

A Kingdom people

Readings

Exodus 19:5-6

"Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

Matthew 6:33

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

John 18:36

Jesus said "My kingdom is not of this world.... But now my kingdom is from another place.

Overview

If we are called to be a Kingdom People we need to ask ourselves if our lifestyle and our priorities reflect Kingdom Values. When we honestly ask ourselves what and whose kingdom are we building and we examine our priorities and aims in life what conclusions do we draw? Do our conclusions revolve around us and our selfish motives? Whose Kingdom is that?

Let's look at Jesus' description of the Kingdom of Heaven in what we could call "The Kingdom Chapter": Matthew 13. Jesus shares 6 parables with an introduction or prefix to each one saying "The Kingdom of heaven is like..." Vs 24, 31, 33, 44, 45 and 47. have a look at each of these parables and identify some of the distinguishing marks of the kingdom.

Questions for personal reflection and group discussion

- Whose Kingdom are we building and how do we make sure it's God's kingdom and not ours?
- What does it mean to be a Kingdom of priests?
- What does it mean to seek first the kingdom and His righteousness?
- What is/are the secrets of the kingdom?

Feedback and Questions

- If you have anything to share out of all of this – any stories, testimonies, creative works or whatever – please let us know. You may be a huge encouragement to many other people.
- You can submit comments and questions to the church office, via your home group leader, or make a note and put it in the offering boxes. There is a special section on the Church website (www.opengate.org.uk) on the 'Forum' page to discuss any issues relating to the church:rebooted series.

