

The Kingdom—Now and Not Yet

Luke 17:20–27

1. The Already Now Kingdom

2. The Not Yet Kingdom

Application:

For the Family

Read Luke 17:11–19

Review the story. When the Samaritan leper realized he was healed, he praised God in a loud voice, fell at Jesus' feet, and thanked him. He recognized Jesus as the Messiah, and experienced the power of the kingdom of God.

Read Luke 17:18–22

Explain that John the Baptist had sent people to find out if Jesus was the Messiah. In response, Jesus told them to tell John what they saw: people being healed from all kinds of diseases and raised from the dead, and Jesus proclaiming good news to the poor. These were all signs that Jesus was the Messiah, and that the Kingdom of God had arrived.

Explain that one of the reasons we believe that Jesus is the Messiah is that he was able to perform miracles, including healing people. Jesus went from town to town, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing people, including the Samaritan leper.

The greatest miracle was when Jesus rose from the dead. Because of these amazing events, we can believe Jesus when he said that he is the Son of God. We can trust him, we can put our faith in him, and we can spend our lives serving him, knowing it is the right thing to do.

Read Luke 17:20–21

Explain how the Pharisees were looking for a kingdom that would make Israel a great nation again. They expected great signs they could see. Jesus told them the kingdom that he brought wasn't one of signs and power. It was one of healing and peace. In fact, if they were paying attention when Jesus had healed the leper, they would have seen it. But they missed it.

Pray together that you will recognize Jesus as the Messiah, like the leper, and not miss the coming of the kingdom, like the Pharisees.