

K I N G D O M
P E R S P E C T I V E

LUKE
9:51-13:35



KINGSTON
community church

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

**When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he
set his face to go to Jerusalem.**

LUKE 9:51

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LUKE 9:52-13:35 KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE is designed and written for the Kingston Community Church family and its associated small group ministry.

Developed by

KINGSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

TO LOVE AND HONOUR **GOD** IN BEING

DISCIPLES

and helping make disciples of our

LORD JESUS CHRIST MATTHEW 28:18-20

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PERSPECTIVE CHANGE

Across these three chapters Jesus converses with a wide range of people; inviting them to see reality at a deeper level, or with a Kingdom perspective.

LUKE 9:58

Foxes have holes and birds have nests...

LUKE 9:62

...anyone who puts their hand to the plough...

LUKE 10:20

...do not rejoice in this...but rejoice that your names are written in heaven...

LUKE 10:42

Martha has chosen the good portion...

LUKE 12:22

Therefore I tell you do not be anxious about your life...

LUKE 13:24

Strive to enter through the narrow door.

Jesus invites his followers to a Kingdom mindset, Kingdom values and into the life of the Kingdom. He is at the centre of this reality as King, and we are called to obedience.

This perspective change, entails bringing into focus, the priorities and values that followers of Jesus should live by sitting at the feet of Jesus (LUKE 10:38), trusting in God and holding money loosely (LUKE 12:13), commitment to Jesus (LUKE 9:57)

Jesus speaks to a wide range of contexts, cultures and people. Jesus has to undo hundreds of years of misinformation/ pharisaic agendas, roman empire angst & recalibrate Israel to the new reality of the Kingdom.

Today we in a diverse range of lives and cultural backgrounds. How do Jesus' words speak into these contexts? How are the church to see, live and obey Jesus and his Kingdom way of life? Additionally in a time where people are loyal to a wide range of leaders and ideologies, how do we grow an increasing commitment to Jesus?

The more we remove ourselves from God's word, the more we fall into ruts and patterns like the people in the context of Luke 9-13. How do we allow the Word to speak into these life situations, with an invitation to a Kingdom alternative.

This Kingdom perspective is characterized by urgency, intentionality, and clarity. There is no sitting on the fence. This is seen in the sending of the 12 (LUKE 9:1), the 72 (LUKE 10:1), pronouncement of judgement (LUKE 10:13), the woes (LUKE 11:37), the rich fool (LUKE 12:13), peace versus division (LUKE 12:51), and the warning of entering through the narrow door (LUKE 13:22).

The Kingdom is at the centre of Jesus' message. He is the King; he has inaugurated this Kingdom on his arrival, and is redeeming and reconciling his Kingdom people through the cross. This Kingdom is now and not yet. It however is real, tangible. There is one Kingdom, one rule and one people.

The process of us as disciples, aligning ourselves with Jesus and his Kingdom values, happens over time, and is realized through grasping the breadth, width and depth of this Kingdom, and how it intersects with every part of our thinking and lives.

OVERVIEW OF NARRATIVE

In LUKE 9 we see a turning point in Jesus's ministry as His death draws near, he, '...he set his face to go to Jerusalem.'

This journey which involved commissioning and sending the 12 disciples (LUKE 9:1) and the 72 (LUKE 10:1) on mission.

On the road to Jerusalem, Jesus defines what it means to be a disciple (LUKE 9:24), what it means to be on mission (LUKE 10:1 and 9:24) and the paradigm by which a disciple see's his neighbour (LUKE 10:25-37), money (LUKE 12:13-32) and prayer (LUKE 11:1-2).

On the road to Jerusalem Jesus speaks with increasing urgency, and creates division between those who follow or reject him (LUKE 12:49).

LUKE 13 ends with a dialogue on entering the Kingdom through the narrow door.

These three chapters see a trajectory and a journey which finds its fulfilment at the cross (LUKE 9:22). They can be described as a journey to the cross in which Jesus calls, teaches, equips, and sends His disciples. His crucifixion is the climax and fulfilment of this journey.

The sequel to this narrative is the great commission and the book of acts, in which Jesus's disciples are sent into the world to proclaim the gospel, the kingdom and to live as His disciples.



LUKE 9:51-10:24

K I N G D O M P E R S P E C T I V E

To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” And Jesus said to him, “Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

LUKE 9:59-60

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, jot down your 5 top priorities in life.

