

In summary, it is an invitation to a radical new life and journey with God!

It is important that you begin the journey in the right way. Like any journey, you want to make sure you are going in the right direction. Jesus asks us to begin the journey with repentance and faith. Unfortunately, some have not understood this and have simply seen Jesus as a Savior and not a King. This results in people who are not really changed at their conversion and are still living their lives the same way they did before they believed in Jesus. They are living for themselves and are just waiting to die and go to heaven. This is not at all the gospel Jesus came to proclaim.

The gospel of the kingdom is a call to follow Christ as our King or Lord. He is indeed our Savior, the Son of God who died for our sins and who rose from the dead, but He is also our King. He requires us to leave our old life behind to follow Him. Knowing Him, building relationship with Him, learning to hear His voice, and becoming obedient to Him, now describes the new life Jesus has called us to live. Just as those first disciples responded with joy to leave everything and follow Him, we too take on that same attitude. There is no greater privilege on the earth than to follow and serve Jesus as King!

8. *What is something new or most challenging aspect about the gospel of the kingdom that you learned from this lesson?*

9. *How have you experienced the kingdom of God working in you or through you? If you are not sure, please share what makes it difficult for you to experience the kingdom of God.*

LIVING IT OUT

One analogy that has been used to help us understand what it means to make Jesus the King of our life, compares our heart to a house with many rooms. Each room signifies a place that we want to invite Jesus into to reign as King. We understand that the more He is the King of our life the more we will experience the kingdom. Look through the following list and see if there are any places Jesus might be showing you that He wants to be King in.

1. **The Study** – this represents our minds and our thought life. We all start the journey with many wrong thoughts about God, the world, and ourselves. We need to invite Jesus in to change the way we think and make it more kingdom focused.

2. **The Dining Room** – this represents our appetites and desires. We start the journey with many selfish desires. We often want God to bless our plans and desires instead of asking Him to change our desires to fit His plans. We need to invite Jesus in to change our desires and make them like His.

3. **The Living Room** – this represents a place of building relationship and friendship with God. We are not to just be servants, but close friends. This means spending time with Him and living life with an awareness of His presence. Do you regularly spend time with God? Do you invite Him into your daily life?
4. **The Workroom or Office** – this represents our jobs and careers. We want to ask Jesus to lead our careers and to help us define success according to His plans for us. Have you surrendered your career to Him?
5. **Recreation Room** – this represents our free time. Even in our free time, we want to be led by Jesus. Anything that is not pleasing to Him, we want to get rid of and form new habits. We will find that Jesus and the kingdom will always bring us the greatest joy.
6. **The Bedroom** – this represents our marriage or desire to be married. It can also be our sexual desires that we want to be controlled by Jesus. If we are looking for a marriage partner, it is trusting in God and His timing to fulfill that desire. If we are married, it is asking His will to be done in our relationship.
7. **The Hall Closet** – this represents the things we hide from others. Past sins, embarrassing moments, past wounds. All of these are things that need to be brought to Jesus so He can cleanse and heal us.
8. **Transferring the Title** – this represents giving our life over to Jesus. We do not just invite Him into our heart as a guest, but we want Him to have full ownership over our entire life. Have you given him full ownership of your life?

MOVING FORWARD

1. *As you read through this list, did any of these stick out to you as places that need to be surrendered or given over to Jesus?*

2. *Is there anything else that you feel Jesus is speaking to you about in regards to being the King of your life?*