

# A Kingdom of God Lifestyle

More and . . .

**M**ission (branches)

**O**ccupation (trunk)

**R**elationships (roots)

**E**ntire heart (soil)



of Jesus and his Kingdom  
everywhere.

## Keep Learning



A kingdom lifestyle  
includes continuous  
learning about God  
and his kingdom.

## Discover characteristics of God's Kingdom

Matthew 5:3-11  
Psalm 103:19  
Matthew 6:13  
Luke 17:20-21  
Mark 4:11  
Matthew 18:1-4  
Matthew 4:17  
Galatians 5:19-21  
Revelations 7:9  
And more . . . .

Share your insights  
in a personal blog at  
[www.vocf.net](http://www.vocf.net)  
or in 152 Kingdom  
Principles at  
[www.vocf.net/bible-  
blog.php](http://www.vocf.net/bible-<br/>blog.php)

## What is the Kingdom of God?

The model prayer of Jesus in Matthew 6:9-10 provides a foundational point to begin . . .

God's kingdom is where  
God's will is done.

## Why is the Kingdom of God Important?



- The kingdom of God was the primary purpose of Jesus (Luke 4:43, Acts 1:3)
- Jesus sends his disciples to preach and share God's kingdom (Luke 9:2)
- God's kingdom provides true hope for the world (Luke 4:18-19, Revelations 21:1-8)
- And much more . . . .

### Keep Learning



#### **Blessings of God's Kingdom**

1 Corinthians 4:20  
2 Corinthians 5:17-18  
Revelations 21:1-27  
Isaiah 65:17-25  
Romans 14:17  
And more . . .

#### **Warnings of God's Kingdom**

Matthew 4:8-9  
Hebrews 12:27  
Matthew 7:21-23  
Matthew 11:12  
Matthew 13:19  
Matthew 21:43  
Matthew 19:23-24  
Luke 9:62  
And more . . .

#### **Kingdom Principles for Leadership**

2 Chronicles 26: 4,5, 16  
1 Peter 5:2-3  
Joshua 1:7-8  
Proverbs 29:4  
Matthew 5:9  
Isaiah 58:10-12  
Genesis 35:11  
2 Timothy 2:2  
And more . . .

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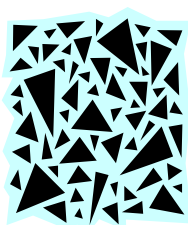
## Pictures and Parables

God uses pictures and parables to describe the kingdom of God. In addition to a fruitful tree, these four pictures help us understand a kingdom of God lifestyle.



### Circles

*Who is the King of our life?* The beginning point of a kingdom lifestyle is to remove our self-will as the center of life and submit to Jesus as the center. He is our true King. (Revelations 4:6, 9-11; John 3:3-7)



### Triangles

*How can we grow in a kingdom lifestyle?* Change begins by putting into practice what we learn, but people cannot change in isolation. We need the Holy Spirit and one another. Triangles are groups of two or three people who encourage one another to grow in a kingdom lifestyle. (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)



### God's Natural Fruit

*What is the result of a kingdom lifestyle?* God's fruit of transformation in our lives, families, and communities. Rather than by human effort, God naturally produces fruit when we live a lifestyle of faithful obedience to him and his life flows through us (John 15:4, 1 Corinthians 3:6-7, Mark 4:26-29).



### The World

*Where does God's kingdom grow?* While God's kingdom may seemingly start small on earth, God intends for it to grow and transform all things. Every person and all of creation will acknowledge Jesus as Lord (Matthew 13:31-32, Colossians 1:15-20, Romans 14:11).

## Keep Learning



### See other pictures and parables about the Kingdom of God:

Matthew 13:1-23  
Matthew 13:24-30 (36-43)  
Matthew 13:31-32  
Matthew 13:33  
Matthew 13:44  
Matthew 13:45-46  
Matthew 13:47-50  
Revelations 4:1-11  
And more . . .

### Good News of God's Kingdom

Luke 4:18-19  
Matthew 9:35  
Matthew 6:31-33  
Hebrews 12:28  
Luke 6:21  
Luke 18:29-30  
Luke 18:27  
And more . . .

