

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

Sermon Series: Why Did Jesus Come and Die? JESUS CAME TO PREACH THE KINGDOM OF GOD Luke 4:42-44; Mark 1:14-15

Main Thought: We need to understand that the kingdom of God is the essential teaching of Jesus and how it impacts us.

1. THE _____ REFERS TO GOD'S _____ AND _____.
2. THE _____ OF THE KINGDOM _____
_____. (Isaiah 9:6-7)
3. THE _____ OF THE KINGDOM
 - 1) It came on the scene in the _____ and _____ of Jesus.
 - 2) It is _____ and _____
4. _____ THE KINGDOM
 - 1) _____ the _____
 - 2) _____
5. THE _____ OF THE KINGDOM (Matthew 5-7)
 - 1) Not _____
 - 2) But radical transformation of the _____ by the _____. (2 Cor. 3:18)
 - 3) We are kingdom of _____.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read Luke 4:42-44; Mark 1:14-15
2. How would you sum up the essential teaching of Jesus in three words or less?
3. What “time has come” that Jesus mentions in Mark 1:15?
4. To what does the kingdom of God refer?
(See Psalm 103:19; Daniel 4:3; John 18:36; Matthew 16:21-25)
5. Why did Jesus need to come to re-establish the Kingdom of God (the reign and rule of God on earth in the hearts and lives of people)? (See Genesis 3:1-13)
6. How does a person become part of the Kingdom of God?
(See Mark 1:15; 10:15; John 3:1-8)
7. What is the “good news” of the kingdom of God that Jesus preached?
8. What is repentance? (See Matt. 16:21-25; 18:3) Is repentance something we do on our own or does God through His Spirit enable us to repent?
9. Is the kingdom of God a present reality and/or a future inheritance? Explain your answer. (See Mark 1:15; Luke 11:14-22; Luke 11:2; Matt. 7:21-23)
10. The Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7 sums up what kind of people we are going to be if we are part of the Kingdom of God with Matthew 5:20 being the key verse. Read Matthew 5-7. What are some of the characteristics elements of kingdom righteousness described there? How does this righteousness come to be part of our lives? Do we do it in our own strength or does the Holy Spirit work it in us?
11. How should being part of the Kingdom of God affect our thinking and our actions?