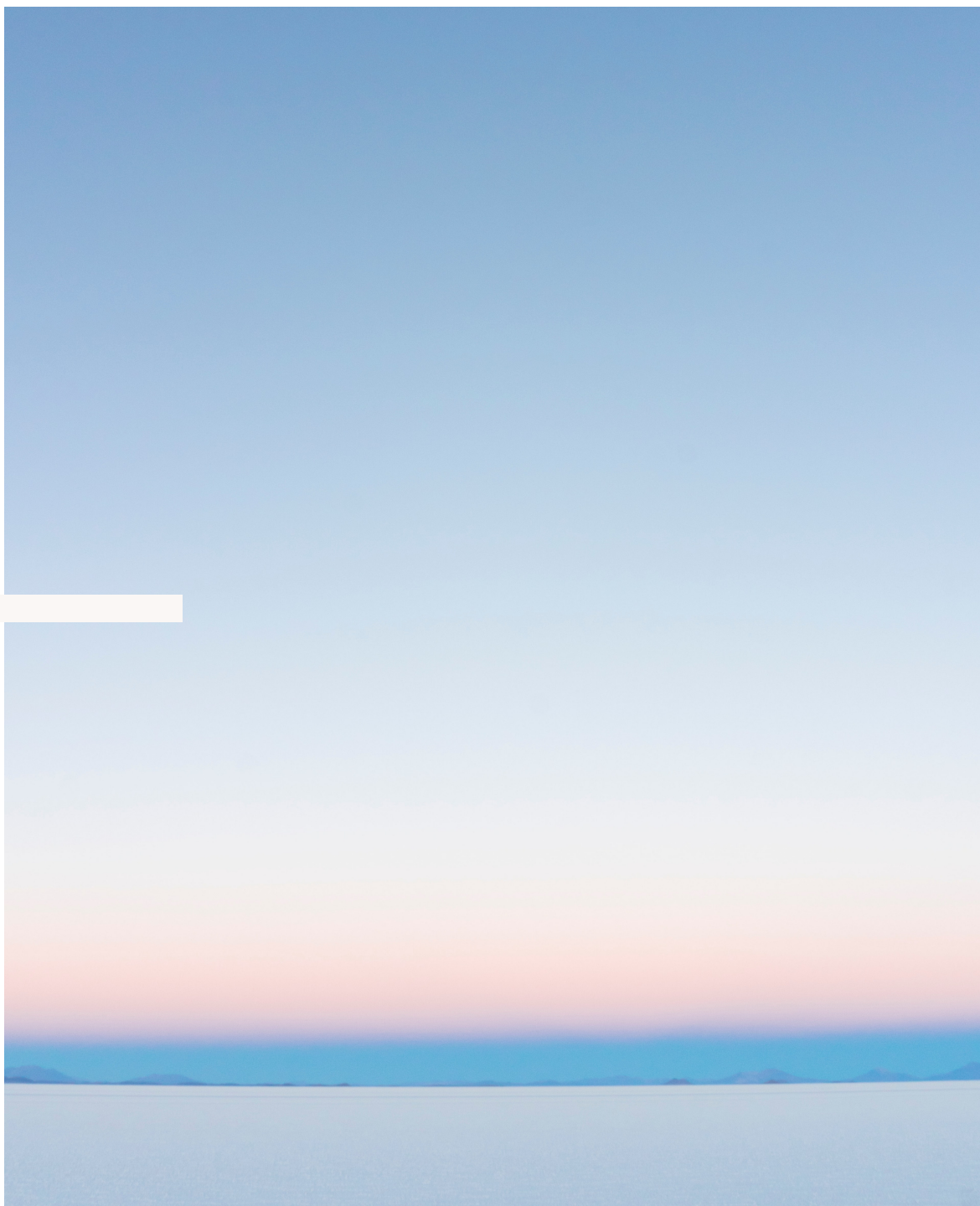


# KINGDOM CULTURE



GRACE BIBLE CHURCH

FOLLOW. BECOME. DO.

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G O S P E L  
O F T H E  
K I N G D O M





## PURPOSE: TO FIND OURSELVES IN GODS STORY

KEY VERSE | MARK 1:14-18

## CREATION

Genesis 1-2

Out of an overflow of his love, God created the world. He created human beings in his image and gave us a job: to care for creation and fill the earth. In partnership with God, humankind is to show the world what God is like by sharing God's love with the world.

