

Checking In

1. Take a few minutes to check in with everyone, see how they are doing, and open with prayer.
2. Church Life: Ministry Partners needed for Children, Student, Music and Media Tech. Baptisms are on April 29th between services. Prayer Retreat April 29th for Small Groups

Learning

Knowing God

Key Doctrines

- *God* – God’s graciousness is seen through the universal proclamation of his kingdom to mankind, regardless of spiritual condition.
- *Christ* – Jesus is the “word of the kingdom,” the kingdom of God is present in Jesus, so whenever and wherever Jesus is proclaimed the kingdom is also proclaimed.
- *Man* – Our spiritual condition shapes our response to the “word of the kingdom.”

Key Observations

- What was anything that stood out to you about this week’s sermon, or what did you take away?
- *Read:* Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23; 24:14; Luke 6:27-36; John 3:16-21

- What do all of these passages indicate about God’s disposition toward the world?

- What is our connection to God’s commitment to the universal proclamation of his kingdom?

- *Read:* Read John 1:1, 14, 18; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Hebrews 4:11-13; 1 Peter 1:22-25;

- What is the relationship of the “word of the kingdom” or the “word of God” to Jesus in these passages?

- If Jesus is the “word of the kingdom” then how might that inform what “kingdom” work is?

- *Read:* Matthew 13:13-15; Luke 18:18-24; 19:1-10; John 4:1-42
 - What is the reason given for why some people don't "understand" the word of the kingdom?

- What do Zacchaeus and the woman of Samaria have in common?

Listening

Responding to God

- In light of hearing this week's sermon, our study together, and listening to God's Word, how might God be inviting you to take a step of obedience?

Loving

Obeying God

- What is happening in my own life right now that I need to share and for which I need prayer?

- This week I am committed to praying for _____ about:

Checking Out

- What was most meaningful about this group session for you (*Give each person 1-2 sentences to share*)?

- Close in Prayer and Read John 15:5.