

THE KINGDOM STUDY GUIDE

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BREAKING! GOD IS BIGGER THAN OUR NEEDS, OUR POLITICS, OUR COUNTRY. HE IS EVEN BIGGER THAN OUR WORRIES, OUR PREFERENCES OUR DISSAPOINTMENTS AND FAILURES. LIVE FOR SOMETHING BIGGER! DAILY LIVE A KINGDOM FIRST LIFE!

The Kingdom of God is the core message Jesus taught. We are to “seek first the kingdom” above all else (Matthew 6:33). The word “kingdom” is used 147 times in the New Testament. The kingdom is to shape and dominate our lives and it is the key theme throughout the gospel.

My simple definition of the kingdom is this - the influence of God. As you read, use that definition to help you reflect. For example Matthew 5:3 says: *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.* Here's my paraphrase of how I understand it in terms of what it means to be in the kingdom: *Blessed are those who know they are spiritually bankrupt, for then they can experience and allow God's influence to change their lives.*

I encourage you to read through the main passages in the New Testament below about the kingdom of God to get a sense of how huge and central this is to Jesus and how it is to shape our lives. You don't have to look up each reference as the main scripture text is copied below, however, you might want to pause on occasion to look at the text to see its broader context.

When a reference was repeated in two or more of the Gospels, I attempted to eliminate the duplicates. The [brackets] indicate a comment, explanation or clarification I added. The list below came from a search that included: "Kingdom," "Kingdom of God" and "Kingdom of Heaven"

A. KINGDOM, KINGDOM OF HEAVEN AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD FROM THE GOSPELS

MATTHEW - Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew only)

Mt 3:2 Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.

Mt 4:17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

Mt 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 5:10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 5:19 Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 5:20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 7:21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Mt 8:11 I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 10:7 As you go, preach this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven is near.’

Mt 11:11 I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Mt 11:12 From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. [see Lk. 16:16]

Mt 13:11 He replied, “The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them.

Mt 13:24 Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. [Parable of the Weeds]

Mt 13:31 He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field.

Mt 13:33 He told them still another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into a large amount of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

Mt 13:44 The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

Mt 13:45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

Mt 13:47 Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish.

Mt 13:52 He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has been instructed about the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

Mt 16:19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Mt 18:1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

Mt 18:3 And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 18:4 Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 18:23 Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. [Parable of the Unmerciful Servant]

Mt 19:12 For some are eunuchs because they were born that way; others were made that way by men; and others have renounced marriage because of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it.”

Mt 19:14 Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Mt 19:23 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mt 20:1 For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. [Parable of Workers in the Vineyard]

Mt 22:2 The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. [Parable of the Wedding Banquet]

Mt 23:13 Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the kingdom of heaven in men’s faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.

Mt 25:1 At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. [Parable of 10 Virgins]

MATTHEW - Kingdom of God

Mt 12:28 But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Mt 19:24 Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

Mt 21:31 Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.

Mt 21:43 Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

MARK - Kingdom of God

Mk 1:15 The time has come, “he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Mk 4:26 He also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. [Parable of the Growing Seed (it “grows by itself”)]

Mk 9:1 And he said to them, “I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.”

Mk 9:47 And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell,

Mk 12:34 When Jesus saw that he [a teacher of the law] had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions. [The teacher agreed with Jesus’ Great Commandment]

Mk 14:25 I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God.

Mk 15:43 Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body.

LUKE - Kingdom of God

Lk 4:43 But he said, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.”

Lk 8:1 After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.

Lk 9:2 and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

Lk 9:11 but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing.

Lk 9:60 Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

Lk 9:62 Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Lk 10:9 Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'

Lk 10:11 Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.

Lk 11:20 But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.

Lk 13:28 There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out.

Lk 14:15 When one of those at the table [at home of a Pharisee] with him heard this, he said to Jesus, “Blessed is the man who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.” [Jesus tells Parable of the Great Banquet]

Lk 16:16 The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.

[see Mt. 11:12]

Lk 17:20 Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation,

Lk 17:21 nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is within you.”

Lk 18:29 I tell you the truth,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God

Lk 19:11 While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. [Parable of Ten Minas]

Lk 21:31 Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

Lk 22:16 For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”

Lk 22:18 For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.

JOHN - Kingdom of God

Jn 3:3 In reply Jesus declared, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”

Jn 3:5 Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

GOSPELS - “Kingdom”

Mt 6:10 Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Mt 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Mt 12:25 Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand.

Mt 12:26 If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand?

Mt 13:19 When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

Mt 13:38 The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one,

Mt 13:41 The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil.

Mt 13:43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

Mt 25:34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

Mk 11:10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!"

Lk 12:32 Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

Lk 22:29 And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me,

Lk 22:30 so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Lk 23:42 Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.””

Jn 18:36 Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.”

B. “KINGDOM” IN THE REST OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Ac 1:3 After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

Ac 1:6 So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

Ac 8:12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Ac 14:22 strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” they said.

Ac 19:8 Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God.

Ac 20:25 Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again.

Ac 28:23 They arranged to meet Paul on a certain day, and came in even larger numbers to the place where he was staying. From morning till evening he explained and declared to them the kingdom of God and tried to convince them about Jesus from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets.

Ac 28:31 Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Ro 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,

1Co 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.

1Co 6:9 Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders.

1Co 6:10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

1Co 15:24 Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

1Co 15:50 I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Gal 5:21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

Eph 2:2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Eph 5:5 For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person—such a man is an idolater—has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Col 1:12 giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light.

Col 1:13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

Col 4:11 Jesus, who is called Justus, also sends greetings. These are the only Jews among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have proved a comfort to me.

1Th 2:12 encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory.

2Th 1:5 All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.

2Ti 4:1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge:

2Ti 4:18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Heb 1:8 But about the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.

Heb 12:28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe,

Jas 2:5 Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

2Pe 1:11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Rev 1:6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

Rev 1:9 I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Rev 5:10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

Rev 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.”

Rev 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.

Rev 16:10 The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. Men gnawed their tongues in agony

Rev 17:12 The ten horns you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but who for one hour will receive authority as kings along with the beast.

**BIGGER
THAN**