

God Is Our King

GOD REIGNS AND RULES OVER US IN HIS KINGDOM

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Matthew 6.33

KEY IMAGE: CROWN

GOD AND HIS KINGDOM

The Bible teaches us many important characteristics about our Heavenly Father:

God is _____.

He has always existed, and He will exist forever.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. — Psalm 90.2

God is _____.

He created all things in the universe. He has the ultimate power over nature.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. — Genesis 1.1

God is _____.

He has complete authority as King who reigns in His Kingdom.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. — Matthew 6.13

The Kingdom of God is the reign and rule of God. Jesus came to establish God's Kingdom here on earth, and He spent much of His time teaching about this Kingdom.

God's Kingdom is not like earthly kingdoms! In fact, in many ways it is quite the opposite:

Mark 10.43	<i>To be great, you must be a servant</i>
Luke 6.29	<i>We must not fight back when threatened</i>
Matthew 19.30	<i>Those who are first will be last, and the last will be first</i>
Acts 20.35	<i>Giving is more important than receiving</i>

YOUR PART IN THE KINGDOM

When you belong to God, you have special privileges in the Kingdom:

You have your _____ **in God.**

You are a citizen of the Kingdom! God is our King and we are His servants.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. — Ephesians 2.19

You have the sufficiency of God—He is _____.

The world says significance is based on wealth and fame. God says we have our significance in Him!

<i>My grace is sufficient for you.</i>	— 2 Corinthians 12.9
<i>In Him you have been made complete.</i>	— Colossians 2.10

USE YOUR OWN STORIES TO TEACH THESE POINTS

You have _____ from God.

Pray and ask God to use you to do mighty things!

USE YOUR OWN STORIES TO TEACH
THESE POINTS

*I (Jesus) tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing.
He will do even greater things than these.* — John 14.12

Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world. — 1 John 4.4

THE OPPOSING EVIL KINGDOM

Besides the Kingdom of God, there is one other kingdom. This is an evil force called the domain of _____ which is led by Satan and his demons.

If you are a follower of Jesus, you were rescued from this dark kingdom!

Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son. — Colossians 1.12-13

Satan is God's enemy! If you follow God's way, Satan will be your enemy as well, and he will try to _____ you!

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. — 1 Peter 5.8 (see John 10.10)

Satan uses the things of the world to _____ us away from God. He uses our inner cravings and desires to tempt us and lead us into sin.

*Do not love the world nor the things in the world...For all that is in the world, the lust of the **flesh** and the lust of the **eyes** and the boastful **pride** of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts...*
— 1 John 2.15-17 (NASB)

What are the three types of sin mentioned in 1 John 2.15-17?

Give a Few Examples

The lust of the _____.

The lust of the _____.

The boastful _____ of life.

Study Ephesians 6.10-17 and learn how to fight against this dark kingdom. Remember, you have God's power available to you to help you win the battle against evil!

THE THRONE OF YOUR HEART

Have you ever thought about who is in charge of your life? Each of us is born with a desire to be in control of our own lives—to be the king sitting on the throne of our own heart. But God wants to be King of your life instead!

How do we do this? We must first _____. This means we choose to obey Him instead of satisfying our own selfish desires. It means letting God have control of all the areas of our life: our time, our money, our relationships, our decisions. If we do this, Satan can never get a foothold!

If anyone would come after me (Jesus), he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

— Luke 9.23

Are you willing to place God on the throne of your heart? Look at Matthew 6.33, the memory verse for this week. In this verse, Jesus promises that if we put God and His Kingdom first, He will provide us with all that we need. We will have peace and joy in our hearts, and His Kingdom will grow stronger!

ASSIGNMENTS

OBEY at least one thing you learned from this lesson:

WRITE a brief story of how you've experienced God's power in your life.

SHARE your personal story or the Gospel story with at least one person this week.

MEMORIZE the memory verse:
Matthew 6.33

READ from the Bible:

Matthew 22.34-40 Matthew 28.16-20
Romans 12.1-2 Colossians 1.15-20

TRAIN at least one believer outside this group, just as you were trained.