

Glimpses of the Kingdom Part 1: Pockets of Heaven

Discussion Guide – November 9, 2025

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Heb. 10:24-25

“I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong — that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith.” Romans 1:11-12

Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. Col. 3:16

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” Luke 4:18-19

Quotes

“Now God’s own ‘kingdom,’ or ‘rule,’ is the range of his effective will, where what he wants done is done. The person of God himself and the action of his will are the organizing principles of his kingdom, but everything that obeys those principles, whether by nature or by choice is *within* his kingdom.” Dallas Willard

“Every act of love, every deed done in Christ and by the Spirit, every work of true creativity — justice, beauty, healing, celebration — these are signs of the Kingdom. They are not simply ways of making the present life a little less beastly; they are part of what we may call building for God’s Kingdom.” NT Wright

“The Kingdom of God is not an escape from the world, but the transformation of it. When we learn to recognize signs of that transformation, we begin to live in hope.” NT Wright

“We are called to be people who can recognize God’s Kingdom breaking in — to have our eyes open to see where resurrection life is already at work.” NT Wright

“Those who follow Jesus are invited to live in such a way that others catch glimpses — little hints — of God’s new creation bursting into the here and now.” NT Wright

Discussion Questions

1. When you think about our Sunday gatherings at Grassroots, what do you believe they’re for? How does this message challenge or expand your view of what happens when we come together?
2. In a world overflowing with bad news, what helps you hold on to hope? How might the church community help one another notice and name signs of God’s Kingdom breaking through?
3. NT Wright says every act of love or beauty is a “signpost” of God’s Kingdom. Where have you recently seen a glimpse of God’s goodness, justice, or beauty — in your life or in the world around you?
4. Paul calls us “God’s temple,” carriers of his presence. What might it look like for you to live this out in your daily spaces — home, work, school, or community?
5. Pastor Steve highlighted two invitations — to *testify* to God’s Kingdom and to *participate* in it. Which of these feels more natural to you right now, and which feels like an area for growth?