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 9:51-10:24

MESSAGE NOTES

Listen and take notes from the Sunday morning message or listen online.
<https://www.kingstoncommunitychurch.com>

GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

What are your, 'must haves', when going on a road trip?

SETTING THE SCENE

In LUKE 9:51 Jesus “set[s] his face to go to Jerusalem,” opening what is known as Luke’s journey narrative. As Jesus journeys toward the cross, He challenges us to do two things:

- First, to reorient our vision of God, his character, and his priorities.
- Second, to live lives that reflect this new vision.

Jesus stresses the total commitment that effective discipleship demands. In life, discipleship must come first.

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 9:51-10:24.

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

- How would you describe Jesus from what is shown in LUKE 9:51-62?
- What false priorities and anxieties does Jesus push back on in LUKE 9:57-62?
 - What are some of your false prioritise/anxieties in life?
- What does LUKE 9:57-62 communicate about the cost of following Jesus?

- In the sending out of the 72, how does the call of LUKE 10:2 apply to us?

- How does the message of LUKE 10:16-20 apply to us today?

- In this passage, what priorities characterise those who are fit for the Kingdom?
 - How does this speak into your life and context?

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER

LUKE 10:25-37

KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus.

“Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

“What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” He answered, “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

“You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

LUKE 10:25-28

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, considering the passage, who would you call your neighbour. Be specific.

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 10:25-37

MESSAGE NOTES

Listen and take notes from the Sunday morning message or listen online.
<https://www.kingstoncommunitychurch.com>

GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

Who do you know in your neighbourhood that could be nominated for the “Good Samaritan Award?”

SETTING THE SCENE

It was expected that rabbis would discuss theological matters in public, and the question this scribe (lawyer) asked was one that was often debated by the Jews. It was a good question asked with a bad motive, because the lawyer hoped to trap our Lord. However, Jesus trapped the lawyer!

In telling the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus was challenging worldly perspectives against a kingdom perspective. To the thieves, this traveling Jew was a victim to exploit, so they attacked him. To the priest and Levite, he was a nuisance to avoid, so they ignored him. But to the Samaritan, he was a neighbour to love and help, so he took care of him. What Jesus said to the lawyer, He says to us: “Go and keep on doing it likewise.”

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 10:25-37

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

- What do you think is the motive of the man who asks Jesus “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” LUKE 10:25; 29.

- What does Jesus' answer in LUKE 10:28, reveal about what eternal life is.

- In the story Jesus then tells, what is true of all three passersby?
LUKE 10:31-33

- Why do you think Jesus identifies the compassionate helper as a Samaritan? LUKE 10:33
Cf: LUKE 9:52; 4:9

- What does this interaction with the scribe, and the story Jesus told, reveal to us about what it should look like to live with a kingdom perspective?

- How can you be a true neighbour to someone in your life?

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER



Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”
LUKE 10:42b

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, jot down the place and form prayer takes in your life.

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 10:38-11:13

MESSAGE NOTES

Listen and take notes from the Sunday morning message or listen online.
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GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

In the first instance, are you a listener or a doer?

SETTING THE SCENE

Mary and Martha welcome Jesus and His disciples into their home in Bethany. Martha, busy preparing food for her guests, is frustrated when Mary sits listening to Jesus instead of helping.

Martha shows her love for Jesus through practical acts of hospitality and service. On the other hand, the more spiritually sensitive Mary demonstrates her love for Jesus by anointing His feet with costly ointment. Each woman expresses devotion to Jesus in her own way. Jesus challenges one dimensional understanding of worship by revealing a Kingdom perspective.

Jesus' teaching in Luke 11 came out of a prayer meeting, a miracle, and an invitation to dinner. Jesus used the first occasion to give instructions about prayer. He emphasises the priority of prayer, a pattern of prayer, the importance of persistency in prayer, and the promise of prayer.

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 10:38-11:13

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

■ Have you ever felt as Martha did? LUKE 10:40

- What does Jesus mean when He says, “...but only one thing is needed.” Luke 10:42

- What does this encounter with Martha and Mary, reveal to us about Kingdom perspective? LUKE 10:38-42

- Consider the following words/phrases from Jesus’ teaching reveal to us?
 - “Father...” LUKE 11:2 Cf: LUKE 11:11-13

 - “...hallowed be your name...” LUKE 11:2

- What priorities does Jesus reveal when it comes to Kingdom perspective prayer. LUKE 11:2-4

- What progression do you see in first asking, then seeking, and finally knocking? LUKE 11:9-10

- How confident are you that God will answer you, when you pray?