### TO INTIMATELY KNOW GOD

- TO BE IN RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
- TO WORSHIP GOD IN ALL WE DO
- TO GLORIFY GOD AND ENJOY HIM FOREVER

### TO KNOW MYSELF AS I AM FULLY KNOWN

- FREE FROM SHAME, BLAME, HIDING
- CHARACTERIZED BY LOVE AND MUTUAL INTERDEPENDENCE
- REFLECTING GOD'S IMAGE TOGETHER

### TO BE IN PERFECT RELATIONSHIP

- FREE FROM SHAME, BLAME, HIDING
- CHARACTERIZED BY LOVE AND MUTUAL INTERDEPENDENCE
- REFLECTING GOD'S IMAGE TOGETHER

### TO CARE FOR CREATION

- TO MAKE CULTURE
- TO SHOWCASE GOD'S LOVE TO THE WORLD
- TO CULTIVATE AND CARE FOR THE WORLD

# F A L L

## Genesis 3-11

The serpent deceives Adam and Eve, and they use their freedom to rebel. They doubt God's goodness and tried to become like God without him. In doing so, they surrender to the serpent their God given right to rule. A tension emerges- a tension that has not only become the context for human history, but for our daily life. We were created for love but are prone to wander. We have capacity for good but are drawn towards evil. Instead of a life characterized by perfect relationships, our relationships are marred, broken, and distorted.

This is the culture of a fallen world:

### DOUBT GOD'S GOODNESS

- FROM INTIMACY TO HIDING
- FROM WORSHIP OF GOD TO WORSHIP OF SELF/IDOLS

### BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS

- FROM MUTUAL INTERDEPENDENCE TO BLAME, DOMINATION, AND MANIPULATION
- FROM NAKEDNESS TO COVERING

### TRY TO BE LIKE GOD WITHOUT GOD

- FROM IDENTITY IN GOD TO SHAME AND COVERING
- STRIVING TO BECOME WHO WE ARE, EARNING IDENTITY IN EXTERNAL THINGS

### EXPLOIT AND USE UP CREATION

- FROM CARE TO EXPLOITATION, FROM JOYFUL WORK TO THORNS AND THISTLES
- ALL CULTURES ARE MARRED BY THE FALL



## G O D ' S P L A N

Genesis 12, Exodus, Isaiah 53, Ezekiel 37, Joel 2:28-32

Throughout the rest of the Old Testament, God initiates a plan to renew and restore the world. He chooses a man, a family, and ultimately a nation to show the world what God is like. He delivers, leads, and blesses them so that they would be a light to the world. At times they got it right, but often they fell miserably short. In the midst of their failure, God is relentless in his pursuit. He promises the future restoration of the world through his Messiah, who would atone for the sins of people, heal the brokenness of creation, destroy the works of Satan, and send the Holy Spirit.

We were created for good but are drawn towards evil. Where do you experience this tension in daily life? Where have you experienced God's pursuit of you?

# J E S U S   A N D   T H E K I N G D O M   O F   G O D

Mark 1:14-20, Luke 4:14-21

The four gospels tell the story of Jesus as the crescendo of the Old Testament, linking Jesus to the promised Messiah who would bring about the restoration of the world. As God incarnate, Jesus forgives sin, heals brokenness, and destroys the works of Satan. He calls this the coming of God's Kingdom. In the work of Jesus, the future restoration that God promised was becoming a reality. Jesus invites us to repent and believe; to drop everything to follow him, become like him, and do what he is doing.

## What is the Kingdom of God?

The Kingdom of God is the rule and reign of God. It is the range of his effective will; the place where what God wants done is done. It occurs when God's redemption and restoration break into a specific moment. To say that the Kingdom of God has come, or is coming, is to say that God himself has intervened, or is intervening, in a special way. When we experience God's restoration in the present, we are experiencing a foretaste of our future life with God when his Kingdom comes in full.

## What does the Kingdom of God look Like?

- Sins are forgiven
- The rule of Satan is overthrown
- People are healed and move towards wholeness
- Life is restored and resurrected



Jesus brings the Kingdom of God and invites us to participate. Where have you experienced his presence in your life?



