



BelPres Church

A Kingdom Bigger Than Mine

Ice-breaker Question: When was the last time you laughed really, really hard?

Opening Prayer: Jesus, reorder our hearts to match Your kingdom, not ours. We're listening. Show us where you want us to invest our lives.

Practice Reflection Questions:

What stands out from your prayer or journaling time this week? Did you pursue a nudge or prompt to action? What did you do and how did it go? Did your family try the family practice? How did that go?

This Week's Scripture:

Matthew 21:1-9

"As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵"Say to Daughter Zion,
'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the

trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

Scripture Reflection Questions: Read this week’s scripture together and discuss the following (note: we use the same scripture reflection questions each week so that we can practice using the same tools over time as we examine different scriptures)

- What do we learn about God’s story in this passage?
- What do we learn about our story in this passage?

Talk:

- Where have you been most focused on building your own world (comfort, image, control, success), and how did Jesus redirect that part of your life?
- What shifted when you said yes to Him (peace, purpose, generosity, belonging)?
- This week, where might Jesus invite you to use that same energy for His kingdom, and who near you could experience His welcome through you?

Action Plan:

Review the action prompt below, share any initial ideas of how you might pursue this practice this week.

- Choose one Kingdom practice that connects with your journal story:
 - Generosity (give without recognition or return)
 - Advocacy (speak up for someone overlooked)
 - Reconciliation (repair a relationship)
 - Welcome (include someone new)
 - Service (meet a need quietly)
 - Hospitality (open your home or calendar)

This is not about doing more. It’s about doing something aligned with Jesus’ reign instead of your own.

Closing Group Prayer:

Spend a few minutes together in your group sharing prayer requests and then praying together for each other. Take the challenging parts of your conversation to Jesus. Thank God for the time together, the conversation shared, the other people in the group, and for encouragement for the week ahead.