USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

[Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)]

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

"Whatever you SOAK in GETS in!"

Miriam-Webster - "culture":

The set of shared attitudes, values, goals, and practices that characterizes an institution, organization, or people

1) Our Culture (world around us)2) Kingdom Culture (the things of God).

Morality is relative Bible is basis for all morality

Experimental sex Sex designed for marriage

Tolerant of everyone/everything Love people; don't tolerate sin

Dog eat Dog to the top! The last will be first; humble yourself,

[John 17:14-16]

I have given them (believers) Your word (Kingdom culture); and the world (unbelievers) has hated them because they are not of the world (the culture), just as I am not of the world. **15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16** They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

[1 John 2:15-16]

Do not love the world or the things in the world. **If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him**. **16** For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

[John 10:10]

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I (Jesus) have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

[1 John 5:19 (NLT)]

"We know that we are children of God and that **the world around us is under the control of the evil one**."

"Inadvertently, whether they want to our not, they are shaping the thoughts and feelings and actions of people. They are programming people. There's always this narrative that technology's neutral. And it's up to us to choose how we use it. This is just not true. It's not neutral. They want you to use it in particular ways and for long periods of time, **because that's how they make their money**."

-Tristan Harris-

Webster's - "media":

"The means of communication that reach or influence people widely."

How do we renew our minds?

- 1) Change Cultures
- **2) Read the Word, Pray, and Worship** (these are the key ingredients to the Kingdom marinade)

[Ephesians 5:26]

"That He (God) may sanctify her (the church) with the washing of the water of the Word"

[Romans 12:1-2 (NIV)]

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to **offer your bodies** as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world**, but **be transformed** by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is.

- 3a) Give everything to God
- 3b) Don't conform to the pattern of this world
- 3c) Be Transformed

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Why do we need to renew our mind? Why is the phrase "Whatever you soak in gets in" so important for us to understand when it comes to renewing our mind?
- 2. When looking at the differences between our culture and the Kingdom culture which description is most descriptive of your culture? What challenges do we face trying to live life in a Kingdom culture?
- 3. How can we renew our minds?
- 4. What culture do you spend your time in most? How can you intentionally change your culture to be in alignment with Kingdom culture?
- 5. How much time do you spend marinating in the Word, in prayer and in worship? Do you have a plan to soak in these essential ingredients of the Kingdom? Make a plan right now. When will

- you do these things? Where will you do these things? What will you read, sing and pray?
- 6. Invite those in your group to help you follow through with your plan to shift your culture.