

Pre-study: 3 things from the sermon. <i>Note down 3 ideas, illustrations, quotes, or points that made an impression in the sermon. 1.</i>
2.
3.

Core Questions

- 1. What is the kingdom of God, and how does it relate to other kingdoms and authorities?
- 2. We often talk about the already-not yet dynamic of the kingdom (see article below for more). Considering this why, other than obedience, should Christians pray for the Kingdom to come?

Inward Grace in Action

- 3. Who has control, influence, or authority over your life? Whose kingdom do you live in?
- 4. Do you want God to be king in your life? Why or why not?

Outward Grace in Action

5. We live in a republic, with a suspicion of claims to absolute authority. How, and for whom, is the news of the coming of the kingdom of God good news?

Additional Resources:

Article: This article from a Westminster Theological Seminary professor outlines the concept of the Already/Not Yet dynamic in the New Testament.

WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

Reflect on these Scriptures:

- 1 Samuel 8
- Psalm 47
- Micah 4:1-7
- Daniel 7:9-14
- Mark 9:1-13
- 1 Corinthians 5:1-5
- Revelation 19:1-16

Serve: Where has the Spirit been calling you into service, but you have been resisting? Take a step into that service this week.

Pray: Spend some time each day praying that God would be glorified and would bring his kingdom.

Reach out if you need assistance:

- Call our church office at 703.821.0800
- Request aid from our Deacons' Fund at <u>deaconsfund@mcleanpres.org</u>

Book extract:

'Things such as redemption, the remission of sins, the bliss of the kingdom, however much they are in the center of Jesus' preaching, can be understood aright only from the theocentric viewpoint, because they are blessings bestowed by the kingdom. In the coming of the kingdom God first and foremost reveals himself as the creator and king who does not abandon the world to perdition but is his people's saviour and promiser. He has solemnly pledged himself to redeem them. This profound, consistently theocentric vision finds the ground of redemption and no less that of judgment in the divine sovereignty, in the maintenance of his own work and word. It is not only the basic motive of the divine revelation appearing again and again in the Old Testament, but it also remains the foundation of the gospel of the kingdom of God on which everything rests in Jesus' evangelical message. All this is not only implied in the original idea of the kingdom of God, but also determines the whole structure and form of Jesus' preaching.

Herman Ridderbos, The Coming of the Kingdom, p.23