



KINGDOM COME

DEVOTIONAL



HOUSTON'S FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH

DAY 1: GOD'S MATH

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 14:16-17 – “‘They don’t need to go away,’ Jesus told them. ‘You give them something to eat.’ ‘But we only have five loaves and two fish here,’ they said to him.”

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When the disciples saw a hungry crowd of thousands, they focused on what they didn’t have. Five loaves and two fish seemed insignificant. But Jesus saw something different. In God’s hands, what looks small becomes more than enough.

God often asks us to start with what we already have — our time, talents, resources, and faith. We may feel like what we bring isn’t much, but God’s Kingdom doesn’t operate on human math. When we surrender what we have to Him, He multiplies it for His purposes.

This truth applies to every part of our lives. A small act of kindness can change someone’s day. A step of generosity can impact eternity. A simple prayer can move mountains.

God isn’t asking for what you wish you had — He’s asking for what you already have. When you place it in His hands, He does the impossible.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What has God already placed in your hands that you can offer to Him today?

KEY TAKEAWAY

God multiplies what we surrender to Him.

PRAYER

Lord, thank You for the blessings You’ve placed in my life. Help me trust You with what I have and use it for Your Kingdom. Amen.



DAY 2: STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 14:29 - "'Come,' he said. And climbing out of the boat, Peter started walking on the water and came toward Jesus."

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Faith often begins with a step outside of comfort. Peter had spent his life in boats, but when Jesus called him to come out of the boat, Peter stepped into something unfamiliar and impossible. Walking on water wasn't about Peter's ability—it was about his willingness to trust Jesus.

Many of us spend our lives staying safely in the "boat." The boat represents familiarity, comfort, and control. But Jesus often calls us beyond what feels safe so we can experience His power and faithfulness. Faith grows when we take steps that require us to depend on Him.

You may feel God nudging you toward something new—serving in a ministry, sharing your faith, forgiving someone, or trusting Him with a big decision. The first step is often the hardest, but obedience leads to deeper trust.

Don't focus on the waves around you. Fix your eyes on Jesus and take the next step of faith.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Where might God be asking you to step out of your comfort zone in faith?

KEY TAKEAWAY

Faith grows when we step out of our comfort zone and trust Jesus.

PRAYER

Jesus, give me the courage to step out in faith when You call me. Help me trust You more than my fears and keep my eyes fixed on You. Amen.



DAY 3: WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST?

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 19:21-22 – “Jesus told him, ‘If you want to be perfect, go, sell your belongings and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.’ When the young man heard that, he went away grieving.”

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The rich young ruler had everything — wealth, status, and success. Yet he sensed something missing. When he asked Jesus how to gain eternal life, Jesus pointed directly to the issue of his heart. His possessions had become his priority.

The problem wasn't wealth itself. The problem was that something had taken the place of God in his heart. Jesus lovingly revealed the one thing he wasn't willing to surrender.

This same question confronts us today: Is there anything we love more than Jesus? It might not be money. It could be comfort, success, relationships, or control.

God invites us to hold everything loosely and treasure Him above all else. When Jesus becomes our greatest love, everything else finds its proper place.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Is there anything in your life that may be competing with Jesus for your heart?

KEY TAKEAWAY

When Jesus is our greatest treasure, everything else falls into its proper place.

PRAYER

Lord, search my heart and reveal anything I love more than You. Help me surrender every part of my life so that You remain my greatest treasure. Amen.



DAY 4: THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 16:15–16 – “‘But you,’ he asked them, ‘who do you say that I am?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.’”

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Jesus asked His disciples a question that still echoes today: Who do you say that I am? Many people admire Jesus as a good teacher, a moral example, or a historical figure. But admiration alone isn’t enough. Jesus calls us to something deeper — allegiance. When Peter declared that Jesus is the Messiah, he wasn’t just stating a fact; he was surrendering his life to the King of the Kingdom.

Our response to this question shapes everything about how we live. If Jesus is simply a teacher, we listen occasionally. If He is the Son of God and Savior, we surrender completely. Kingdom living begins with recognizing who Jesus truly is and allowing that truth to transform our priorities, decisions, and identity.