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## Process

The Bible challenges us to grow more and more in a life pleasing to God (1 Thessalonians 4:1-10; 2 Peter 1:5-9; John 15:2). Having more and **M-O-R-E** of Jesus and his Kingdom means Jesus increasingly reigns in each area of life.



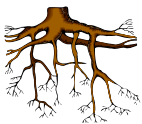
### **Our Mission** (Branches)

Everyone is called to be sent and help send workers to share the message and power of God's kingdom (Luke 9:1,2; 10:2,3). Being sent can be to your community, nation, or world.



### **Our Occupation** (Trunk)

We are called to carry God's kingdom truth, excellence, and love to where ever we go. For most people, this especially means to what occupies the majority of our time – our work, home, or school (1 Corinthians 10:31).



### **Our Relationships** (Roots)

Our new kingdom life must be rooted in love for Jesus (Colossians 2:7) and love for one another (Ephesians 3:17, 1 Corinthians 13:1-7).



### **Our Entire Heart** (Soil)

We must let God plow the ground of our heart and fill us with His life. This means soaking our mind with the Word of God (seed), being empowered by his Holy Spirit (river), and obeying what we learn (Romans 12:2, John 7:38, John 13:17).

## Keep Learning



### **About Jesus the King**

Luke 3:21-22  
Matthew 1:23  
John 3:16-17  
Philippians 2:9-11  
Colossians 1:15-18  
Luke 4:18-19  
And more . . .

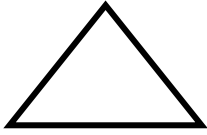
### **Why did Jesus come to earth?**

Luke 4:18-19  
Luke 4:43  
Luke 5:31-32  
And more . . .

### **What is Jesus is like?**

John 14:9  
John 5:19  
Matthew 9:35  
John 8:10-11  
Philippians 2:8  
Matthew 4:23  
Matthew 20:26-28  
And more . . .

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## As groups of two or three people . . .

We meet together to encourage one another to grow in a kingdom lifestyle.

### Group Commitment

- Meet once a week for about 1 hour (can be face-to-face, via internet, etc.)
- Agree on blocks of the Bible to read each week (21+ chapters each week)
- View one another as equal learners, doers, and teachers of God's kingdom.
- Keep what is said in meetings confidential.
- When group grows to four people, multiply into two groups (always in the same gender, unless families)

### Group Meetings

We recommend the following three activities for group meetings. Groups are free to change these methods, but should keep the same goal of growing in a kingdom lifestyle, reading large amounts of the Bible, and obeying God.

**A.** Highlight what God is telling you and how you are obeying, not simply knowledge (20-25 minutes)

**B.** Share accountability questions. Not to feel guilty or prideful, but to encourage one another (15-20 min).

**C.** Pray. Especially for the 3 people you are seeking to care for and share Jesus with (10-15 minutes)

### Accountability Questions

- *Am I praying for at least three people to enter God's Kingdom, and looking for opportunities to care and share with them?*
- *Have I honored God in my occupation?*
- *Have I been loving to Jesus, my family and others?*
- *Have I sinned in thought or action?*
- *What is Jesus saying to me from His Word and have I obeyed?*

## Bible Reading Plan – Old and New Testament (Back and Forth)

(This guide is optional – Groups can use other schedules and methods)

