

KINGDOM IMPACT
“The Extension of God’s Kingdom”
January 18, 2009
Pastor Michael Lee

Matthew 13:11; Selected Passages (ESV)

What is the Kingdom of God?

It is the **reign and rule** of God over everything.

THE SECRET (MYSTERY) OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

1. The kingdom is **present** (Luke 17:20-21; Matthew 12:28)
2. The kingdom is **not yet present** (Luke 19:11-12)
3. What is mysterious about the kingdom is that **it has come partly but not fully** (Matthew 13).
 - ❖ The Parable of the Sower (vv. 18-23) – The mystery here is that the Word of the kingdom (i.e., the gospel of the kingdom) is not sweeping the whole world before it.
 - ❖ The Parable of the Weeds (vv. 24-30, 36-41) – The mystery here is that the kingdom exists for some time in this world with righteous and evil in it side by side until the completion.
 - ❖ The Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Leaven (vv. 31-33) – The mystery here is that the kingdom has come into the world without the sweeping transformation most expected.
 - ❖ The Parable of the Net (vv. 47-50) – The mystery here is that the net—the power of the kingdom—draws good and bad. Only when the net is up on shore at the close of the age will the good and the bad fish be separated.

KINGDOM OF GOD Q&A

1. Q: What’s the conclusion to the mystery?
A: With Jesus first coming, the kingdom of God arrived and, with his second coming, it will be completed.
2. Q: What happens until Jesus’ second coming?
A: The kingdom of God extends slowly and gradually (Mark 4:26-29)
3. Q: How does God extend his kingdom?
A: Through **his people**.

CENTRAL TRUTH:

God extends his kingdom through his people until He completes it when Jesus returns.

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What evidence do you see of God’s kingdom having arrived but not yet fully completed?
2. The reign and the rule of God will be fully completed at Christ’s second coming. But, in the meantime, God slowly and gradually extends his kingdom through his people. What specific things can the people of God do to increase the reign and rule of God? How can participation in Kingdom Impact towards extending God’s Kingdom?
3. Share one insight from this week’s Kingdom Impact devotional that was most personally significant to you?
4. Look at Guide 5 in the back of the Kingdom Impact devotional. Discuss and share your responses to “Set 1: in the beginning.”

CHURCH PRAYER TOPICS

1. Prayer for Kingdom Impact (especially for YNCC’s vital involvement in meeting the needs of our communities in Christ)
2. For God to provide an Evangelism Pastor.
3. For upcoming 2009 SMTs (short-term mission trips).