

The Gospel of the Kingdom

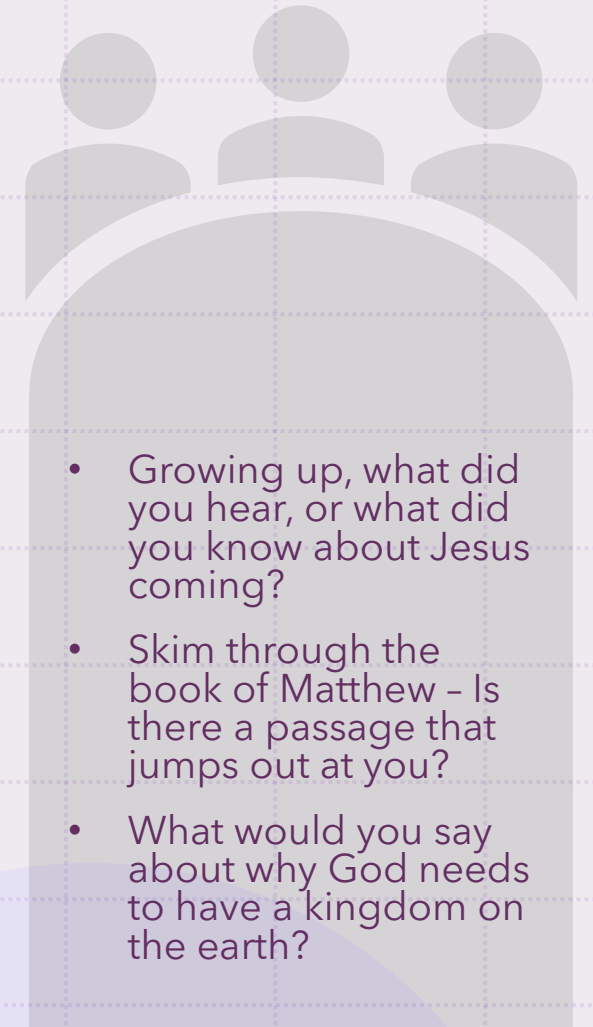
Series:
The Gospel
According to
Matthew

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Matthew 4:17

Jesus and the Kingdom of the heavens

- **Matthew 4:17** From that time Jesus began to proclaim and to say, Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near.
- The Kingdom of God is a realm where God rules, a sphere in which the will of God is done. God can do whatever He wants in **His** kingdom.
- On the earth there is Satan, the evil angels, the demons, and fallen mankind; these are **opposed** to the will of God.
- When Christ came to the earth as a man, He brought the kingdom of the heavens down to earth.
- He came to establish the kingdom of the heavens **on the earth**, to recover the earth for God.
- **Jesus Christ Himself is the king AND the kingdom.** Wherever He is present, there the kingdom is present. Wherever He goes, there the kingdom is brought.



- Growing up, what did you hear, or what did you know about Jesus coming?
- Skim through the book of Matthew – Is there a passage that jumps out at you?
- What would you say about why God needs to have a kingdom on the earth?

Regeneration for the Kingdom of God

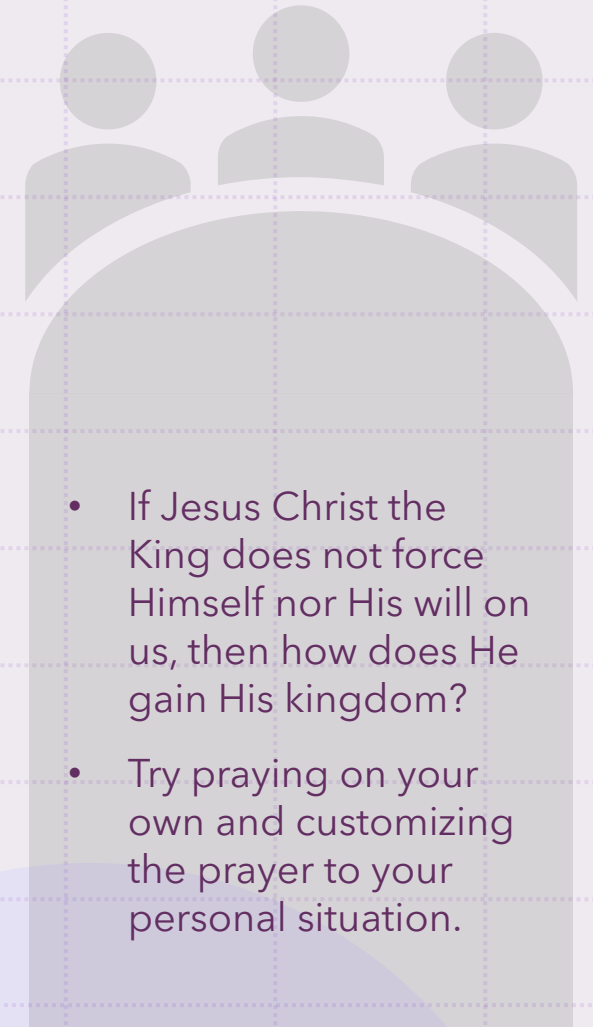
- The Lord Jesus as the King with the kingdom came into our spirit.
- **John 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to **those who believe** into His name.
- **John 1:13** Which were **born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but **of God**.
- **John 3:5** Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot **enter into the kingdom of God**.
- **John 3:6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is **spirit**.
- Believing in the Lord Jesus Christ causes us to receive Him into our spirit. This is to be born again - with a new life, God's life.



- What other Bible verses talk about believing in Jesus?
- How can we open ourselves to the Lord?

Lord, Establish Your Kingdom Within Me

- When we were born of God and received the Lord, a King and a kingdom entered into our spirit.
- There is a King resident within us and a kingdom in the deepest part of our being, our spirit.
- **Romans 8:10** But if **Christ is in you**, though the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is life because of righteousness.
- **Colossians 1:13** Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- Therefore, we are now in this wonderful kingdom, and this wonderful kingdom is now in the center of our being, our spirit.
- Yes, a battle for the earth rages on, but...
- We need to forget the deplorable and mournful state of this world and consider our own being in the Lord's presence. We can simply say, "Lord, I love You." To say to the Lord "I love You" is to say, "I belong to You, and I am open to You. I submit to You and abandon myself to You. I am not my own. I do not want to be ruled by my disposition, temperament, subjectivity, self, reasonings, opinions, and thoughts. I do not want to be ruled by moods. I do not want to be manipulated anymore by demons and evil spirits. I want to be ruled by You, Lord. Establish Your kingdom within me." The Lord has a wonderful way to answer this kind of prayer. (Crystallization Study of Matthew (1), Message 1)



- If Jesus Christ the King does not force Himself nor His will on us, then how does He gain His kingdom?
- Try praying on your own and customizing the prayer to your personal situation.