



Four Things Christians Should Say More Often | Doug Wekenman | 8.30.20  
Weekly Study

START

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

**What is the worst movie or television show you've seen this year?**

SHARE

Welcome to Week Three of 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.

The "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. Our job is to walk and talk like Jesus's followers. We are agents, called to bring slices of heaven down to earth everywhere we go!

This week, Doug reminded us of Four Things Christians Should Say More Often. 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?**

**What is the most challenging thing going on in your life?**

**What is the most inspirational thing you saw or learned this week?**

## G R O W

### **Read Luke 18:9-14**

**What stuck out to you about this story?**

**As you read the story, did you find yourself resonating more with the Pharisee or the tax collector? Why?**

The passage you just read is about two very different men. The first is a Pharisee, a religious ruler who prides himself in following all the rules better than everyone else. The second is an outcast. Tax collectors were hated at the time because they were Jewish men who turned their backs on their own people. They worked for Rome, taxing their fellow Jews so that Rome could get rich, and the rest of the Israelites could all continue barely being able to feed their families.

Jesus used two polar opposite characters in this story to prove a point; humility is the way to God's heart. It wasn't the religious Pharisee who walked away justified. It was the sinner who was willing to repent.

Too often, we get caught up thinking that we have to prove ourselves to God with our good behavior, but nothing could be further from the truth. According to Jesus, humility is the way to God's heart!

**Why do you think Jesus told this parable? What message was he trying to communicate to his audience?**

**How would your week change if you decided to approach it like the tax collector instead of the Pharisee? What would it look like to make humility your top priority this week?**

## M O V E

### **Read Luke 4:38-44**

**What does this passage teach us about Jesus?**

**Why do you think healing was such a significant part of Jesus's ministry? What does that tell us about him?**

**What do you think Jesus meant by, "proclaim the good news of the Kingdom"?**

Toward the beginning of his ministry, Jesus told his disciples the game plan for the next few years: "I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent" (Luke 4:43).

As followers of Jesus, the command is to do the same thing, proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God. Speaking out is a big part of building a Kingdom Culture. We have to be ready to open our mouths and tell the world what we believe. This week, Doug gave us four lines that we should be using more often!

- I don't know
- I can learn something from that person.
- It's gonna take more than that to offend me.
- I was wrong.

**Which of those four phrases is the most difficult for you to say? Why do you think that is?**

**Which of those four phrases comes most naturally to you? Why do you think that is?**

In order to be able to say (and mean) those four statements, we need the same thing the tax collector had that day in the synagogue, humility. It isn't easy to admit that we were wrong or that we don't know the answer. But if we want to help build a Kingdom Culture, learning how to not just walk in humility, but talk in humility is one of the best things we can do.

**Which one of those phrases are you going to try to work on this week? How are you going to do that?**

**How can your Group help keep you accountable so that you actually do it?**

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

*All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked.*

- Luke 4:22