



Your Kingdom Come  
December 29 | Group Guide

**Open with a question, prayer, and Scripture (10 minutes).**

Before diving into our text, recap your time celebrating Christmas. How did you celebrate the birth of Christ this year? Any special moments for you and your family?

Next, pray also for your group time together.

Then, read **Matthew 3:1-17**.

**Introduction and questions about Matthew 3:1-17 (15 minutes).**

In the book of Matthew, Jesus not only shows us what the kingdom of heaven is like, he teaches us to pray: "Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven." We want the love of heaven to come to earth, the wisdom of heaven to come to earth, the joy of heaven to come to earth, the abundance of heaven to earth, the King of heaven to come to earth!

In this series, we hope to not only learn more about Jesus, but to learn to become more and more like Jesus, seeing his Kingdom come in our lives, our city, and our community.

### Questions about **Matthew 3:1-17**:

- What was something new from the sermon you learned? What was something that resonated or challenged you? What do you have questions about?
- In his sermon, Gary highlighted two things about John the Baptist: (1) The Man; (2) The Message. What did you learn about John the Baptist from this sermon? From this text?
- Does anything about John's style, his personality, his way of ministering shock you or challenge you? Explain
- What was John's message? How was it received?
- If John came to you with the same message and style, how do you think you'd respond? Explain.

### **Break into smaller groups for sermon discussion (30 minutes).**

In groups of 3-4, reflect on the following questions:

One of the key points Gary made with this text was all about the word "surrender." He talked about how we need to cultivate humility (admitting we need Jesus and admitting our brokenness without him) and confess that he is Lord and we need him.

With all of that in mind, take a few moments to reflect on the following:

- As you think about 2024, are there any significant ways you were lacking in your surrender to Lord Jesus? Where?
- What prevented you from full surrender?
- Where do you need to *humbly* admit brokenness in your life? Where do you need to humbly confess sin in your life? Share that with the group.
- What needs to change in your life in order to fully surrender to Jesus in 2025? What would that look like practically for you?
- Pray for one another based on your responses.

**Come back together as a large group for prayer requests (5 minutes).**

Like last year, let's spend some intentional time reflecting back on 2024, as well as looking forward to 2025. We want to see how we can better align our lives to spend time with Jesus. To that end, we've crafted a Rule of Life reflection exercise for you to go through either individually or as a group. You can access it [HERE](#).

Our prayer is that, by God's grace, this tool will help you architect rhythms for your life to help you grow in your relationship with God in the coming year!