Today, reflect on your own answer. Your relationship with Christ isn’t just about knowing the right words — it’s about trusting Him as the Lord of your life. When we truly recognize Jesus as King, our lives naturally begin to align with His Kingdom purposes.

REFLECTION QUESTION

Who is Jesus to you personally — not just intellectually, but in how you live?

KEY TAKEAWAY

Kingdom living begins with recognizing Jesus as Savior and surrendering to Him as King.

PRAYER

Lord, open my heart to truly understand who You are. Help me not just admire You but surrender my life to You. Teach me to follow You as the King of my life. Amen.



DAY 5: DENY YOURSELF AND FOLLOW

BIBLE VERSE

Matthew 16:24 – “Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If anyone wants to follow after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.’”

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Following Jesus isn't always easy. In fact, Jesus was honest about the cost. To follow Him means denying ourselves—our comfort, our ego, and our desire to always choose the easy path. In a culture that constantly tells us to prioritize ourselves, Jesus invites us into a different way of living.

Denying ourselves doesn't mean losing life; it means discovering real life. When we surrender our preferences and priorities to God, we begin to see His purposes unfold in ways we never could have planned. Serving others, sacrificing time, giving generously, and choosing obedience over comfort may feel difficult in the moment, but these are the very steps that lead to a life of impact.

Jesus calls us to a life that matters. A life of ease often leads to emptiness, but a life of surrender leads to purpose. When we take up our cross daily, we find the joy of participating in God's Kingdom work.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What is one area of your life where God may be asking you to deny yourself and follow Him more closely?

KEY TAKEAWAY

True life is found not in self-centered living but in surrendering to Jesus.

PRAYER

Father, help me deny my own desires when they conflict with Your will. Give me courage to follow You faithfully and trust that Your way leads to life. Amen.





KINGDOM COME

DISCUSSION GUIDE



HOUSTON'S FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH

THEME

Living as Kingdom people by surrendering our lives, trusting God, and participating in His mission.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, thank You for bringing us together today. Open our hearts to hear Your Word and help us grow in our faith as we learn what it means to live for Your Kingdom. Guide our discussion and draw us closer to You and to each other. Amen.

ICE BREAKER

If you could dedicate your life to one mission or cause that would make a lasting impact, what would it be?

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

- Matthew 16:15–16
- Matthew 14:13–21
- Matthew 16:24
- Matthew 19:16–22
- Matthew 14:22–29

SUMMARY

The *Kingdom Come* series invites believers to live with a Kingdom mindset. It begins with the most important question: Who is Jesus? Recognizing Him as the Son of God leads us into a life of surrender and discipleship. Jesus calls His followers to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow Him. This journey often requires stepping out in faith and trusting God with what we have. Throughout Scripture, we see that God multiplies what is surrendered to Him and uses it to accomplish His purposes.

However, following Jesus also means examining our hearts. Just like the rich young ruler, we must ask whether anything has taken God's rightful place in our lives. Kingdom living means placing Jesus above all else and trusting Him to use our lives for His mission.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think Jesus asked the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?"
2. What does it practically look like to "deny yourself and take up your cross"?
3. Share a time when you stepped out in faith and saw God work.
4. Why is it sometimes difficult to trust God with what we have (time, money, talents)?
5. What can we learn from the story of the rich young ruler about priorities?
6. How can we live with a Kingdom mindset in our everyday lives?

LIFE APPLICATION

This week, prayerfully ask God to reveal one step you can take to live more intentionally for His Kingdom. It may involve serving others, stepping out in faith, practicing generosity, or surrendering something that has taken priority over God.

Write down that step and ask God for the courage to follow through.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The most important question in life is who we believe Jesus is.
- Following Jesus requires surrender and obedience.
- Faith often involves stepping out of our comfort zones.
- God multiplies what we surrender to Him.
- Our hearts must treasure Jesus above everything else.

ENDING PRAYER

Father, thank You for inviting us into Your Kingdom work. Help us live with faith, surrender, and generosity. Give us courage to follow where You lead and hearts that treasure You above all else. Use our lives to bring glory to Your name. Amen.