# REDEMPTION & RESTORATION

## REDEMPTION

Mark 10:35-45, John 19-20, 1 Corinthians 15

The extent of God's love was so great, that Jesus died in our place at the cross, atoning for our sins. After three days, Jesus is raised to life and conquers death itself, making a way for all of us to experience resurrection life here and now. Through the cross and resurrection, we are united with Jesus. He made a way for us to be reconnected to God.

## RESTORATION

Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:1-10 and 2, 1-2 Corinthians 5:1-6:2, Revelation 21:1-8 and 22:1-5

After Jesus ascended to the Father, he sent the Holy Spirit to live in his followers, so that we would continue his work in the world. The Holy Spirit helps us to become like Jesus and do what Jesus did. We are empowered to partner in Jesus' work to see the world restored and look forward to his second coming, when he will inaugurate a new heaven and earth. We get to experience and extend this future reality, the culture of God's Kingdom, in our everyday lives.

### RECONCILED TO GOD

- WE LIVE FULLY SURRENDERED TO GOD IN WORSHIP
- WE ARE REDEEMED BY JESUS AND FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

### IDENTITY RECLAIMED

- OUR IDENTITY AS ADOPTED SONS AND DAUGHTERS BECOMES THE TRUEST THING ABOUT US
- AS WE BECOME LIKE JESUS WE BECOME MORE FULLY OURSELVES

### RESTORED RELATIONSHIP

- WE BECOME A COMMUNITY THAT LOVES ONE ANOTHER, MARKED BY FORGIVENESS AND RADICAL LOVE
- SERVES THE WORLD, MARKED BY COMPASSION AND HUMILITY

### PURPOSE REIMAGINED

- WE JOIN GOD ON HIS MISSION TO REDEEM AND RESTORE CREATION
- WE MAKE DISCIPLES AND PURSUE JUSTICE WHEREVER WE ARE





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P R A C T I C E





## WITH YOUR GROUP

Tonight, we want to open up some space for your group to debrief the talk together and make a game plan for the next 7 weeks, exploring some hopes, fears, or expectations you might have.

### Debriefing the Talk

- What stood out to you from the talk? This can be something that was encouraging, challenging or new to you.
- What was it like for you seeing the entirety of God's story laid out in this way? How does this influence the way you look at your own story?
- Where might God be inviting you deeper into his story and his mission?

### Looking Ahead

- How are you looking to grow throughout this course? What are you hoping for or expecting out of this course? What are some fears or apprehensions you might have going into this course?
- Read through the introduction and outline for Daily Time with Jesus, together. How do you feel about implementing this regularly into your life for the next 7 weeks?
- How can you come alongside one another to hold each other up and encourage one another in Daily Time with Jesus and working toward these goals?

## O N Y O U R O W N

Starting this week and over the next 7 weeks, we will be setting aside time every day to be with Jesus and to learn our lives from him. While this can look a little different for everyone, Daily Time with Jesus involves making space to pause, read scripture, reflect and pray.

We will be reading through the book of Luke and the book of Acts in our Daily Time with Jesus. These two books, written by the same author, read like a two-part series of the larger Gospel narrative. Luke lays out the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, and continues the story of the Gospel beyond Jesus' life through the book of Acts and the beginning movements of the Church. At the end of each section of this book, you will find the passages we've divided up for that week.

**Prepare** | Take a minute in silence to slow down, take a few deep breaths, and reflect on the presence of God as you begin.

**Watch Video** | On certain days, we will encourage you to watch a video from the Bible Project to help frame the next section of passages we will be reading.

**Read scripture** | Read the passage to yourself slowly, maybe quietly or out loud, opening to what God may be revealing to you through his word, today.

**Reflect** | Take a moment to reflect on the following questions regarding the passage:

- What word, verse, or concept is standing out to you that God might be stirring up for further reflection?
- What might God be revealing to you about himself? Or his Kingdom?
- What might God be revealing to you about yourself?

**Respond** | Take another moment in silence to think about the day ahead. What word, concept, verse, or phrase might God be inviting you to take with you into the day ahead? Invite God into this with you, to strengthen you and empower you to be with him throughout your day.



## DAILY TIME WITH JESUS

**Day One** | Luke 1

\*watch video on Luke 1-2

**Day Two** | Luke 2

**Day Three** | Luke 3-4

\*watch video on Luke 3-9

**Day Four** | Sabbath

\*watch video on Sabbath

**Day Five** | Luke 5-6

**Day Six** | Luke 7

**Day Seven** | Luke 8