



## HOPE SERIES

### Group conversations - Week 1: The Coming of the Kingdom

#### Summary of Session 1 for facilitator:

In these 4 weeks, we will **focus our conversations on Jesus, the Kingdom of Heaven and Hope**. Our engagement in conversation with other believers about the Scriptures is how we **behold King Jesus** and **position ourselves to receive from God a revelation of Hope**. We will look at four passages from the Gospel according to Matthew to guide us. In week 1, we will focus on the **Good News of the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven** from Matthew 4:17-23. We will explore concepts of **Good News and Hope** and our calling and repentance in the light of Jesus' announcement that the Kingdom of Heaven **is arriving**. When we **believe this is the Good News about our homes, workplaces and communities**, it empowers us to live this calling to be **hope-carriers**.

#### Start the conversation:

Make sure that people introduce themselves if there are new people in the group or if it is a new group. There is a list of ice-breakers in the facilitators notes that you can use to start the evening.

#### Video:

Explain there are going to be certain moments in the video that we are going to pause the video for discussion. In the pause segments, let people turn to one other person and share the relevant question. Try to limit these pauses to 5 minutes. There will be time for longer conversations after the video presentation.

- 1st Pause: Share with one other person any good news you have received related to your home, work, or community. It doesn't matter when it happened. What was the news, and what impact did it have on you? (5min.)
- 2nd Pause: Turn to another person and share what thoughts, feelings, questions come to mind when you hear the words: The Kingdom of heaven or God? (5min.)
- 3rd Pause: Turn to another person and share what your immediate reaction would be if you heard that the Kingdom of God is arriving in your home, work and community? (5min.)





**Questions to continue the conversation:**

- Q: What could change if people really believed that Jesus is King and that God's renewing heavenly Kingdom is coming in their homes, workplaces and communities?
- Q: What can help you to "Behold" – study, gaze, ponder - Jesus and the Kingdom of Heaven in order to align your thinking with Him?
- Q: What comes to mind when you hear that Jesus has called you to partner with Him in this mission of establishing the Kingdom of Heaven at your home, your place of work and your community?

**End the conversation:**

Encourage people to engage with the daily devotionals, Sunday celebrations and the group conversations for the whole series, and to also pray for each other as Paul prayed: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, (Ephesians 1:15-18)

End the conversation with prayer.

