

**The Kingdom of God**  
**Lesson 22: Jesus on Kingdom Community**  
**LifeWalk Leader Guide**

**Open/Icebreakers:** Name some of the benefits/blessings from walking in faith within the Kingdom of God. Do you feel connected to a kingdom community? If so, what enhances(ed) this connection? If not, what is hindering you from finding connection within the body of Christ?

**Digging In:** Luke 18:28-30

1. We know Peter has the tendency to be the first to speak up. What do you think prompted his statement in verse 28? Was there any truth in Peter's statement? Why would Peter say something like this?
2. Does anything strike you as you read Jesus' response to Peter? What is He saying?
3. Here are some thoughts on how this passage can be interpreted. Share points on which you might agree and points on which you would disagree.
  - Jesus means for this statement to be interpreted "spiritually" or metaphorically. He is saying when you make sacrifices for the kingdom it will be "as though you had more houses, parents, etc." (Read the parallel passage in Mark 10:29-30. What is in this text that is not in the Luke passage?)
  - This is a proof text for the "prosperity" gospel. When you follow Jesus, He will bless you with more of everything. (Consider the previous text and ask the question, if this is true, did the disciples "cash in" on this promise?)
4. What does Jesus mean when He says 'this present age?' Would you say that His disciples enjoyed 'many times more houses, parents, mothers, brothers, wives (?) and children' during their lives? How? In what sense?

**Reflection:**

1. Jesus may be challenging our Western mindset as He lays out the truth of what His kingdom community should look like. In what sense would current Kingdom citizens be able to enjoy more houses, family etc.?
2. How do we put this truth into practice? Consider some examples of how the early church behaved in Acts 2:44-45 and Acts 4:32-35.
3. In what way(s) can your group move more in this direction of Jesus' teaching to go, sell and give? What is God calling you to do?
4. Consider this thought. When you act as though you possess something, it begins to possess you. We may legally own things, but how can we possess things without things possessing us?

**Prayer:** God, help me to walk in Your ways. Teach me what it means to walk in faith with You. Thank you for Jesus and His sacrifice. Holy Spirit, move my heart to love and service.