The Kingdom & The Powers Part 1: Thy Kingdom Come

Discussion Guide - April 27, 2025

"The time promised by God has come at last!" [Jesus] announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!" Mark 1:15

Pray like this:
Our Father in heaven,
may your name be kept holy.
May your Kingdom come soon.
May your will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:9-10

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released,
that the blind will see,
that the oppressed will be set free,
and that the time of the Lord's favor has come." Luke 4:18-19

"My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place." John 18:36

Quotes:

"A kingdom is the range of one's effective will, where what you want done is done." Dallas Willard

Discussion Questions

- 1. What does it mean to you that Jesus' kingdom confronts all political systems without being captured by any? Can you think of examples where we might confuse loyalty to Jesus with loyalty to a political party or ideology?
- 2. Jesus' kingdom is marked by self-giving love, not by winning power. In what ways is this different from how our culture usually sees success?
- 3. "The ends never justify the means" in the way of Jesus. Where do you see this truth being challenged in politics today?
- 4. Jesus' followers after the resurrection changed the world through humble, grassroots communities. What might a "grassroots" approach to living out the kingdom of God look like today in Thunder Bay? How does Grassroots Church reflect this currently and how can we do this more?
- 5. The prayer "your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" is a radical political prayer. What does it challenge you to change or pursue differently in your own life?
- 6. If someone observed your life your actions, your words, your priorities what would they conclude about the kingdom you belong to? What small step could you take this week to more clearly reflect your primary allegiance to the kingdom of God?