

Thoughts from Pakistan

Main Scriptures: Philippians 1:1-14, 1:19-20, 1:27-30, 2:3-8, 3:1-3

Hearing & Doing: Apply These Discussion Questions to Your Life!

- Many Christians see praying for the Kingdom to come as a hypothetical prayer request, but Pastor Mike is challenging us to pray like it is reality. How do we pray in a way that reveals the reality of the Kingdom?
- **Read Phil. 1:19-20.** When Paul prayed or knew others were praying, he *expected* things to happen and knew that sometimes the Kingdom comes only through prayer. What correlations have you seen in your life between the amount of time you prayed and the results of certain situations? Share a few testimonies with the small group.
- “God’s Kingdom comes through people.” Do you agree? Why or why not?
- **Read Phil. 1:12-14 & 1:29-30.** “There is something about suffering that opens up the Kingdom like nothing else.” What do you think is the relationship between suffering and the Kingdom? Can you think of any other verses that support your view?
 - Can Americans suffer for the Gospel in America? How?
 - How can we be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters suffering in other countries for the sake of the Gospel?
- **Read Phil. 3:1-3.** Why is diversity and unity so important in the Kingdom?
 - Have you ever held back from fully expressing yourself to the Lord in church? Why? (*Encourage your group to not hold back anymore!*)
- **Read Phil. 2:3-4.** Assess your last month and ask yourself if you have been on the look out for yourself or for others.
 - How does hospitality play itself out in your life? Do you see a need for more hospitable behavior and actions to happen regularly? How can you go about bringing hospitality into your life?
- “How often are we striving to get the best of the ghetto when God wants to give us first class?” Can you think of anytime in your life where this has been true? Have a few people share with the small group these experiences.
- **Read Phil. 2:5-8.** “There is something about our willingness to bring ourselves low that brings about the Kingdom.” In what ways have people humbled themselves in a way that blessed you? In light of this verse, if we want to be disciples of Jesus Christ, then how big of a role should humility play in our lives? What are some ways to implement it in your life right now?