

Kingdom: A ruler’s sphere of _____.

Psalms 145:10-13 (NLT) - All of your works will thank you, LORD, and your faithful followers will praise you. ¹¹They will speak of the glory of your kingdom; they will give examples of your power. ¹²They will tell about your mighty deeds and about the majesty and glory of your reign. ¹³For your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. You rule throughout all generations. The LORD always keeps his promises; he is gracious in all he does.

1. The Kingdom of God is _____.

Mark 1:15 (ASV) - “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand.”

Common errors include:

- Living as if the Kingdom is only about the _____.
- Only looking for _____ externally.

Romans 14:17 (NLT) - For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

2. The Kingdom of God is _____.

Matthew 11:12 (NLT) - And from the time John the Baptist began preaching until now, the Kingdom of Heaven has been forcefully advancing, and violent people are attacking it.

- The _____ of God’s Kingdom is forceful and involves _____.
- It also produces _____ in its _____.

3. The Kingdom of God must be _____.

John 3:1-6 (NLT) - There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. ²After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.” ³Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.” ⁴“What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?” ⁵Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.

- At the _____ of salvation.

Romans 10:13 (NLT) - For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”

2 Corinthians 6:1-2 (NLT) - As God’s partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God’s kindness and then ignore it. ²For God says, “At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you.” Indeed, the “right time” is now. Today is the day of salvation.

- We will need _____ of our _____ in the Kingdom.

1 John 2:24 (NLT) - So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father.

Study Guide

1. Do you have a favourite book or movie that portrays conflict between kingdoms? What appeals to you about those portrayals?
2. Can you see similarities between the fictional portrayals we see and read, and the real time truth and reality of the Kingdom of God? Do you note any differences?
3. Take a moment to review the notes from this past Sunday. Which of the points or fill-in spaces resonated with you? Did anything regarding the Kingdom of God become more clear for you? Did it raise any more questions?
4. Re-read Jesus' conversation with Nicodemus in John 3:1-6 (found in point #3). Can you recall your own 'born-again' experience? Could you describe it to someone who has not yet entered the Kingdom of God?