of Jesus' kingdom. What is Jesus' kingdom? How do you think it advances most effectively in the world today?
- God has called each of his followers to deeply understand his word in order to do greater things for his kingdom's advancement (vv. 24-25). What practices or tools have you found helpful as you have sought to deepen your relationship with Jesus? In what areas do you want to continue to go deeper with God and his word?
- Verse 27 illustrates the sower waiting for fruitfulness after he faithfully scattered the seed. **Read 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 together.** How do these verses give us more insight into what happens after we sow the seed of the gospel? In what ways does this encourage you to faithfully work, even when you do not see immediate results?
- In this passage (vv. 30-34), Jesus compares the kingdom of God to a small and ordinary mustard seed. How can obedience to small, ordinary sharing lead to expansive gospel impact? Where have you seen evidence of God's faithfulness through small acts of obedience?
- This passage teaches that every follower of Jesus is advancing his kingdom through the sharing of the gospel. How has Jesus called you as an individual to share the gospel? How has he called our group to live out and to spread the good news of his kingdom?

LIFE APPLICATION



Jesus' reign is advanced through his followers taking the gospel to those who do not believe. Based on your discussion, as a group come up with practical ways you can deeply, faithfully, and in ordinary small ways share the word of Jesus' reign (the gospel).

Join your ideas below and send a picture to your group to remind everyone of your action steps this week.

PRAYER REQUESTS


