

Glimpses of the Kingdom Part 2: Community Sharing

Discussion Guide – November 16, 2025

He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.
Matthew 5:45

“The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.
They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.
Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.
In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.
It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.
It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other
nothing is deprived of its warmth Psalm 19:1-6

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

When we see justice, mercy or beauty in the world — even from people who aren’t naming Jesus or who may even be hostile to him — we don’t need to be threatened. The kingdom doesn’t shrink to our boundaries. God’s future breaks in wherever God’s will is happening. And our job as followers of Jesus is simply to name the Source and join in.” – Pastor Steve

Discussion Questions

1. How does Dallas Willard’s definition of the Kingdom — the range of God’s effective will — shift the way you think about God at work in the world?
2. Have you ever seen something truly good, just or beautiful happen in a space that didn’t name Jesus at all? How did you interpret it at the time?
3. Why do you think it can feel threatening when people who don’t follow Jesus end up doing deeply Kingdom-shaped things? What might Jesus be inviting us to learn there?
4. What glimpse of the Kingdom you heard on Sunday resonated with you the most — and why?
5. Which story stirred something in you — a nudge to act, to slow down, to bless someone, to show compassion, or to be more attentive?