



# LIFE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

By Shari Miller

Share with a partner or the small group a life-changing moment or event in your life. Describe the feelings that you had during this life-changing time. During this Bible study, we will explore our life-giving God and the benefits His children enjoy in God's kingdoms of power, grace, and glory. In Matthew 6:10a, Jesus teaches us to pray, *Your kingdom come*. As God's own dearly loved children given new life in Christ through Holy Baptism, we will explore the benefits of life in God's kingdom.

### Opening Prayer

Dear Lord, You are the Lord of life. You created this world and all that is in it, including us. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to be our Savior through His perfect life, suffering, and death. Because He rose to life from the dead, we, too, can look forward to eternal life. Thank You for giving us the Holy Spirit Who enables us to live our lives in Your kingdom of grace, sharing the Good News of salvation in Jesus. Be with us as we study Your Word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

### Life in the Kingdom of Power

God rules as king over the whole universe. His kingdom of power is present everywhere. **Psalm 103:19** says, *The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all*. According to **Genesis 1:1–2, 26a** and **John 1:1–4, 14**, who was present at the creation of the world? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Jesus remind us of in **Matthew 28:18**? \_\_\_\_\_

What specific aspects of creation are discussed in the following Bible passages?

**Genesis 2:7, 22** \_\_\_\_\_

**Job 38:1, 4–7** \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm 8:3** \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm 50:10–11** \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm 104:25–26** \_\_\_\_\_

**Psalm 139:13–14** \_\_\_\_\_

How did God feel about His creation according to **Genesis 1:31a**? \_\_\_\_\_

How does God care for and sustain His creation? Read **Psalm 145:8–9, 15–16; Psalm 147:8–9; and Luke 12:22–31**. \_\_\_\_\_

### Faith Talk

How does God daily care for you, His dear child? Be specific. Make a list together. \_\_\_\_\_

### If Time Permits

When we pray the Second Petition of the Lord's Prayer, do we pray for God's kingdom of power to come to us? Why or why not? (See *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation*, ©1986, 1991, Concordia Publishing House, Meaning to Second Petition and Question 213. See also *LSB*, page 324; *LW*, page 302.) \_\_\_\_\_

### Life in the Kingdom of Grace

Who lives in God's kingdom of grace? See **Mark 1:15; John 3:5; John 18:36–37; Romans 14:17; and Colossians 1:13–14**. \_\_\_\_\_

Name at least five benefits that are given to a believer in Christ who lives in the kingdom of grace. See **Ephesians 2:1–10 and Titus 2:11–14** for help in making the list. \_\_\_\_\_

How does the Lord nurture and sustain believers who live in His kingdom of grace?

**John 14:16–17** \_\_\_\_\_

**Isaiah 55:11** \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 26:26–28** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark 4:26–29** \_\_\_\_\_

**Titus 3:4–6** \_\_\_\_\_

**John 3:16** states emphatically, *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life*. How is God's kingdom of grace extended? See **Matthew 5:14–16; Matthew 9:38; Acts 4:29; Galatians 6:2; and 2 Thessalonians 3:1**. \_\_\_\_\_

### Faith Talk

According to **John 3:16**, God loves the world and would have all believe in Christ as Savior and Lord. When was the last opportunity you had to share, by the power of the Spirit, the Good News of Jesus? How did you take advantage of the opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_

### Life in the Kingdom of Glory

We are given eternal life because our Savior lived a perfect life, suffered, died for our sins, and rose victoriously from the dead. Our God reigns in His kingdom of glory for all eternity. Jesus encourages us in **Revelation 2:10c**, *be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life*. Who lives in God's kingdom of glory? See **Hebrews 12:1–3 and Revelation 5:9–11**. \_\_\_\_\_

According to **Romans 5:1–5 and Philippians 3:12–14**, how do Christians live life here on earth? \_\_\_\_\_

### Faith Talk

What does living and *waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ (Titus 2:13)* mean in your life? \_\_\_\_\_

God loves life! He created us, makes us His own in the name of Jesus, keeps us in faith, and gives us the hope of eternal life with Him. How can you specifically advocate for life in all stages — from conception through the senior years? \_\_\_\_\_

Read **Revelation 21:1–7 and 22:1–5** for our Lord's glimpse into the kingdom of glory. Share with one another your picture of eternal life with your Savior Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_

### Faith Walk

1. Pray that the Holy Spirit will enable you to share the Good News of Jesus with those who need to hear.
2. Thank God that He has given you new life in Him through Baptism. Make sure you know the date you were baptized and plan a thanksgiving celebration on that day.
3. Praise God for making you part of His kingdom of grace and giving you the hope of living eternally with Him in the kingdom of glory.

### Closing Prayer

Sing or speak together: "Crown Him with Many Crowns" (*LSB* #525; *LW* #278; *TLH* #341).