

Group Discussion Guide



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Kingdom Come Group Discussion Guide

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Series Overview

Many people think of "God's Kingdom" as a physical reign of Christ that will come to this world, "someday." The Christmas story tells how God's Kingdom came into this world when Jesus arrived. When people accept Jesus as their Savior, He restores their identities as Kingdom citizens.

Purpose of This Guide

The primary purpose of this group guide is to reinforce and deepen the lessons of the Grace Church message series: **Kingdom Come.**

You may choose to use this guide:

- with your Grace Group.
- with any group of people interested in knowing what the Bible says about these topics.

1-We Are a Reflection of Him

Scripture: Gen 1:26-27, John 1:1-5

Icebreaker: Mirror, Mirror

What kind of thoughts run through your mind when you look at yourself in the mirror?

- Discuss how humans are different from all other parts of earthly creation (Gen 1:26-27).
- According to Psalm 139:13-16, what does God want you to see when you look in the mirror?
- In what ways can reading God's Word help you know if you are reflecting Christ to others (Heb 4:12)?
- For each activity below, discuss what would make the activity be all about glorifying God and what would make the activity be about your selfish needs (John 1:4-5).
 - ▶ Participating in a community service event
 - ▶ Giving generously of your time, talents, or treasures
 - ▶ Participating in a worship service
 - ▶ Helping someone who is in a time of need

Dig a Little Deeper: Pray to Reflect

As a group, pray that the Holy Spirit moves each of you to actions and thoughts that honor God and reflect Christ's light.

Application Exercise: OWNit

Pick one of the following **OWNit365.com** tools to use during the coming week.

App that sends a daily Bible-reading reminder
Download of weekly reading tip sheets
Video summary of a book of the Bible
Download of an Experience Guide for a book of the Bible
Download of a family Let's Talk Guide for a book of the Bible
Download of a Leadership Principles Guide for a book of the
Bible

2-We Are Family Members

Scripture: John 1:12-13, 1John 2:28-3:3

Icebreaker: Family Resemblance

Think about your extended family. How do family members resemble one another (physically or behaviorally)?

- What is it that makes a person a child of God?
 - ▶ John 1:12
 - Mat 3:9
- What does it mean to believe in His name?
 - ▶ John 1:12
 - ▶ 1John 5:13
- What are some things about Christ-followers that can help us see their spiritual family resemblance (1John 2:29)?
- In what way does God, calling us sons of God, demonstrate His love for us (1John 3:1)?

Dig a Little Deeper: Be Like Him

Study 1John 3:1-2 and Psalm 17:15 What does it mean to "be like Him"?

Application Exercise: Plan to Reflect Him

Make a plan that will help you reflect more of Christ's light.

Things I Will Stop Doing or Do Less Often	Things I Will Begin Doing or Do More Often

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3-We Are Now a Royal Priesthood

Scripture: 1Peter 2:4-10

Icebreaker: Jenga

Use the game Jenga as a metaphor for Christians being individual stones in a spiritual house. What is the challenge when you remove one of the "stones" from a Jenga tower?



- When you don't use the gifts God has given you, to form part of the spiritual house, how do you endanger the strength of the spiritual house?
- As a member of the holy priesthood, what types of spiritual sacrifices can you offer that would be acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1Peter 2:5)?
- What does it mean to make Jesus Christ the chief cornerstone of your life (1Peter 2:6-7)?
- As a royal priesthood (1Peter 2:9-10):
 - What does God expect us to do?
 - ▶ What have we obtained (Hos 2:23)?

Dig a Little Deeper: Priesthood

Consider the following summary of what it takes to adequately perform as part of the royal priesthood.

Water	Lev 8:6 1Cor 6:11 Eph 5:25-27	The Word cleanses our heart and mind.
Oil	Lev 8:10-12 1John 2:20	The Holy Spirit anoints us.
Blood	Lev 8:14-29 1Pet 1:18-19	Blood redeems us.
Garments	Lev 8:7-9 Isa 61:10 Rom 13:12-14 Eph 6:11-18	Special clothing reflects righteousness: • Armor of light • Our Lord Jesus Christ

Application Exercise: Home Repair

Think about areas of your life that are most in need of repair or improvement. Ask God for guidance on how to please Him in those areas of your life.

4-We Are Kingdom Citizens

Scripture: Luke 17:20-21, John 1:14, Mat 6:10

Icebreaker: Model Citizen

As a group, develop a description of a model citizen.

- Discuss what the Pharisees were expecting to see regarding the Kingdom of God (Luke 17:20-21). Based on your experience, do you think some people today have the same expectations as the Pharisees?
- Discuss the meaning of "the Word became flesh."
 - ▶ John 1:14
 - ▶ John 1:1
 - ▶ 1John 1:1-2
- If you have accepted Christ as Lord and Savior, you are a Kingdom citizen (Mat 6:10, Php 3:20). Discuss how being a Kingdom citizen affects your view of being a citizen of a country on earth.
 - ▶ As a Kingdom citizen, what are your priorities?
 - ▶ In what ways can being a Kingdom citizen make you a better citizen on earth?

Dig a Little Deeper: True Home

What do the following passages tell you about the true home of Christ-followers?

- John 14:2-4
- Colossians 3:1-4
- Revelation 22:3-5

Application Exercise: Kingdom Citizenship

Make a list of the benefits and responsibilities associated with being a Kingdom citizen.

Benefits	Responsibilities

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