THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Mark 1:14-20

Jesus always builds His church on enemy occupied territory. Jesus builds His church always within the context of a spiritual battle, a spiritual conflict, the kind of thing that Paul says in his letter to the Ephesians, when he describes the church experiencing every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus, in the heavenly realms. And then in the famous passage that ends his letter to the Ephesians, he describes those heavenly realms as the place where the church needs to put on the armor of God. It is inevitable that by being brought into the spiritual blessings that are ours in Christ, we find ourselves situated precisely where spiritual warfare takes place. And often, therefore, we say to young Christians who say to us, "Why is it that my life seems to be much more difficult now that I am a Christian than it was before I was a Christian?" We say, "Welcome to the battle! Welcome to the church! This is how it is in the kingdom of God."

Sinclair Ferguson

I. **MESSAGE:** What is the Kingdom of God anyway?

II. **MEMBERSHIP:** How does one become a part of the Kingdom of God?

III. **MISSION:** What does one do in the Kingdom of God?