

<b>Series:</b> 6:8@Six:Eight	<b>Reference:</b> Various passages	<b>Title:</b> Mission	<b>Date:</b> 10.21.18
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## Community Group Questions

### Take time to pray through the Six:Eight Prayer Foci for 2018/19

*If the Holy Spirit gives anyone a specific word for the church  
share them with the other Community Group Leaders.*

- 1. FREEDOM:** Pray against spiritual attack on our church body & it's members, so that kingdom ministry goes unhindered.
- 2. SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION:** Pray we'd abide in the Presence of Christ, honoring the Word & Spirit of God, being transformed & becoming more effective in witness. That we'd be drawn deeply into worship & prayer in powerful ways this year.
- 3. LEADERSHIP:** Pray for leadership to be filled with the knowledge of the Word & power of the Spirit, operating out of the two as gracious strong servant leaders.
- 4. MINISTRIES:** For all 8 church ministries to run smoothly, having all current & future resources provided for them to thrive (*Kids, Community Groups, Kingdom Opportunities, Stewardship, Impressions, Worship Arts, Prayer, Missions*).
- 5. LOCAL EVANGELISM:** That we'd preach the Word boldly & minister in the power of the Spirit to see people come to faith & publicly declare that through baptism. - for divine openings with neighbors, coworkers, friends & Community Partners.
- 6. CROSS-CULTURAL MISSION:** To be a *'House of Prayer for all Nations'* (Isaiah 56:7), obedient to the Great Commission (Mt 28:18-20), overflowing to our Kinship Network relationships reaching Arab world Muslims, and other mission endeavors of the church.
- 7. GIVING:** Pray that we'd be stretched in faithful giving of our financial resources in order not to be hindered in our kingdom ministry as a church.

### Study Questions

What do you think Jethro Tull meant by this? Have you ever felt this way?

*And as you cross the wilderness, spinning in your emptiness: you feel you have to pray. Looking for a sign that the Universal Mind has written you into the Passion Play. Well, do you ever get the feeling that the story's too damn real & in the present tense? Or that everybody's on the stage, and it seems like you're the only person sitting in the audience?*

Our mission statement says; *to be the hands, feet, & voice of Jesus' on the Eastern Main Line & beyond - To manifest Jesus.* What does it mean to 'manifest Jesus'?

Read Matt 10:7-8, 1 Corinthians 15:22-25, and Colossians 1:24...what do these say about the Christians role at this time in history?

Jesus came to save...but what else?

In the sermon we said: *"The kingdom of God isn't simply about having "Jesus in your heart" or having his Lordship "within you" (a popular definition based on Luke 17:21). Neither is the kingdom of God merely about the eternal rule of God 'up there' somewhere. The kingdom's an event which can be manifest now. It's about God coming in the moment when the powers of the coming age break into the present, in Jesus..."* Jesus is the personified focus of this kingdom event. He ushered in the kingdom, demonstrated its power & enacted the kingdom through his death, resurrection & ascension.<sup>1</sup> He invites us to participate in that Kingdom power.

How did Jesus demonstrate this in *Matthew 11:4-6*?

Christian author & theologian, Ron Sider, said, *'We're not social activists, we're followers of Jesus'* - what did he mean by that? How is being a follower of Jesus unique in light of issues we can be involved with in the world?

Read Matthew 12:28-29, discuss the six dimensions of the Kingdom of God addressed there, which are: Ruler & Rescuer/Present & Future Dimensions/Physical & Spiritual Dimensions (if it helps, read through this section on page 4 of the sermon, using some of the references linked to each dimension if necessary).

What do these references say about the kingdom of God? Mk 1:14, 15; Mt 6:9-13; Lk 17:21 or Mk 1:14, 15; Mt 6:9-13; Lk 17:21 (there's a lot here, pick a few).

Discuss 1 Jn 3:8, while thinking in light of how the Evangelical Church has put so much emphasis on the relational aspects of the kingdom (being reconciled to God). You may also look at Mt 12:28; Acts 10:38; Eph 1:20-21; Col 1:12-14; 2:15; Heb 2:14, 1 Pt 3:21-22

We concluded in the sermon that, we must

1. *Preach the good news - Jesus came to destroy the works of Satan (Truth Encounter).*
2. *Confront the powers through prayer & healing (Power Encounter).*
3. *Model the values of the Kingdom (Moral Encounter).*
4. *Express the reality of the Kingdom through culturally relevant rituals (Cultural Encounter).*

What do each of these look like in life?

What does Ac 1:8 have to do with the above 4 encounters?

How important is it in light of these passages & encounters listed above that we have a theology which includes the demonic & Satan?

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<sup>1</sup> Derek Morpew, *The Kingdom: Healing the Dualism of Personal & Social Ethics*