



Part 6: Building a Kingdom Future Luke 6:46-49

The Race to the South Pole

Vision Explanation

Vision Statement: *New generations seeking the Kingdom on Earth as in Heaven*

Discipleship Definition: *Moving from unbelief to belief in every area of life, centered on the Jesus*

The Wise and Foolish Builder (Luke 6:46-49)

1. Being obedient to Christ is our wise foundation.
2. This is a metaphor for the active process of discipleship.
3. We are being called into living out the values of the “Upside-Down Kingdom.”

“The way of Jesus is countercultural. It is upside-down and inside-out—a kingdom, where weakness is power, power is weakness, and suffering leads to glory.” – Preston Sprinkle, “Jesus’s Upside Down Kingdom” blog post

Big Idea: We at Greenwood want to build in a wise way, building a Kingdom oriented future, led by the power of the Holy Spirit, rooted in the values of the Upside-Down Kingdom and delivered through relentless disciple making.

Our Take Away

Oikos Principle

Oikos definition: Household or extended household

“Actually, intentionalizing the *oikos* principle won’t grow a church nearly as quickly as flashy programs will. But programs tend to impress people who already go to church more than people who don’t. That’s why there is a crippling number of Christians in our culture who simply move across town to the local church that has the best programs, the best bands, or the best preachers. But the math doesn’t lie — if one church grows at the same time another church shrinks, then there is no net benefit to the Kingdom of Heaven.” – Tom Mercer, *8 to 15, The World Is Smaller Than You Think*

“We employ the *oikos* principle with that broad a vision, with future generations in mind — not just seeing the eight to fifteen people listed on an individual card, but how those ripple effects could impact hundreds or even thousands of people for generations to come.” – Tom Mercer, *8 to 15, The World Is Smaller Than You Think*

Resources

“Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament: Luke” by David Garland, Zondervan Publishing, 2011

8 to 15, The World Is Smaller Than You Think by Tom Mercer, Oikos Books, 2009

The Starfish and the Spirit by Ford, Wegner & Hirsch, Zondervan Publishing, 2021

“Jesus’s Upside Down Kingdom” blog post by Preston Sprinkle, 2018

Discussion Questions

1. What is your big takeaway from the sermon this week?
2. What do you think about the definition of discipleship that was presented this week? (Movement from unbelief to belief in every area of life centered on Jesus.)
3. What does obedience to Christ look and sound like in your daily activities this week? Do you sense that you are truly being obedient in this season? Do you sense that you need to recalibrate your obedience in any way in this season?
4. What are your takeaways from the concept of the upside-down Kingdom? Are those values you see present in your life in this season?

5. Who is your Oikos (8 to 15 people in your daily rhythms) that you can be intentional about engaging with this week?
6. What posture do you take in participating in our vision as a faith community? Are you someone who needs to be intentionally apprenticed to the way of Jesus? Are you someone who could and should be leading others in their apprenticeship to Jesus?
7. As you process this with your community, where do you need prayer and guidance from the Holy Spirit?