



Just Passing Through | Shawn Johnson | 8.16.20  
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

**What's the last great TV show or movie you watched?**

SHARE

This week we launched a brand-new series called Kingdom Culture. Two thousand years ago, Jesus started the process of bringing the Kingdom of Heaven to earth. In this series, we are talking about what it means to continue the process. This week, Shawn kicked things off by reminding us that we are just passing through. But before we dive in, take some time to check in with your Group by having everyone answer these questions:

**What is one word you would use to describe how you are currently feeling? Why did you choose that word?**

**What was the most challenging part of your week? Why?**

**What is one thing you feel like God is teaching you right now?**

GROW

**Read Matthew 6:9-15**

**What do you know about the Lord's Prayer?**

**Which part of this prayer did you gravitate toward? Why do you think that is?**

This week Shawn introduced this idea of Kingdom Culture to us. Kingdom is God's presence on this earth, and Culture is a specific way of walking and talking. When we put those two words together, we get a great reminder that our calling is to carry God's Kingdom with us wherever we go. And as we come and go, we are to walk and talk like Jesus followers. We are agents, called to bring slices of heaven down to earth everywhere I go!

*Every time you walk into a room, you have an opportunity to bring a slice of heaven with you.  
Every time you sit down at a table, you have an opportunity to bring a slice of heaven with you.*

*Every time you jump on a Zoom call, you have an opportunity to bring a slice of heaven with you.*

So how do we get that done? This week Shawn gave us three steps:

**Pray For It.**

**Look For It.**

**Live With It In Mind.**

**Which of those three comes most naturally for you? Which one is the most difficult for you?**

When Jesus' disciples ask him how to pray, he tells them to ask God, "would your Kingdom come and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). We are so used to asking God for all the things we want, but how often are we willing to ask God what He wants for us.

**Where do you need to see God's Kingdom come in your life (relationships, finances, mental health, etc.)? What do you believe God's will is for that part of your life?**

**What is one way your Group can be praying for you this week?**

M O V E

**Read Matthew 6:25-34**

**What do you think it means to “seek first the Kingdom”?**

**How would you describe this passage to someone who knows nothing about the Bible?**

**What is one thing you are currently worried about?**

These days there are so many reasons to worry. COVID-19 has put a lot of stress on everyone. Financial stress, health stress, school stress, and all the stress that comes from learning this new normal. All of that worry is legitimate. However, Kingdom Culture gives us a new perspective that helps all of the stress start to fade away.

What’s the secret? Jesus tells us in verse 33:

*But seek first his Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

The invitation isn’t to try to figure everything out; it is to pursue the Kingdom. To be men and women who work to build a Kingdom Culture. Imagine how different your week would be if you took all the time you usually give to worrying and instead used that time to seek God’s presence.

That’s not an easy task, but it is an effective one. An easy tool to aid in this process is to remember the words Shawn learned from his mentor: “Things may not have turned out the way I hoped, but is it going to matter in a hundred years?”

These days we have a lot to worry about. But remember, we are just passing through. So many of the things we lose sleep over aren’t going to matter a hundred years from now. Instead of worrying all week, let’s live with the reality of God’s Kingdom in focus. Let’s build a Kingdom Culture.

**Would you consider yourself a worrier? Why or why not?**

**What is one way your Group can help you worry less this week?**

**What is one practical step you will take this week to build a Kingdom Culture in your home, office, or school?**

### Take-Home Assignment: One Hundred Year Later

Make a list of all the things you are currently worried about. Don't hold back. Write down every last thing you can think of. As a Group, go around in a circle and list some of the things that made your list. As you do, ask each other if those things are going to matter a century from now. Of course, your problems are still important, but this exercise will help you get your head above water and gain a little perspective.

### P R A Y

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate calls to share more freely.

### T O G O

*Don't worry about anything but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.*

- Philippians 4:6