When Everything is Unravelling

The Kingdom of God Has Come Near

SERMON SUMMARY

The gospel is the good news that Jesus is the Messiah, the King who fulfills Israel's story, defeats sin and death, and establishes God's kingdom. It's not just personal salvation but a call to live under Jesus' lordship in every aspect of life, participating in His mission to renew creation.

KEY VERSES

Mark 1:14-15

SERMON NOTES

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

- 1. What is a key idea or question you have from Pete's sermon on Sunday?
- 2. How would you explain to someone what it means to be a follower of Jesus?
- 3. Do you find it easy to explain what it means to be a follower of Jesus or difficult? Does it feel simple or overly complex?
- 4. What doubts or questions about faith are you wrestling with, and how might trusting Jesus as the risen King help you find clarity or peace in those struggles?
- 5. Read Luke 7:36-50. How can believing in Jesus as the King who loves you change the way you view yourself or your past mistakes?
- 6. What does 'repentance' mean to you right now, and what's one area of your life where you feel called to turn back to Jesus' way?
- 7. What's one way you can actively trust (believe in) and submit to Jesus' kingship this week to help you rebuild (or continue to build) a faith that feels authentic and lasting?

PRAYER EXERCISE

The leader reads the statements below, followed by a group response and moment of silence.

(Leader) "For the doubts that keep us from trusting You fully..."

(Group responds) "Jesus, You are King; I surrender to You."

(Leader) "For the fears that make us cling to control..."

(Group responds) "Jesus, You are King; I surrender to You."

(Leader) "For the wounds from past experiences that make us hesitant to trust You..."

(Group responds) "Jesus, You are King; I surrender to You."

(Leader) "For the temptation to follow our own path instead of Your kingdom way..."

(Group responds) "Jesus, You are King; I surrender to You."

(Leader) "For the hope we seek in Your kingdom's love..."

(Group responds) "Jesus, You are King; I surrender to You."

(Leader) "For the strength to love others sacrificially, as You love us in Your kingdom..."

(Group responds) "Jesus, You are King; I surrender to You."

Allow for a minute or two of silence and personal prayer.

Leader closes by reading: Mark 1:14-15, "After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" "King Jesus, You are risen and reign forever. Help us surrender our doubts, trust Your love, and follow You with new faith. Amen."