Weeks and Recommended Chapters		Weeks and Recommended Chapters	
<b>Week 1</b> (Jan 1- 7)	Genesis 1-25	<b>Week 27</b> (July 2-8)	Psalms 1-25
<b>Week 2</b> (Jan 8-14)	Genesis 26-50	<b>Week 28</b> (July 9-15)	Psalms 26-50
<b>Week 3</b> (Jan 15-21)	Matthew 1-28	<b>Week 29</b> (July 16-22)	Psalms 51-75
<b>Week 4</b> (Jan 22-28)	Exodus 1-25	<b>Week 30</b> (July 23-29)	Psalms 76-100
<b>Week 5</b> (Jan 29-Feb 4)	Exodus 26-40, Leviticus 1-10	<b>Week 31</b> (July 30-Aug 5)	Psalms 101-125
<b>Week 6</b> (Feb 5 – 11)	Leviticus 11-27, Numbers 1-10	<b>Week 32</b> (Aug 6-12)	Psalms 126-150
<b>Week 7</b> (Feb 12-18)	Numbers 11-36	<b>Week 33</b> (Aug 13-19)	Galatians 1-6, Ephesians 1-6 (can read 2 times)
<b>Week 8</b> (Feb 19-25)	Mark 1-16 (can be read 2 times)	<b>Week 34</b> (Aug 20-26)	Proverbs 1-25
<b>Week 9</b> (Feb 26-Mar 4)	Deuteronomy 1-29	<b>Week 35</b> (Aug 27-Sept 2)	Proverbs 26-31, Ecclesiastes 1-12, Song of Songs 1-8
<b>Week 10</b> (Mar 5-11)	Deuteronomy 30-34, Joshua 1-24	<b>Week 36</b> (Sept 3-9)	Philippians 1-4, Colossians 1-4 (read 2 or 3 times)
<b>Week 11</b> (Mar 12-18)	Luke 1-24	<b>Week 37</b> (Sept 10-16)	Isaiah 1-21
<b>Week 12</b> (Mar 19-25)	Judges 1-21, Ruth 1-4	<b>Week 38</b> (Sept 17-23)	Isaiah 22-44
<b>Week 13</b> (Mar 26-April 1)	John 1-21	<b>Week 39</b> (Sept 24-30)	Isaiah 45-66
<b>Week 14</b> (April 2 - 8)	1 Samuel 1-28	<b>Week 40</b> (Oct 1-7)	1 Thessalonians 1-5, 2 Thessalonians 1-3 (can read 2 or 3 times)
<b>Week 15</b> (April 9-15)	1 Samuel 29-31, 2 Samuel 1-24	<b>Week 41</b> (Oct 8-14)	Jeremiah 1-26
<b>Week 16</b> (April 16-22)	Acts 1-28	<b>Week 42</b> (Oct 15-21)	Jeremiah 27-52
<b>Week 17</b> (April 23-29)	1 Kings 1-22, 2 Kings 1-6	<b>Week 43</b> (Oct 22-28)	1 Timothy 1-6, 2 Timothy 1-4, Titus 1-3, Philemon 1 (read 2 times)
<b>Week 18</b> (April 30-May 6)	2 Kings 7-25, 1 Chronicles 1-10	<b>Week 44</b> (Oct 29-Nov 4)	Lamentations 1-5, Ezekiel 1-21
<b>Week 19</b> (May 7-13)	1 Chronicles 11-29, 2 Chronicles 1-9	<b>Week 45</b> (Nov 5-11)	Ezekiel 22-48
<b>Week 20</b> (May 14-20)	2 Chronicles 10-36	<b>Week 46</b> (Nov 12-18)	Hebrews 1-13 (read 2 times)
<b>Week 21</b> (May 21-27)	Romans 1-16 ( can be read 2 times)	<b>Week 47</b> (Nov 19-25)	Daniel 1-12, Hosea 1-14
<b>Week 22</b> (May 28-June 3)	Ezra 1-10, Nehemiah 1-13	<b>Week 48</b> (Nov 26-Dec 2)	James 1-5, 1 Peter 1-5, 2 Peter 1-3 (can read 2 times)
<b>Week 23</b> (June 4-10)	1 Corinthians 1-16 (can be read 2 times)	<b>Week 49</b> (Dec 3-9)	Joel 1-3, Amos 1-9, Obadiah 1, Jonah 1-4, Micah 1-7, Nahum 1-3
<b>Week 24</b> (June 11-17)	Esther 1-10, Job 1-15	<b>Week 50</b> (Dec 10-16)	1 John 1-5, 2 John 1, 3 John 1, Jude 1 (can read 3 times)
<b>Week 25</b> (June 18-24)	Job 16-42	<b>Week 51</b> (Dec 17-23)	Habakkuk 1-3, Zephaniah 1-3, Haggai 1-2, Zechariah 1-14, Malachi 1-4
<b>Week 26</b> (June 25-July 1)	2 Corinthians 1-13 (can read 2 times)	<b>Week 52</b> (Dec 24-31)	Revelation 1-22