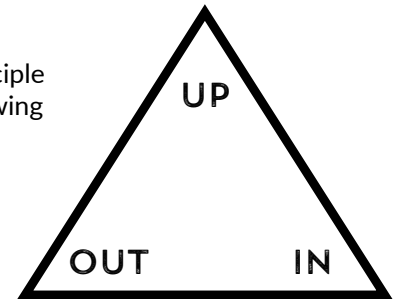


SERMON SERIES DISCIPLING GUIDE

Series: As It Is In Heaven • Sermon: The Kingdom's Power • Date: Sept. 29/30, 2018 • Speaker: Ron Gray

INTRODUCTION

Over the last three weeks we have talked about the “UP”, “IN” and “OUT” of being a disciple and living a “Kingdom Life”. An easy way to remember and teach this to others is by drawing a triangle, and labeling it UP, IN, OUT.



READ TOGETHER

A great portion of scripture that highlights these three elements in Jesus' life is **Luke 6:12-19**. Read it together.

- *Where do you see these elements in Jesus' life and ministry?*

This weekend Ron Gray spoke on the Kingdom of God. The call to discipleship, and the UP, IN and OUT elements of a disciple's life... all have a purpose; to bring the Kingdom of God into our world, our families and our circles.

If the Kingdom of God is described as God's reign and rule, His goodness and grace and His very presence in full measure:

- *What would it look like if the Kingdom of God was pervasive in your life?*
- *Think about a place of pain, hurt, confusion or mystery in your life. What do you believe it would look like if the Kingdom of God came rushing in?*
- *Think about your neighborhood or workplace; what would that look like?*

Read **1 Corinthians 4:20** – Ron asked us to examine our life and ask some hard questions when it comes to where the power in our life comes from:

- *Do you feel like you are living by your own capacity and power these days? How would you know? What would be the signs that help us understand and figure this out?*
- *How are you feeling about the power supply in your life today? Does the Kingdom seem out of reach? Do you feel defeated? Anxious?*

Take some time to explore these questions. **Pause and pray** for those around you in whatever they expressed.

If we are to see the Kingdom of God invade our lives, and the lives of those around us, we need the Holy Spirit. His power, presence and purity. With the Spirit, we become a vessel, a conduit, of the power of the Spirit.

Read **Acts 1:1-21**, **Galatians 5:16-26**, and **John 16:7-15**

- *What do you see about us, and the Spirit, as it relates to Kingdom life and power?*

Ron mentioned that for all this to take place in our life, the main step is **surrender**.

- *Describe what surrender means to you. What does surrender look like for you?*
- *Surrender often has a negative connotation and can promote fear or anxiety. If you feel this in any measure, try to express and describe it.*

After working through all this - *How would you express your need to God? What do you need to ask God?* And simply **pray for one another** in these areas.

Ron closed with a prayer from Francis Chan – have someone pray this over your group:

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We pray now in your name. Please forgive us for grieving, resisting, and quenching You. We have resisted the Spirit through sin, through our rebellion, and through our hardness of heart. At times we have been spiritually blind. At other times, we knew what you wanted us to do, but we chose to ignore Your promptings. Yet this is not how we want to live now.

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We need you to change us. Only through You can we truly worship. Spirit of the Lord, You are the one who brings us to a place where we can worship. You are the Spirit of truth, the Spirit of holiness, the Spirit of life. Thank you for the truth, the holiness, and the life you give us.

We need your wisdom and understanding as we seek to live this life. Keep us from disbelief, from fear. We need Your strength to help us do what you are asking us to do and to live how You are asking us to live. Speak loudly and drown out the other voices calling us to conform to the patterns of this world.

You are the Spirit of self-control and love. Give us the self-control needed to deny our flesh and follow You. Give us a love strong enough to motivate courageous action. Manifest Yourself through us that we may serve and love Your bride, the church, and the world as You do.

Come, Holy Spirit, come. We don't know exactly what that means and looks like for each of us yet, in the particular places You've called us to inhabit. But, nonetheless, whatever it means, we ask for Your presence. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Amen.