

Thornbury Baptist Church  
Matthew Teaching Series

Small Group Discussion Questions

**Talk Date:** October 27th 2024

**Talk title:** Kingdom Signs

**Passage:** Matthew 4:23-25

**Speaker:** Paul Ferguson

**Discussion Questions**

In the talk Paul looked at three important factors, which emerge between two 'bookends' in Matthew 4: 23 and Matthew 9: 35 concerning the nature of Jesus's mission, his communication of it, and how we in turn respond.

- **Proclamation.** We're told that he proclaimed the good news (gospel) of the Kingdom (v23). Jesus was announcing that he is God's chosen King. The call to repent means to give our allegiance to the King and turn away from other 'gods'. Consider what difference it makes and what the implications are for us when coming to Jesus means allegiance to the King and his cause, as opposed to having our 'needs' met and gaining a ticket heaven?
- **Explanation.** (v23) Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues. In Matthew chapters 5 to 7 we see and hear Jesus describing what a life lived in the kingdom of God is like. What **feelings** surface when you consider the call of Jesus for his disciples to live differently, unlike the kingdoms of the world?
- **Demonstration.** The miracles that break out as Jesus the king of the Kingdom announces the good news are evidence of God's compassion and mercy to people in need. More significantly they were signs of Jesus' status as God's chosen King (Isaiah 35: 3 – 6; Matthew 11: 3-5). What do these signs tell us about God's purpose for his people and creation? Consider how a deeper appreciation and excitement about the Kingdom of God (which is amongst us now and will come in fulness) transforms living and witness?
- **Setting.** Jesus was found teaching in their synagogues, in their neighbourhood etc. He came fully to us. As God's people we are called to be his ambassadors, his partners in mission wherever we find ourselves on our Frontline. Take time to explore some of challenges we face on our Frontlines? Share some of the different ways we can demonstrate God's love to others? Perhaps you could share some Frontline stories with one another and pray?

**Takeaway**

What is the main thing each person is taking away from this discussion?

All talks are recorded and may be viewed on TBC's YouTube Channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM1OwaJ4eSICosAjl9Ofzjw>