

Kingdom – What’s There to Be Afraid Of?

Weekend Discussion Questions

May 2-3, 2015

Community:

1. Have you tried memorizing the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)? If so, how is it going? If not, what is getting in your way from memorizing it?
2. This series, entitled “Kingdom”, focuses on the “*kingdom of God*.” Do you view your role—and your part—in God’s kingdom differently than you did four or five weeks ago?

Core:

1. This past weekend Scott stated, “*Internal transformation always leads to external transformation*.” Do you agree? Where are you experiencing external transformation or change coming from an internal transformation?
2. What are your greatest struggles in living out externally what is happening in your heart?
3. Scott shared this quote from Thomas Brooks, “*The believer has been set free from the power of sin, but not the presence of sin*.” Where do you experience the “*presence of sin*” the most?
4. Scott pointed out that Jesus’ “*marketing plan*” in the Beatitudes should have scared people off. Where do you see the same struggles today that Jesus said we should “rejoice” in (slander, persecution, and loss of reputation)?
5. **Read Matthew 5:13.** What are some ways we, as followers of Jesus, can be *salt* to a lost and broken world? Be honest, what is your reaction when you come across people who are lost, broken, and hateful towards Christians and/or Christianity?
6. **Read Matthew 5:14-16.** What comes to mind when you read, “...*let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds*...”? How do you keep from becoming prideful of your good deeds or doing them for self-gratification, and not as an act of worship?

Challenge:

Take time this week and answer some of the questions Scott asked:

- Who are you afraid of?
- What shame or regret are you running from?
- Who are you running from?
- What’s the next right thing you need to do?
- Who needs to you to be salt and who needs you to shine your light to see God?
- Who can you tell your story to?