

## **Sunday Sermon — Discussion Guide: Gyle Smith, 9-27-20**

### **Where Will the Kingdom Be?**

#### **1/3 — Looking Back**

Start with prayer and/or worship (reading a Psalm, singing a song, giving thanks, etc.). Re-cast the vision (see example video [here](#)), review obedience goals from the previous week, and ask how everybody is doing. Check-in question options:

- Up/In/Out — How are you doing in your three primary relational spheres? (Up: *God*. In: *fellow believers and family*. Out: *unbelievers*)
- Highs/Lows: What was your “high” and your “low” from the past week?

#### **2/3 — Looking to Jesus in the Present**

Explore these Scripture passages together: Revelation 21:1-3; Matthew 6:9-10

- As the facilitator, first read the passages aloud and invite the other members of the group to just listen and take note of what stands out to them. You may want to read these more than once.
- Discuss the question: “*what do we learn from these passages about who God is and what He does?*”
- Discuss the question: “*what do we learn from these passages about who we are and what we do?*”
- Alternative question: “*how does the thought of God’s kingdom coming “on earth as it is in heaven” — or of heaven and earth being united — change how you think about your relationship to God’s creation now?*”

#### **3/3 — Looking Forward**

Ask Jesus how he wants you to respond (corporately and individually) to what you have heard and learned. You can also practice the following exercise:

- Sit quietly together in Jesus’ presence and ask yourself the question, “*What are the practical implications of God’s kingdom coming ‘on earth as it is in heaven’ in my current daily life?*” You will certainly still have many unanswered questions about heaven and earth, but you will also likely have uncovered at least a few concrete ideas about them. Reflect on what changes you may need to make in your daily life if the things you have discussed are actually true. Does your current lifestyle—the way you *think, speak, act, and live* overall, reflect God’s desire for His kingdom to come and His will to be done “on earth as it is in heaven”? After some time of personal reflection, share your thoughts with one another as a group. End your time by praying together, asking Jesus for His kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. Don’t be afraid to be specific about areas of your life and of our world that need to be invaded and transformed by heavenly reality!