

## SEEKING GOD'S KINGDOM

2 SAMUEL 8:1-12, 15-18; 10:8-13 (ESV)

*Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ... But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:25, 33 (ESV)*

A series of statements that collectively define the Kingdom of God:

1. The very notion of God's Kingdom is rooted in the idea of God's \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Kingdoms are traditionally made up of \_\_\_\_\_ who inhabit a \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. The Kingdom of God is a \_\_\_\_\_ reality that is progressively taking root on \_\_\_\_\_.
  4. The Kingdom of God manifests itself on earth, when \_\_\_\_\_ live out the righteous \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  5. The Kingdom of God expands ,as the rule of God over us personally impacts the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ around us.
- I. God's Kingdom project \_\_\_\_\_ with Abraham and Moses, experienced great \_\_\_\_\_ under King David, and continues today.
- A. Under David, the Kingdom made progress not only through military \_\_\_\_\_, but also through nations bowing the knee to Israel's \_\_\_\_\_.
1. When people surrender their lives to the King of Israel, they become \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Among our people and places, we work to enact the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and equity of our King.

Kingdom members look at the broken world around them and seek its \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual good, while not neglecting \_\_\_\_\_ order and earthly \_\_\_\_\_.

1. The message of the Gospel: Kingdom members \_\_\_\_\_ others of Jesus' kingship and invite them to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.
2. The effects of the Gospel: we show others what it looks like when His rulership is taking \_\_\_\_\_.

II. Seeking God's Kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ has been and always will be a problem for the Kingdom until the King returns.

*Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?  
The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against Yahweh and against his Anointed, saying,  
"Let us burst their bonds apart  
and cast away their cords from us."  
He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the Lord holds them in derision.  
Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
and terrify them in his fury saying,  
"As for me, I have set my King  
on Zion, my holy hill." ...  
Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.  
Serve Yahweh with fear,*

*and rejoice with trembling.*

*Kiss the Son,*

*lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,*

*for his wrath is quickly kindled.*

*Blessed are all who take refuge in him.*

Psalm 2:1-6, 10-12 (ESV)

B. The progress of the Kingdom happens under the leadership of very \_\_\_\_\_ (and sometimes even \_\_\_\_\_) people.

*...Demas, in love with the present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica.*

2 Timothy 4:10a

C. The pain of these realities will likely make us \_\_\_\_\_ whether we're really making any \_\_\_\_\_.

III. Seeking God's Kingdom is hard, but \_\_\_\_\_ work because the \_\_\_\_\_ still stand.