**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr October 1, 2023**

**Teachings About The Kingdom Of Heaven**

Matthew 13:24-35

**Key Truth:** As long as we are in the world, good and evil will reside together. There is coming a day when Jesus’ Kingdom will be fully realized, and evil will be defeated eternally.

**The Meaning Of The Kingdom Of Heaven:**

1. The Kingdom of Heaven is where Jesus Christ is King and

 those who have surrendered their lives to His rule and reign

 make up the Kingdom of Heaven.

**The Nature Of The Kingdom Of Heaven:**

1. The spiritual battle is waged against the Kingdom of Heaven.

 Matthew 13:24-30

 A. There is a war being waged for the souls of mankind.

2. The growing expansive influence of the Kingdom of Heaven.

 Matthew 13:31-33

 A. Even though it looks like evil is advancing, God is working

 and His Kingdom is growing, even when we can’t see it.

3. The insurmountable value of the Kingdom of Heaven.

 Matthew 13:44-45

 A. We must be willing to surrender everything in order to

 receive and accomplish the will of God.

4. The cosmic conclusion of the Kingdom of Heaven.

 Matthew 13:47-50

 A. In the end Jesus wins and His Kingdom will reign forever.

 Revelation 21:22-27; 22:1-5

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank God for revealing the truth of His kingdom to you and for inviting you into a relationship with Him through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Pray that God would help you faithfully point others toward Jesus and the hope that is found in Him.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Are you more of a generic or name brand shopper? Why?

Spiritually speaking, how can you know if you’re the real deal or just an imitation of a true follower of Christ?

Read Matthew 13:24-26: What does the presence of weeds in the field tell us about life in Christ’s kingdom?

Matthew 13:28-30: How does this growing together principle relate to the church? Are we to ignore what appears to be weeds among the wheat? Explain.

Read Philippians 3:7-11: How can you determine whether or not you value knowing Jesus as your Lord?

What hurdles keep believers from making every effort to know Christ more and become like Him?

Read Matthew 19:16-22: What does the man’s response to Jesus’ command indicate about his heart?

What might it look like for you to stop trying to pull weeds and instead be used by God in the planting of wheat? What is one way you might point a nonbelieving friend or family member to Christ this week?