

reboot

The Kingdom of God

Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness

Matthew 6:33a

First Third

15 Min *How are you?*

15 Min *Evaluation: What has become of the goals from the last meeting?*

10 Min *Vision*

Second Third

10 Min *Worship*

10 Min *Learning from the Book of Acts. Share with each other: What did you learn from Acts 13-16? What is the Holy Spirit teaching you? Use your filled out worksheets for the Book of Acts.*

20 Min *New lesson: Now give each participant a copy of this worksheet.*

Two kingdoms

We tend to think of our world as being composed of several hundred countries made up of thousands of cultures, tribes, and language groups. But from God's perspective there are just two kingdoms: the kingdom of light and the dominion of darkness.

Col 1:12-13: _____

As children of our heavenly father, we must understand and embrace his kingdom. Jesus spent much of his time explaining the Kingdom of God, speaking of it in over 100 verses in the Gospels.

Where is the Kingdom of God?

God's Kingdom is not a physical entity, but a spiritual one. In Luke 17:20-21, Jesus made it clear where we can find this kingdom: it is within you!

Based on this reality, Jesus told us how to present the Kingdom: *"As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'*" (Matthew 10:7) In this verse the word "near" literally means near in space, not just time. Therefore, when you as a believer are near someone, the Kingdom is near them – because the Kingdom is in you!

A radical commitment to the Kingdom of God

When Jesus taught us to pray using what we call the Lord's Prayer, He reminded us to include a plea for God's Kingdom to be established on earth: *"Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven"* (Matt 6:10). Jesus was completely committed to His Father, saying *"not my will, but yours be done"* (Luke 22:42). The ultimate expression of our love for God is our commitment to Jesus and the Kingdom which He represents.

You must remember, however, that commitment carries a price tag! If you align yourself with Jesus, you can expect opposition.

We need to ask ourselves: Am I willing to obey Jesus at any cost? Am I willing to give up things or suffer as He did?

? How does radical commitment to God's Kingdom look like in Acts 13–16? What was the cost?

Third Third

25 Min *Practice: First everyone has 10min to think with God about the following two questions:*

How much have I surrendered my life to God? In what areas do I not allow God to have a say?
What does God want to build with me in His kingdom? Where have I built “other kingdoms” instead?

Consider what decisions you want to make before God.

Express your commitment to God's kingdom as a group:

Everyone can now share their insights and decisions with the group.

Finally, pray the Lord's Prayer together.

5 Min **My personal goals until next time:**



Use your people list, pray and set your personal goals:

☐ Inspired from the study of Acts or from this lesson I want to obey God next week in this point:

☐ I will share my story with God with _____ .

☐ I will study Acts 17-20 and write down what God is teaching me (using the *Acts Worksheet*)

☐ I will train _____ just as I have been trained

☐ I will pray for the people on my list every day

10 Min *Pray in groups of two for each other*