



Discussion Guide
Your Kingdom Come – Part 1
PARTICIPANT GUIDE

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“As a Christian, you are not a citizen of this world going to heaven; you are a citizen of heaven making your way through this world.”
[Vance Havner]

ENGAGE & CONNECT

How has someone been a source of God’s light to you recently?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

“But [we are different, because] our citizenship is in heaven. And from there we eagerly await [the coming of] the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;”
[Philippians 3:20, Amplified]

BIG IDEA

For those who are Christ-followers, worldly politics is subordinate to the Kingdom of Jesus, which is of ultimate importance.

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION

Matthew 5:1-16

1. In the sermon we heard, *“When we make ultimate something of lesser importance, we’ll sin to protect or promote it.”* How have you seen that to be true in your own life?
2. Who did Jesus address as he began speaking? What are the Beatitudes (v. 3-12)?
3. Why do you think Jesus begins by focusing on the “poor in spirit,” the mourners, and the meek?
4. Jesus says the “meek” (the humble) will inherit the earth. How can Christians who practice humility contrast with society’s view of power?
5. How can you extend mercy in challenging situations and to difficult people in your life? Be specific!
6. Jesus says the “pure in heart” will see God. What distractions or idols might be clouding your vision of God? How can you pursue purity of heart in your daily walk with Christ?
7. What does it mean for us to be “salt of the earth” and “light of the world” today? How can we, as a small group, be a “city on a hill” in our local context?
8. As Christians, our primary citizenship is in God’s Kingdom, not an earthly nation. How does this perspective affect how we can engage with politics and societal issues?

9. In the sermon we heard, *“The Beatitudes articulate the radical inclusivity, amazing availability, and overflowing abundant goodness of the Kingdom.”* How can you reflect that inclusivity, availability, and goodness in your relationships, especially with those who are different from you?
10. What is one area in your life where you feel God calling you to shine brighter as His “light”? How can your actions glorify God in that specific context?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

The Church is **a Kingdom outpost, a preview, and a working model** of what is to come ... and the best is yet to come! Based on the Holy Spirit’s wisdom, what is a step of obedience that you can take? Here are a few additional questions to consider ...

- How is God inviting you to be an AMBASSADOR of the Kingdom through *sacrificial love*?
- How can you be *more faithful* in the way that you REPRESENT King Jesus?

PRAYER FOCUS

Representing King Jesus

- Let’s reflect for a moment on the incredible truth that the Church is not just a building or an institution, but a Kingdom outpost. Through us, God reveals glimpses of His future reign of justice, love, and peace. Though we live in a broken world, the fullness of God’s Kingdom will one day be realized. Until then, we have the privilege of representing Him here on earth!
- As we pray, let’s ask God to empower us to live as faithful ambassadors of His Kingdom, embodying His love, unity, and grace in all we do. Let’s also rejoice in the hope that what we experience now is just a foretaste of the glory that is to come.

PRAYER FOR VOTING

Daniel 2:21 tells us, “He controls the course of world events; He removes kings and sets up other kings.” If we believe this truth, then we can **confidently rest and rejoice** in the sovereignty of God! Here is a prayer that reminds us of a few important things: 1) The Church is to be engaged, but not consumed with politics. 2) Voting is an honor, a privilege, and a way of doing good. 3) Voting is a matter of conscience, not a marker of salvation or unity.

Gracious Father,

Thank you for the freedoms I enjoy as an American citizen. Help me not to take for granted the beautiful privilege of participating in the election of our government officials. You are the sovereign One who rules and reigns over all nations and kingdoms, so I trust your Spirit to grant me humility and wisdom as I vote in this coming election season.

I ask that you would give me godly conviction and discernment as I vote on leaders and important issues. As I cast my vote, remind me afresh that my ultimate allegiance and identity do not lie with any political candidate or party, but with you alone Lord Jesus.

As I leave the voting booth, allow me to rest in your good purposes and perfect plans for our country, leaders, communities, and families, whatever the election outcomes. I pray these things boldly in the powerful name of our risen and reigning King Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Adapted from Faith Co/Op’s “The Posture of Our Politics” Prayer Guide)