

GOD'S MASTER PLAN

REVEALED THE FATHER & THE KINGDOM

LESSON:

In John 14:9-11, Jesus says, "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father and that the Father is in me?" Everything Jesus said and did reflected the nature and character of God the Father. This revelation is transformative: God is not a distant, impersonal ruler, but a loving Father who desires to be known and embraced by His children. Through Jesus, we are invited into God's family. Jesus also calls us to live within the Kingdom of God. When He proclaimed the Kingdom, He introduced a radically new way of understanding reality. The Kingdom of God is not a physical domain or a political system but the rule and reign of God over our world, our lives, and our hearts. It is a spiritual reality that brings transformation to our hearts, minds, and relationships. Jesus taught that while the Kingdom is already present in Him, its fullness will be revealed in the future. Living in God's Kingdom means living according to a different set of values than those of this world. Jesus summarized the life of a Kingdom citizen in two commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind," and "Love your neighbor as yourself." These commands define the very essence of life in God's Kingdom. It is a Kingdom where the last are first, where the poor in spirit are blessed, and where forgiveness and mercy reign. Jesus didn't merely speak about the Kingdom; He demonstrated it through His actions. His miracles—healing the sick, casting out demons, feeding the hungry—were tangible signs of the Kingdom breaking into the present world. The Kingdom challenges the values of this world and calls us to live by a new higher standard: one of love, justice, mercy, and humility. In Mark 1:15, Jesus declares, "The time has come. The Kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news." We cannot remain silent about what has been revealed to us. Our mission is to share Jesus with others so they, too, can come to know the Father and experience the fullness of life in the Kingdom of God. Just as Jesus shared His message with us, we are called to share it with others. A powerful verse to begin sharing with others is John 3:16, which says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Let us spread the good news, so that others may believe and gain access to Jesus, God the Father, and His Kingdom. We can do this not only with words but with actions of love. We can't keep this to ourselves!

QUESTIONS:

1. Jesus revealed God as our _____ not only our creator. Why is this so important?
2. What does it mean to live in God's Kingdom?
3. Why is it important to show the Kingdom of God through our actions, not just talking about it?

ACTIVITY:

Share the good news through a dessert: Make a dessert together (cookies, brownies, cake, etc.). On a sticky note or small piece of paper, write out the following verse from John 3:16. Then, take the dessert and note you made and share it with a neighbor or someone God has placed on your heart. Just as Jesus revealed the Father to us, we can reveal Jesus to others."

WEDNESDAY

