



MESSAGE NOTES

THE ARRIVAL OF A KINGDOM - PT 5

"Driving on the Other Side of the Road"

Pastor Chris Lautsbaugh

December 29-30, 2019

Matthew 13:47

1. Thrown

The Kingdom of God has a strategy of sacrifice.

2. Caught

The Kingdom of God is best received when a need is acknowledged.

3. Every Kind

"Loving your enemies is the fuel for the expansion of the gospel. In the Kingdom of Jesus, suffering is power, weakness is might and loving your enemy is the most aggressive way to further the kingdom. The John 3:16 of the early church was Matthew 5, Love your enemy. It was quoted by more early church writers than anything else. When people looked at the early church followers, they saw the enemy loving people. Would people say the same thing about American Jesus followers today?" Dr. Preston Sprinkle

The Kingdom is not one of tolerance, but of self-sacrificial love.

What is God asking you to do in the New Year?

- What is your strategy of sacrifice?
- Who is in a time of need that might be able to be caught?
- How is God challenging us to self-sacrificial love?

Matthew 6:9-13 (ESV)

Small Group Outline & Discussion Questions

Celebrate and Care:

Have each person share a high and low from this past week.

Review:

God's Kingdom calls us to go against flow.

Open Up:

What is your favorite New Year's tradition?

Discuss:

Choose one or two questions for your group to discuss as time allows.

- ▶ During this series we highlighted the Kingdom being like a child, a mustard seed, a treasure in a field, yeast, and fishing. Which word picture showed you something new?
- ▶ How is the Kingdom like driving on the other side of the road?
- ▶ What is a need God met for you that fostered a connection with him in a new way?
- ▶ What are some personal highlights of this last year that you want to celebrate?
- ▶ How did God meet you in the middle of a difficult circumstance?
- ▶ Who connected with you in a significant way this past year?
- ▶ Who did you connect with in a new way this past year?

Engage:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with these questions then share your thoughts.

Read Matthew 13:47. Where is God asking you to throw your net this next year?

Is there someone specific in a time of need that you could reach out to?

What is one word you feel God wants to highlight for you in this next year?

Pray:

Read 2 Thessalonians 1:11. Invite God to prompt you to the good things he has planned for you and empower you to do them.