

## Kingdom Come: Distraction

*A study for Community Groups to use the week of January 4<sup>th</sup>*

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** to complete foundational questions in the book for week 5 using the scripture below.

### Week One: Matthew 22:34-40

#### Overview

When Jesus talked about the kingdom of God, he described it as a place where God's goodness and grace are reigning in one's heart. In Matthew 13, he referenced four obstacles to that reality, one of which is distraction. In our busy and full lives distraction is a common challenge, yet Jesus appears on the scene as busy as anyone else, yet living a distraction free life. How? In this series we will explore His life and teaching to get a clearer picture to the type of life He invites each of us to experience.

**Passage: Matthew 22:34-40** *"The rabbis documented 613 commandments in the Mosaic Law, 248 positive and 365 negative. Since no one could possibly keep them all, they divided them into "heavy" (more important) and "light" (less important). The Pharisees taught that the Jews needed to give attention to all the laws but particularly the "heavy" ones. This Pharisee was asking which of the "heavy" ones Jesus considered the "heaviest." – Constable's Notes*

#### Questions

\*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

- Take a few moments to review questions from the guide. If you have not accessed it, there is a free digital copy [here](#).
- Jesus defines love for God as with one's heart, soul, and mind. Think of each of those areas of your life. What might distractions in those areas look like in this season of life?
- Jesus says the second, "is like it." How are the two commands forever connected for the life of the believer? Who are you intentionally seeking to love as an expression of your love for God?
- As you think about this week, what small or subtle change are you seeking to make in your life to keep the 'one focuses' on the main thing of loving God and loving others? How could the group help you to make that small change this week?