

## Study Guide

# Your Kingdom Come

### **SESSION GOALS**

*The point of every session is a main idea with the goal of what we want to walk away from the discussion with —knowing, feeling and doing.*

**MAIN IDEA:** Inviting God to build His kingdom on earth begins with allowing Him to build His kingdom in our hearts.

**Head Change:** To recognize that inviting God to build His kingdom on earth begins with our willingness to permit Him to helm every area of our own lives.

**Heart Change:** To allow the warmth of God’s love to melt our hearts so that we can respond to Him and to the needs around us.

**Life Change:** To give up our comfort, treasure and time to see others brought into His kingdom.

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**OPEN**

**Think back to a decision or choice that you made when you grappled with the desire to do what you wanted versus what you felt God wanted. How did the situation eventually pan out? What choices did you make? Did it honor God? If it did, thank Him for the strength He gave you to lay aside your own desires. If you didn't, confess your failings and seek reconciliation with God and anybody else who may have been injured.**

Asking God to build His kingdom on earth can be glibly expressed in prayer. In reality however, it can be a painful process, because it often begins with Him first building His kingdom in us. It means opening up our hearts and lives to God, allowing Him to purge our instincts, motivations and natural desires, permitting Him to lay aside our own expectations and plans for our lives and introduce His agenda for us.

In this session, Ranjit examines how the concept of God's kingdom being built on earth is possible only when permit Him to build it in our own lives.

*As you watch, write down how Ranjit David answers these questions.*

**What are some characteristics of the Kingdom that Jesus talks about?**

**Why is praying for God's Kingdom to come not natural to us?**

**What are the four ways in which praying for the Kingdom changes us?**

**WATCH**

**SESSION 3: *Your Kingdom Come*** (10 minutes)

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**REVIEW**

Ranjit uses a few phrases to say what the Kingdom of God is and what it is not. What particularly stands out for you? In what way will you let this phrase change the way you make your decisions this week?

How do you think life would change if you meant it when you prayed for God’s kingdom to come? What would you be doing more of? Which of your current preoccupations would cease to matter?

Ranjit states that people are by nature enemies of God and rebellious toward his rule and reign. In what ways do you find yourself wanting to rule over your own life? What is the most difficult part of letting God have His way? Practically, what would it mean if you were to allow Jesus to rule your heart?

What are some common attributes you associate with kingliness? In what ways was Jesus’ Kingship so contrary to our understanding of ‘kingliness.’ How does this challenge you?

Ranjit reminds us that when we pray for His kingdom to come, we ourselves must prize it so highly that we want to share the good news everywhere. How true is this in your life? What are some considerations and/or inhibitions that hold you back from spreading the good news?

Praying for the kingdom causes us to identify with the weak, the vulnerable and the oppressed. How do you respond to these people? In what concrete ways can you express your concern?

Horizontal lines for writing.

**BIBLE EXPLORATION**

**Read James 1: 26—27, 2:14—26, Matthew**

**7:21 Matthew 21:28—32.** What are some of the recurring themes in these verses?

In what ways do these verses warn us to take the kingdom of God seriously?

Why do you think the second son may not have done what his father wanted? Were his actions that of wilful disobedience or were they a sin of omission? How do you think Jesus regards it?

**Read Matthew 13:31—52 and Mark 4:26-29.** What are the illustrations that Jesus uses to explain the kingdom of heaven? Which one stands out most particularly to you and why?

Can you identify some recurring themes and thoughts in these verses?

**Skim through Revelation 21—22.** What are some of the vivid images that are conveyed about the kingdom of God? Which one particularly stands out for you and why?

Who is excluded from this kingdom?

What are the words of invitation to God’s kingdom that is extended to you in these verses? How does it challenge you and how will you respond?

**LAST WORD**

Talking about the kingdom of God is easy. However, living our own lives so that it brings a glimpse of God’s kingdom here and now is hard. Much of the struggle results from us wanting to do things our own way. Living in light of God’s kingdom challenges us to give up our familiar patterns and beat to the march of a different drummer. Are we ready?

Horizontal lines for writing answers to the questions.

## **LIVE IT OUT**

*Select at least one activity below to complete before watching the next session.*

**Pray:** Ask God to reveal to you how you can live out God's kingdom in your daily routine.

**Meditate:** Set aside some time to think of some things that you may have to give up in order to establish God's kingdom. What are some things you may have to include to your routine?

**Read:** Read **Romans 14:17**. Consider what Paul meant by this admonishment. How can we make sure that we are not making the pursuit of the Kingdom of God a matter of 'food' and 'drink'?

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