

Bible Study - God's Kingdom (The Big Picture)

Wk 1 - The Pattern of the Kingdom: Genesis 1 & 2

Graeme Goldsworthy in his book 'Gospel & Kingdom' describes 'the kingdom' as the binding theme of the Bible. Goldsworthy defines the kingdom of God as God's people in God's place under God's rule & blessing. Over eight weeks we will follow the the kingdom theme to gain a deeper appreciation of God's kingdom & covenant promises.

Opening Question:

In the Garden of Eden we see the world as God designed it to be - a model kingdom.

God's people (Adam & Eve), in God's Place, under God's rule

We see clearly throughout the Bible that being under God's rule is to enjoy his blessing.

1. What does 'the good life' look like to you?
2. What do you think of when you think of the Garden of Eden?
3. If you were asked, how would you describe God? How would you distinguish the God of the Bible from the many false gods promoted and worshiped in our world?

Read Genesis 1-2:3

1. What are the repeated words and phrases in the passage? What does that tell us about:
 - a) God the creator?
 - b) How God made the world?
 - c) God's creation?

2. What are we told about human kind?

9. From what we have read in Genesis 1-2, what did life in the Garden of Eden look like?
 - a) What was man entrusted to do?
 - b) What does this teach us about work?

10. How does the teaching of Genesis 1 & 2 differ from other world views?
 - a) How does your understanding of origin affect your worldview?

Personal Reflection:

1. How does knowing that God is your creator shape your life and move you to love others?
2. How would you describe your life in relationship with God right now? In what ways are you encouraged and thriving? In what ways are you needing to repent? How does the gospel bring encouragement to you no matter where you are at?
3. What could you do this week to enjoy God as creator and enjoy rest with him?