



The King Announces the Kingdom

Key idea:

The teaching of Jesus centered on the Gospel of the Kingdom - the Good News of God's reign that had come with Jesus - and called for a response of repentance and faith.

Key text:

Mark 1:14–15

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Key points:

1. John was 'handed over' to be arrested, which foreshadows what will happen to Jesus Himself, as well as the persecution that befalls those who faithfully follow Him.
2. Jesus began His public ministry at the conclusion of John's ministry because it was the beginning of a new epoch in redemptive history - the long-awaited Kingdom had finally come!
3. Jesus' teaching and ministry were centered on proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom of God which had arrived in the Person and work of Jesus.
4. Jesus called for people to respond to Him, the Gospel, and the Kingdom of God through personal repentance and faith.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. How is Jesus' message similar to that of John the Baptist? How is it different? What does this tell me about the relationship of the Kingdom of God to Jesus?
3. When I hear the phrase "the Kingdom of God" what do I think it means?

4. What is the relationship between the Gospel and the Kingdom of God?
5. Jesus taught that the Kingdom of God had arrived with Him. If the Kingdom of God has come, why do God's people still suffer? Why is there still so much sin and brokenness in the world?
6. Why does Jesus call for repentance and faith in response to the coming of the Kingdom? What does this tell me about the Kingdom of God?
7. When I hear the call "repent and believe" do I primarily think about a one-time experience that begins the Christian life, or do I primarily think about the ongoing need for repentance and faith in the Christian life? Why?
8. What area is the Holy Spirit showing me that I need to repent in response to the reign of Jesus? How can I trust God in this area in the coming weeks?
9. Who will I call or see to encourage this week? How will I work to share life with them this week?