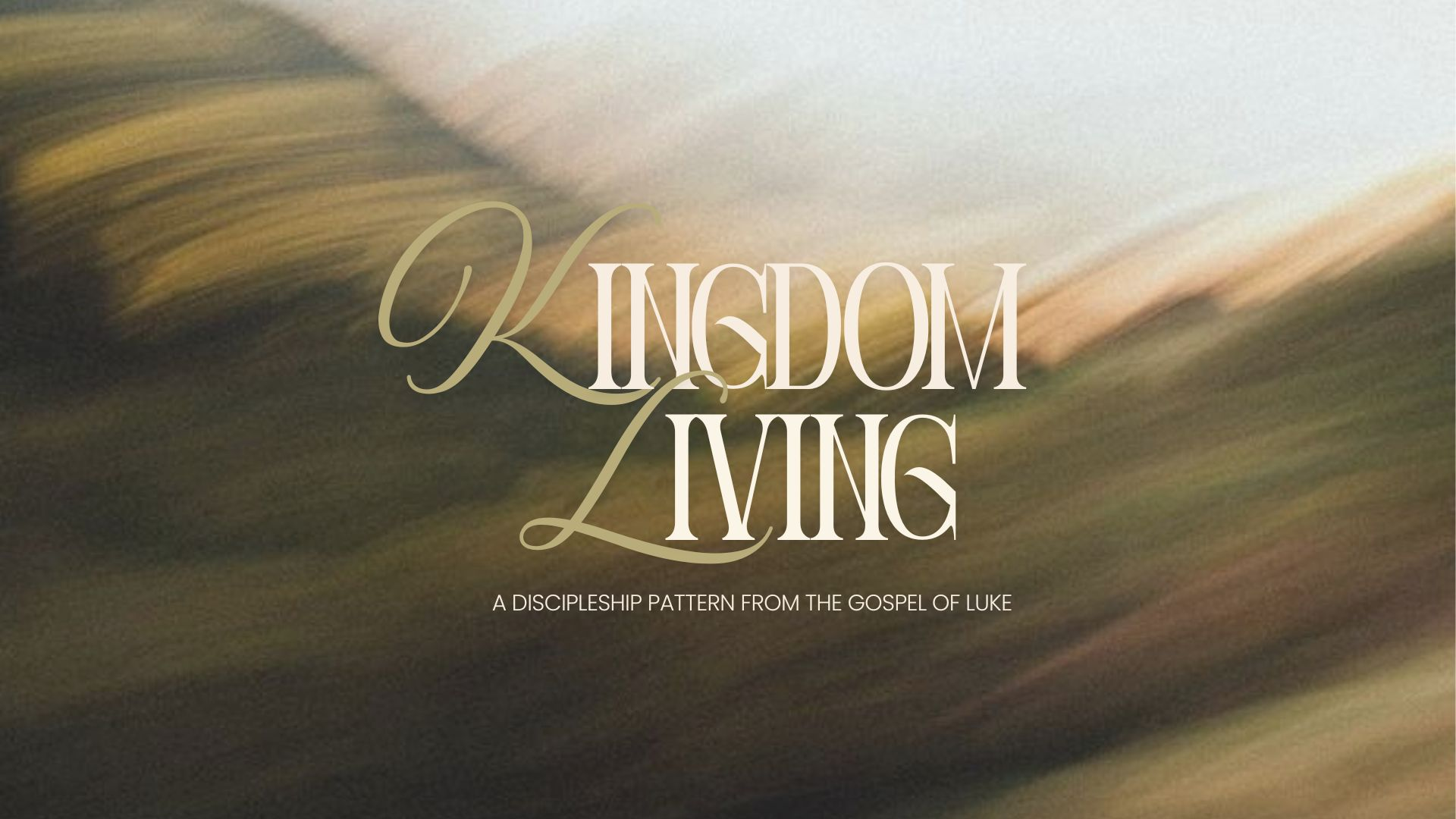




KINGDOM LIVING

A DISCIPLESHIP PATTERN FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

KINGDOM LIVING - Gospel of Luke

- **CALL** - to follow Jesus (5:1-11)
- **CHANGE** - leaving the old ways behind (5:27-39)
- **CHARACTER** - shaped by Jesus (6:12-49)
- **CHALLENGE** - tested in faith (8:22-25)
- **COMMISSION** - sent with power and authority (9:1-17)
- **COST** - of following Jesus (9:18-27, 57-62)
- **COMMUNITY** - Journeying together (9:28-36; 10:1-24)

COMMUNITY - Journeying together

Ephesians 4:15 *Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.*

Paul portrays the church as a body, with Christ as the Head and each believer as a member.

1 Peter 2:4-5 *As you come to him, the living Stone – you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood.*

Peter portrays the church as a living, spiritual house, with Christ as the foundation and cornerstone and each believer as a stone.

Both pictures emphasis **community**: One stone is not a temple or even a wall; just like one body part is useless without the others.

COMMUNITY - The Revelation

Luke 9:28-36 Jesus took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendour, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfilment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, 'Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters – one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' (He did not know what he was saying.)

COMMUNITY - The Revelation

While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and covered them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.' When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves and did not tell anyone at that time what they had seen.

COMMUNITY - The Mandate

Luke 10:1-20 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. 'When you enter a house, first say, "Peace to this house." If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. 'When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal those there who are ill and tell them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

COMMUNITY - The Mandate

But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, "Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God has come near." I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. 'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades.' 'Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.' The seventy-two returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.' He replied, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'

COMMUNITY: How do we walk and minister together?

1. By Gathering together (Ephesians 2:19)

- Integration
- Belonging
- Ownership

The church is not just as a place to go to but as a family to belong to.

1 Corinthians 12:27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

COMMUNITY: How do we walk and minister together?

2. By Growing together

Healthy communities don't just gather people; they grow disciples.

Ephesians 4:15 Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

COMMUNITY: How do we walk and minister together?

3. By Going together

We don't just come to church – we are sent as the church.

John 20:21 As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.

COMMUNITY: Walking and Ministering Together?

A progression that reflects the rhythm of Church Community:

We **gather** together because we belong to Christ and to one another.
I'm integrated into God's family – where I'm involved and invested.

We **grow** together to become effective disciples who in turn make other disciples.
I'm being transformed into the image of Christ by being in God's family.

We **go** and participate in Christ's mission together.
I'm sent with others in God's family to go and make much of Jesus.