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER



He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God
and obey it."
LUKE 11:28

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, jot down what it means for you to "*hear the word of God and obey it.*"

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 11:14-54

MESSAGE NOTES

Listen and take notes from the Sunday morning message or listen online.
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GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

Where do you feel most relaxed, in a lit room or darkened room?

SETTING THE SCENE

The people around saw all that Jesus did, was in dependence on His Father. When Jesus cast out demons it was by the power of God.

People had to choose to follow or not. To follow is to have Him possess us totally. Opening and giving over of our lives to God

Discipleship is simply depending on God, our Father, confident in that intimate relationship that God will enable us to do His will, and transform us as He has said.

A disciples of Jesus must see life and its meaning as Jesus reveals it. If what we see as important in life is not in line with Kingdom values, we will certainly stumble off the road of discipleship. True spirituality is a matter of the heart. It is a matter of caring about the things that God cares about.

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 11:14-54

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

- What different reactions to Jesus, emerge from the crowd?
LUKE 11:14-28

- What do you notice about Jesus' reaction to their unbelief?
LUKE 11:17-28

- What do you think the verbs "*hear*" and "*keep it*" (LUKE 11:28) tell us about the condition of being blessed?

- How is Jesus' presence in His generation, greater than Jonah's presence in his generation, and Solomon's in his? LUKE 11:29-32
Cf: JONAH 1-3; 1 KINGS 10:1-7

- What does it mean for a person's eye to be "*healthy*"? LUKE 11:33-36

- According to Jesus, how does a person become pure and clean?
LUKE 11:37-44

- How does your attitude toward people who speak the truth, show your real attitude toward the truth itself?

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER



“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.”
LUKE 12:32

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, jot down what place and influence money and possessions has in your life.

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 12:1-34

MESSAGE NOTES

Listen and take notes from the Sunday morning message or listen online.
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GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

Do you think it is harder live with a lot or to live with a little?

SETTING THE SCENE

Surrounded by a huge crowd, Jesus warns His disciples against hypocrisy. Pretending to be something you are not. Hypocrisy is serious, and it can lead to self-deception. We begin to believe our own pretences, lose touch with reality, and no longer hear the words of reproof and correction we need.

As Jesus teaches the crowd, a man more concerned with money than the truth, asks Jesus to settle a dispute. Jesus takes the opportunity to warn against greed. Instead of pursuing satisfaction from material needs, believers should “seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you” (LUKE 12:31). Our lives should reflect the nature, priorities, and perspective of our true home.

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 12:1-34.

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

- What does Jesus mean when He compares hypocrisy to leaven or yeast? LUKE 12:1-3

- What does Jesus caution the disciples to be careful of? LUKE 12:1-12
Cf: 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

- How can we be free from fear? LUKE 12:4-7
 - What should be our only genuine fear, and what does that look like? Cf: Ecclesiastes 12:13; Isaiah 8:13.

- What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit? Cf: MATTHEW 12:24-32

- What does greed do to a person's values and perspective? LUKE 12:15

- What does Jesus' parable convey about true wealth? LUKE 12:13-21

- What does LUKE 12:22-34 tell us about the relationship between God and ourselves?

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER



LUKE 12:35-48

KINGDOM PERSPECTIVE

The Lord answered, “Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns.

LUKE 12:42–43

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, jot down what you think it means to be “*ready*” for Jesus’ return?

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 12:35-48

MESSAGE NOTES

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GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

When was the last time you missed an appointment?

SETTING THE SCENE

Jesus' followers must be ready for His sudden return. Jesus describes the faithful servant as a wise manager, who is put in charge of distributing good to the other servants.

Jesus then talks about three disobedient managers. The first is openly rebellious and openly defies the master's commands. The second one knows the master's will but fails to obey. The third servant does not know the master's instructions. All are judged according to what they do with their knowledge.

As followers of a fair and faithful God, we are to obey and live by a Kingdom perspective, as we allow the Holy Spirit to influence us.

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 12:35-48.

