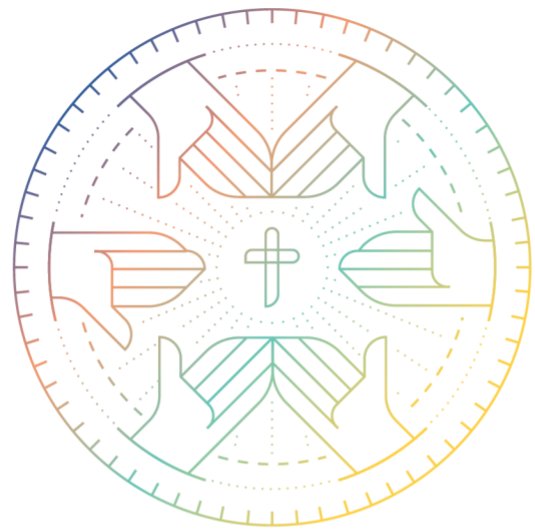


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

How was your Christmas and New Year celebrations? Take some time to share any highlights with your group.

OR

What was the highlight of your Advent season? If you used an Advent kit, how did that help you stay focused during Advent?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

What most stood out to you from Pastor Paul's message?

Is the Kingdom of God a difficult concept for you to grasp? Why might that be? What about the Kingdom of God do you find most encouraging or helpful?

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

Read Revelation 21:1-7.

How does this passage describe what God will do when his Kingdom comes down to earth?

Read Matthew 13:10-13.

According to Jesus, what is the purpose of parables? Why did he use them? What did they reveal about those who heard but could not understand?

Choose one parable from Matthew 13 to read and discuss as a group? What does the parable teach about God, faith or about us? What does it teach about the Kingdom of God?

Read Hebrews 4:15-16.

What do you find most encouraging about this passage? How do we draw near to the throne of grace?

Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



Read 1 John 2:1-6.

How would you summarize or explain John's teaching in this passage? What does it say about our need to imitate Jesus and walk as he walked?

Read Matthew 6:25-33.

How would you paraphrase this passage? How are the early verses meant to capture everyday life? What is the ultimate pursuit of our lives according to v.33? What is the promise we are given?

APPLICATION (20 MINUTES)

How do you hope to apply this message in the early days and weeks of 2024?

What's one thing you can do differently to seek the Kingdom of God first? How might your small group help you, pray for you or hold you accountable to this?

Share any of the godly desires you have for growing in Christlikeness in the New Year. Do you have a word or a Scripture you will cling to in 2024 that you hope to trust in a significant way?

PRAYER

Our Savior and Lord Jesus, work graciously in our hearts to help us to desire your Kingdom above all things. Remind us day by day that we are citizens of another Kingdom that is not of this world. Use us to advance the Kingdom in the lives of those we love or can influence. Amen.