

## Fruitful Living: The Kingdom Has Come

### Discussion Questions:

1. Charles Swindoll writes “Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.” What are your reactions to this quote?
2. Share an experience in your life from your past or recent history that has been so significant that you find yourself constantly needing to respond to it.
3. So many factors are at work when it comes to how we respond to life. Our family of origin, our personalities, the unique circumstances and our season of life all influence how we respond to things. At times we are more apt to face what comes our way, in different instances we choose to be in denial and at other times we choose to be indifferent. What’s your default response to challenging circumstances?
4. Jesus proclaimed the Good News (Gospel) everywhere he went. We talked about that the Gospel he preached was not the “bloody cross” or the “empty tomb”, but quite simply and profoundly the fact that he became a human being, fully living in this world. During this season of life, how is the incarnation of Christ good news to you?
5. During the time that Jesus walked the earth, the announcement that a king had arrived was not inherently good news. The arrival of a king typically meant that one’s country was about to be subjugated or that war was about to break out. When Jesus announced that the Kingdom of God was near, this wasn’t automatically good news for people. In order to receive Jesus the King and his Kingdom we must first repent (think differently) about Jesus the King. In your journey of repentance, what have you discovered is different about Jesus the King?
6. The second response to the Kingdom of God being at hand is to believe the good news. Believing the Gospel is not simply mental assent, rather it is to believe to the point that a sense of wonder and gratitude is created in our souls. As you reflect on your faith in Christ, how would you describe it? How is your belief in Christ impacting your soul?
7. In Christ, the ratio of Charles Swindoll’s quote is gloriously inverted in that 90% of our faith is what Christ has done, and 10% is our response to it. How does this description of our faith change our approach to following Jesus?
8. Share your prayer requests with 2-3 people.