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

- What does Jesus want his followers to do now to “*be ready*” (LUKE 12:35-40) for future judgment?

- What will be the result for the servants who show a godly attitude of readiness? LUKE 12:37

- What should be the attitude and actions of a faithful and wise manager? LUKE 12:42-43

- How is the watchful servant rewarded? LUKE 12:44

- What are the attitudes and actions of the three unfaithful servants? Luke 12:45-48

- What is the relationship between disobedience and knowledge, and the corresponding consequences? LUKE 12:45-48

- How is Jesus' summary of this passage in LUKE 12:48 to apply to us today?

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER



Hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky. How is it that you don't know how to interpret this present time?
LUKE 12:56

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, jot down what you think is, the main lens you look at life through.

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 12:49-13:9

MESSAGE NOTES

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GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

How good are you at reading people and situations?

SETTING THE SCENE

Encountering Jesus and the gospel implies a choice to either receive or reject Christ. When we make choices, lines of separation are drawn which can cause opposition. As followers of Jesus, we shouldn't be surprised.

Jesus explains the importance of understanding spiritual signs. With the prophetic scriptures, the Jewish people should understand what God is doing at that time. They witness Jesus' miracles, yet do not recognize Him as the promised Messiah. Because of persistent unbelief, Israel would miss the most important time of its spiritual history.

Jesus encourages everyone to confess their sin to God, and settle accounts with others to avoid the coming judgment. He implies that we are guilty and should acknowledge our guilt before it is too late. We must act while there is still time.

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 12:49-13:9.

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

- What does Jesus reveal, will be one of the results of His mission among people? LUKE 12:49-53

- Would you want a person to become a believer, if it is obvious that such a step will produce alienation in that person's family?

- Why is conflict for believers inevitable?
Cf: John 15:18-22.

- What were the signs of the times that the people were not interpreting correctly? LUKE 12:56

- If the accuser in LUKE 12:58 is God, how can we settle matters with Him?

- What does it mean to "*repent*"? LUKE 13:5

- How does Jesus present a Kingdom perspective on the relationship between sin and judgement? LUKE 13:1-8

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER



Then Jesus asked, “What is the kingdom of God like? What shall I compare it to?”
LUKE 13:18

PERSONAL PREPARATION

In preparation for the Sunday message, and your small group session, jot down how you would describe the “*kingdom of God*”.

READ SCRIPTURE

Read LUKE 13:10-35

MESSAGE NOTES

Listen and take notes from the Sunday morning message or listen online.
<https://www.kingstoncommunitychurch.com>

GROUP STUDY

OPEN IN PRAYER

OPENING QUESTION

What have you built, developed, grown in your life that you are proud of?

SETTING THE SCENE

Jesus uses two parables to try to help the Jews understand the kingdom. The first compares His kingdom to a mustard seed. God's kingdom begins small, but it grows so that many can take refuge in it. The birds represent the nations and peoples of the world.

The second parable concerns yeast hidden in flour. The flour represents the world; the yeast represents the unseen, yet active influence of God's kingdom. A little yeast affects all of the dough.

As Jesus travels through towns and villages on His way to Jerusalem, He challenges His listeners to correctly respond to God's call in their lives. He speaks of Himself as the door that people need to enter to experience redemption and eternal life. God had given the Israelites many opportunities to turn to their Messiah, but most had refused. In anguish Jesus cries out. Jesus longs to protect and save the people of Israel, but most have turned away.

READ SCRIPTURE

Have someone read LUKE 13:10-35.

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE

What were the main truths you heard from the message on Sunday?

USE THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO GUIDE YOUR DISCUSSIONS

- What does the healing of the crippled woman, and Jesus' response reveal about Himself and His priorities? LUKE 13:10-17

- How is the same attitude as the synagogue ruler displayed among Christians today?

- What does Jesus reveal about the kingdom of God in LUKE 13:18-21
Cf: MARK 4:30-32

- Consider what is revealed in LUKE 13:22-30
 - How is Jesus the door?

 - Why is the door narrow?

- What is revealed about the nature of God's kingdom in LUKE 13:29-30?

- What does Jesus reveal about His heart and attitude when it comes to God's plans and purposes? LUKE 13:31-35

- What about this passage, that challenges your perspective, priorities, and or attitudes?

PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO CONTRIBUTE PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS AND AS A GROUP SHARE IN A TIME OF PRAYER