



Week 4

Heaven on Earth

Kingdom Light

The story of Jesus paints a picture of a world made right: where injustice is replaced with justice, where broken things are restored, and where people live with purpose and peace. And here’s the wild part – He invites regular people like us to be part of it. To live lives that bring light into dark places. Not by being perfect, but by being changed by something real. Something bigger.

Read Matthew 5:14-16

What kind of impact do I want my life to have on the people around me?

How does God use his people to shine light into the world?

¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden... let your light shine before others, so they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

A Glimpse of Glory

In the early days of the Church, something breathtaking happened. Ordinary people began living extraordinarily—sharing meals, praying together, giving sacrificially, and worshiping joyfully. And what happened as a result? Heaven brushed up against earth. The Spirit of God wove their lives together into something whole and holy.

This wasn't just community, it was communion. A light-filled, reconciled people living under the reign of Jesus, showing the world what it looks like when heaven comes near. No one was left out. No one was unseen. Needs were met, hearts were softened, and the love of God was so tangible that people couldn't stay away. It was a preview of the future, a kingdom coming, even now, wherever Christ is King.

Read Acts 2:42–47

Where in your daily life, your home, church, or neighborhood, could you more intentionally live out the Kingdom values of shared life, generosity, and joy?

What does this passage show you about God's heart for His people and His desire to bring heaven near through His Church?

The Fellowship of the Believers

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

A Royal Priesthood

What if you weren't just saved from something, but also saved for something? Peter describes followers of Jesus as a royal priesthood, a group set apart not only to belong to God but to represent Him to the world. In the Old Testament, priests stood in the gap between God and people. Now, every believer carries that priestly calling.

This isn't about rituals or robes, it's about being a living link between heaven and earth, a walking invitation to experience God's goodness, mercy, and beauty. Our lives, words, and presence are meant to proclaim His excellencies. We shine light by living in His light.

Being a "royal priesthood" means we carry both authority and humility: the authority of God's Spirit in us, and the humility of those who once walked in darkness but now reflect His marvelous light. Heaven touches earth when God's people live out who they really are.

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10

How can I more intentionally live as someone who reflects God's goodness to those around me?

What does it say about God that He chooses ordinary people to be His royal priests?

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Ambassadors of Reconciliation

In Christ, the world is being made new. As believers, we’re not simply waiting for God’s Kingdom to come; we’re invited to live as part of its breaking in. God has already reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and now we carry the message of that reconciliation. He’s made us ambassadors not just bearers of news, but active participants in God’s restoration plan. The old has passed away, and the new has already come. We live in that “in-between” moment, where the Kingdom is here and not yet fully realized.

The beauty of the Gospel isn’t just that we are reconciled to God and are now agents of reconciliation in a broken world. Wherever we go, whatever we do, we carry this mission: to point others toward Christ and His transforming love, as we wait for the day when God’s Kingdom is fully restored.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17–20

What does this passage reveal about God’s heart for restoration and His desire to make us part of His redemptive work?

In what areas of your life can you actively live into reconciliation both with God and others?

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us.

God’s Kingdom Fully Restored

What if the world isn’t meant to stay the way it is – filled with pain, injustice, and heartbreak? What if there’s a bigger story being told? One where things are being made right, where healing is possible, and love has the final word?

The story of the Bible begins with a world full of beauty, purpose, and connection. It ends with a renewed world—where heaven and earth come together, where God lives with people, and where all the brokenness is undone. That might sound like a dream, but what if it’s actually the future?

Those who follow Jesus believe they’re meant to live in a way that gives the world a preview of that better future through love, justice, compassion, and hope.

This is the Hope that anchors the Christian.

Read Revelation 21:3-5

Where in the world, or in my life, do I long to see things made new?

How does this passage help you to understand who God is and what he wants?

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away. ⁵ And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.