

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE KINGDOM IS REAL: WEEK 1

While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to southeastchristian.org to join a group in person or online, wherever you are - today!

What's the best sermon/speech introduction you've ever heard? Think about some of the famous speeches/sermons of history. How do they begin? What makes an introduction memorable? How do they help set us up for the main themes and emphases of what's about to be said?

Read Matthew 4:12-17. What was the first message Jesus delivered? Why was this message so important? How did it set the tone for everything Jesus would say/do? How does this proclamation compare/contrast with some of our modern-day conceptions of Jesus' message and mission?

When you think of the "Kingdom of Heaven," what comes to mind? Do you think of it primarily as a future reality or a part of our life now? Why? How does understanding the Kingdom as the "reign and rule of God" help us see the Kingdom breaking through our world today? In what ways has the Kingdom broke through in our own hearts?

Read Ephesians 6:10-18. What does Paul tell us about the spiritual battle we are in? How does he encourage us to prepare ourselves? What does this teach us about the seriousness of the conflict we're in? How should the reality of spiritual warfare change the way prioritize and practice our spiritual lives?

Kyle talked about some of the symptoms that occur when we're not taking the battle seriously. As you think back through the message, which of those symptoms are the biggest struggle for you? Why? How would you live differently if you really understood the reality of the Kingdom and of the battle we're in?

In 2 Kings 6, Elisha prayed for his servant: "Open his eyes that he might see..." (2 Kings 6:17). Where's an area of your life where you need God to open up your eyes? How do you need to be more alert and aware of the reality of the Kingdom? Close in prayer by asking God to use this series to help you each see the Kingdom more clearly.