

Kingdom

1. Seth said we were “made to be ruled.” What did he mean by that? Do you agree? Why is that important to understand before exploring the theme of God’s Kingdom?
2. Graeme Goldsworthy defines the Kingdom of God as: ‘God’s people in God’s place, under God’s rule.’ How is that different from your previous understanding of the “kingdom?” To what extent is it helpful or clarifying? Explain.
3. The Old Testament is constantly retelling the story of the Fall in Eden. It’s played out with different characters, and in different periods of time but it’s recognizable. Can you identify some ways you act (or have acted) like Adam and Eve and sinfully make your own “kingdoms” for yourself? Perhaps another way to ask that question would be: Are there some ways that you resent God’s kingship over you?
4. If we are not in God’s Kingdom, we do not reside in some neutral zone, but in another kingdom entirely, as slaves to sin. What are some “kings” you feel enslaved by? Are there some issues that you can’t break free from? Would you feel free in sharing them?

Spend time as a group repenting of the ways we sinfully set up our own kingdoms, and spend *time celebrating that we are “no longer under the dominion of sin.”* ***Make sure your community know that God’s kingdom promises include a present freedom from sin’s reign, and the future promise of never sinning again!***

5. If we are living in God’s Kingdom now, what does that demand of us? If we have been reconciled to God and freed from our oppression to sin. How should Christians respond to brokenness and division around them? What are some ways your community group can leverage their position in the Kingdom of God to bring about change in their homes, neighborhoods, and nation?

BONUS QUESTION

Is it more surprising to you that God punished Adam and Eve for their rebellion? Or that he had mercy on them, and invited them into a new kingdom? Why?