

GIVE US THIS DAY: KINGDOM CULTURE

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Reflect:

Most of us at some point in our lives have experienced culture shock. We've entered a new area, job, school, church, etc. and have noticed that while we may be similar in many ways, there are also many ways we are different. Jesus, both in his life and his teachings showed us that His Kingdom and its culture is vastly different than any kingdom or culture on earth. Pastor Greg shared that "culture will always trump vision." Reflect on times in your life when you have experienced culture shock and share how that impacted your life.

3 WAYS OUR KINGDOM IS DIFFERENT THAN THE CULTURE OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

1. IN OUR CULTURE IT IS EXPECTED THAT WE LOVE OUR FRIENDS, IN KINGDOM CULTURE WE ARE ALSO CALLED TO LOVE OUR ENEMIES

- Read Matthew 5:43-45, Leviticus 19:17-18, 19:33-34 and Proverbs 24:17-18
- As you read the passages above, what stood out regarding the treatment of people in the Kingdom of God? How is it different than the world and its culture?

2. IN OUR CULTURE ONLY THE ACTIONS MATTER, IN KINGDOM CULTURE EVEN THE INTENT MATTERS

- Pastor Greg shared that when Jesus said, "you have heard it said," that he was taking a moment to correct the wrong thinking of the day. Read Matthew 5:21-22
- What was Jesus teaching to those who listened then, as well as those who will listen now?
- Can you think of other passages in the Bible, where we see that God is more interested in our hearts than simply our actions? If so, please share.

3. IN OUR CULTURE EVERYONE IS TRYING TO GET TO A BETTER PLACE, IN KINGDOM CULTURE WE SEEK TO MAKE OUR CURRENT PLACE BETTER

Read Matthew 5:13-16, Ephesians 2:10 and Isaiah 9:6-7

As you read these passages, what stood out about *your* place in the Kingdom of God?

Why is the Kingdom of God so important here on earth?

RESPOND

How are you doing at living out Kingdom principals in the culture around you? What areas of your life reflect it well, and in what areas are you challenged?