



HOPE SERIES

Group conversations - Week 2: The Signs of the Kingdom

Summary of Session 2 for facilitator:

Matthew introduces **Jesus as a Person with authority**. It is **the King that brings Kingdom of Heaven**. In the same way signs points to realities in everyday life, **the signs Jesus did, pointed to the reality of the arrival of the Kingdom of heaven on earth**, and it showed the nature of this **Kingdom authority**. God's authority restores and renews. We are called into **partnership with Jesus for this restoring and renewing Kingdom**. We begin to explore the question **how we can represent this Hope of restoration and renewal** in homes, workplaces and societies.

Start the conversation:

Make sure that people introduce themselves if there are new people in the group. Use an ice-breaker to get the conversation going. There will be an opportunity during the video presentation for feedback from the week gone by.

Video:

Remind people that there are going to be certain moments in the video that we are going to pause the video for discussion.

- 1st Pause: Turn to another person and share about the week that passed in the light of last week's conversation about the good news of the arrival of God's Kingdom and Jesus calling us as partners in this mission. What did you become aware of? Were there any new insights, experiences or questions? (This part of the conversation could exceed 5 minutes)
- 2nd Pause: Turn to another person and share how you would describe the nature of the Kingdom of Heaven in the light of this sign in Matthew 9? (5 min.)
- 3rd Pause: Turn to another person and share an example where somebody used his or her authority to restore and renew something. (5 min.)

as it is in heaven so be it on earth





Questions to continue the conversation:

- Q: What does “surrendering to Jesus’ authority” mean to you?
- Q: When you think of the environments you live in and the restoring and renewing authority of God’s Kingdom, to what degree have you grown to trust Him to bring restoration and renewal there? What can you do to grow this faith?
- Q: How can we represent this healing and renewing authority of Jesus in the places we live and work?
- Q: Can you share a story of the restoring and renewing authority of God from your own life?

End the conversation:

Encourage people to consider this for the week ahead:

- What can I do to be more aware of signs of the coming of God’s Kingdom that already exist?
- Where do I discern an opportunity for God’s Kingdom to bring restoration and renewal?

Bring one of those points to next week’s gathering so that we can pray for it, trusting Jesus to bring renewal and restoration. Commit to pray for each other also during the week.

Pray together.

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