THE KINGDOM IS HERE (AND NOT YET HERE) Luke 17:20–37

Jesus talked about the kingdom more than almost anything else — but what was He really describing? When we pray "Thy kingdom come," what do we mean? The kingdom of God is more than a place or a future reality for our souls. God's kingdom is a new reality breaking in — and we're invited to live it now.

☐ Monday: Read Luke 17:20–21. Jesus says the kingdom of God is "in your midst." Why do you think the Pharisees had trouble experiencing the kingdom as it was unfolding? What expectations can blind us from seeing Jesus among us today? ☐ Tuesday: Read Luke 17:22–25. Jesus warns the disciples to beware of those who claim to have all the answers, and that suffering and rejection would be part of the future. When voices around us claim to have all the answers or offer easy fixes, how can you stay rooted in the way of Jesus? How can glimpses of the kingdom give you a future hope? ☐ Wednesday: Read Luke 17:26–30. Jesus compared the days of the kingdom's coming to the time of Noah and Lot, when ordinary life carried on until, for many, sudden judgment arrived. What practices help you stay spiritually alert? What do you think it means to be ready for God's kingdom to break in? ☐ Thursday: Read Luke 17:31–33. Jesus teaches that clinging to possessions or looking back can cause you to miss what God is doing. What might God be calling you to release or hold more loosely so that you can fully embrace life in God's kingdom? □ Friday: Read Luke 17:34–37. Jesus implies the kingdom will come suddenly and with division. How can knowing the certainty of God's coming and God's justice shape the way you live and treat others today? ☐ Saturday: Read Daniel 2:44–45. Daniel declared that God's kingdom would rise and outlast every earthly power.

The kingdom of God isn't just something we wait for or a distant hope – it's already here, moving in ways we can't always see. It is now and not yet, still coming in full. The question: How do we live in the in-between time? Will we live like the Pharisees, who can't see beyond their own expectations, or like the disciples, who Jesus teaches to be prepared and spiritually alert?

Call to Action: Live with anticipation and participation.

How can you shift to trust God's everlasting reign?

Where are you tempted to place your hope in temporary kingdoms?