I Kings 19¹¹ The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. ¹² After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Heb 5¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who by <u>constant use</u> have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

<u>#7 - HARVEST</u>

Mt 9³⁶ When he saw the <u>crowds</u>, he had <u>compassion</u> on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The <u>harvest</u> is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the <u>Lord of the harvest</u>, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

- <u>B</u>- Begin with Prayer 5 Friends
- <u>L</u>- Listen
- <u>E</u>- Eat
- <u>S</u>- Serve
- <u>S</u>- Share your Story

Lk 15¹⁰ In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents."

- Don't just ask God to bless what you are doing, join God in what He is blessing.
- God's kingdom is His reigning over the willing, and inviting the unwilling. Now & near!
- His kingdom is not just about us, but also the h_____- lonely, hurting people!
- Look for where God is working and j_____ Him! It's where the joy is!

WHAT'S GOD SAYING TO YOU? – write it down, pray it back, share it with others!

Heavenly Father, Your kingdom is Your power, joy, peace, and holiness in the Holy Spirit, in heaven and here and now! You are moving, in Your people but also in Your harvest, this world of lost sheep. You are inviting them too. I want to join You in what You are doing. I take the yoke of Your kingdom. I especially feel You saying to me...

KINGDOM POWER: JOINING GOD, Jn 5, 5/22/22

GETTING OUR FEET WET- God's kingdom is near! So how can you tell??

DIVING INTO SCRIPTURE - WHAT'S THE KINGDOM LIKE?

- Mt 9³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the <u>kingdom</u> and <u>healing</u> every disease and sickness.
- Mt 10⁷ As you go, proclaim this message: 'The <u>kingdom</u> of heaven has come <u>near</u>.' ⁸ <u>Heal</u> the sick, <u>raise</u> the dead, <u>cleanse</u> those who have leprosy, <u>drive out demons</u>. Freely you have received; <u>freely</u> <u>give</u>.
- Rom 14¹⁷ For the <u>kingdom</u> of God is not a matter of rules about eating and drinking, but of <u>righteousness</u>, <u>peace</u> and <u>joy in the Holy Spirit</u>,
- I Cor 4²⁰ For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.
- Rev 12¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah.
- The kingdom is near, POWERFUL, joyful, peaceful, healing, Spirit filled, inviting. It's good news!

WHAT HAVE WE SEEN SO FAR?

- 1. KINGDOM DEFINED- where God reigns, over the willing, in 4 time zones
 - ETERNAL | NOW & NEAR | FUTURE | ETERNAL
 Urgent & Available- God inviting the unwilling to be willing......|
 - The kingdom is urgent- NOW is the only time God is inviting! Join Him to win others!
- 2. THE KINGDOM IS KEY- God ruling the willing & inviting the unwilling is key to understanding God, Jesus, Satan, Creation, Bible, Salvation, Christian life, Heaven & Hell. Song- Reckless Love
- 3. KINGDOM SALVATION- keep believing, repenting, get baptized, produce fruit
- 4. KINGDOM POWER- join God & experience His power & presence!

SO HOW CAN WE JOIN GOD IN HIS KINGDOM POWER? - A LESSON FROM JESUS - Jn 5 (see Henry Blackaby, "Experiencing God")

Step 1-Believe that the Father is always w_____- 5:17

- Step 2- Believe our work accomplishes nothing, but joining the Father accomplishes great things- 5:19
- Step 3- Know the Father loves you and shows you what He is doing- is constantly inviting you to join Him- 5:20
 - The kingdom is near- accessible, available- He's not playing hide and seek!

SO HOW IS GOD TRYING TO SHOW US WHAT HE'S DOING- HIS KINGDOM POWER?

• 7 SIGNS - God's S.W.I.S.H. God is constantly speaking through...

<u>#1 - SURRENDER</u>

Pro 3⁵ <u>Trust</u> in the LORD with all your heart and <u>lean not</u> on your own understanding; ⁶ in all your ways <u>submit</u> to him, and he will <u>make your paths straight</u>.

Rom 12 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to <u>give your bodies</u> to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a <u>living and holy sacrifice</u>—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will <u>learn to know God's will for you</u>, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Jer 42-43- The people ask Jeremiah to pray and promise to do whatever God says, easy or hard. But...

Mt 9²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must <u>deny themselves</u> and <u>take up their cross</u> and <u>follow me</u>. ²⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

Ps 23¹ The LORD is <u>my</u> shepherd; I have all that I need.

- Jesus is NOT our crystal ball, but LORD of all!
- Are you surrendered or do you just want an "inside tip"?

<u>#2 - WORD</u>

Joshua 1⁸ Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

<u>#3 - WISDOM</u>

Lk 2⁵² Jesus grew in <u>wisdom</u> and in stature and in favor with God and all the people. Pro 4⁶ Do not forsake <u>wisdom</u>, and she will <u>protect</u> you; love her, and she will <u>watch over</u> you.

<u>**#4 - IMAGE-**</u>God's S.H.A.P.E. in you

- Spiritual gifts- what do you like to do for Jesus and others?
- Heart- where's your passion? Hot buttons? Joy?
- Abilities- skills, training?
- Personality- high energy, laid back, people oriented, task oriented
- Experiences- trials, triumphs, education, occupation, etc.

<u>#5 - SPIRIT</u>

• <u>Prayer</u>

Mark 1³⁵ Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he <u>prayed</u>. ³⁶ Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷ and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" ³⁸ Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else— to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹ So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

• <u>Peace</u>

Col 3¹⁵ Let the <u>peace</u> of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to <u>peace</u>. And be <u>thankful</u>.

Mt 11²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you <u>rest.</u>²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am <u>gentle</u> and <u>humble</u> in heart, and you will find <u>rest</u> for your souls. ³⁰ For my <u>yoke is easy</u> and my <u>burden is light</u>."

• <u>People</u>

Eph 4¹⁵ Instead, we will <u>speak the truth in love</u>, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. ¹⁶ He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Eph 5¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit.

• <u>Principle-</u> The Spirit will never lead us against the W_____. He's our First Base Coach.

<u>#6 - HAND</u>- circumstances, unusual timing, strength, boldness

Gen 24¹⁴ May it be that when I say to a young woman, 'Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too'—let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master." ¹⁵ Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder.