## INBREAKING

THE KINGDOM COME AT CHRISTMAS

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vineyard<sup>®</sup>

# The Inbreaking of the Kingdom of God

#### What Is the Good News?

- "The time promised by God has come at last!"..."The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!" (Mark 1:15 NLT)
- "I must preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God." (Luke 4:43 NLT)
- "The Kingdom of God is near you now." (Luke 10:9 NLT)
- "But if I am casting out demons by the power of God, then the Kingdom of God has arrived among you." (Luke 11:20 NLT)
- "Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need." (Luke 12:31 NLT)

In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He existed in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. <sup>4</sup> The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it.

<sup>6</sup> God sent a man, John the Baptist, <sup>7</sup> to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. <sup>8</sup> John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. <sup>9</sup> The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup> They are reborn-- not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

<sup>14</sup> So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

<sup>15</sup> John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.'"

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- Intimacy
- Provision
- Partnership

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#### **Intimacy**

- "I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them." (Matthew 18:19-20 NLT)
- "Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. ... <sup>13</sup> When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. ... <sup>15</sup> Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep." (Romans 12:10, 13-15 NLT)
- "Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2 NLT)

Intimacy

Provision

- Physical needs
- Healing
  - Immanuel Prayer
- Freedom

#### Freedom

- "Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us." (Romans 5:1 NLT)
- "We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin." For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin." (Romans. 6:6-7 NLT),
- "But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life." (Romans 6:22 NLT).

#### Freedom

- "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." (Matthew 5:6 ESV)
- "And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! <sup>13</sup> So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him." (Luke 11:9-13 NLT)

Intimacy Provision Partnership

- "All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it." (1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT)
- "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

Teresa of Ávila

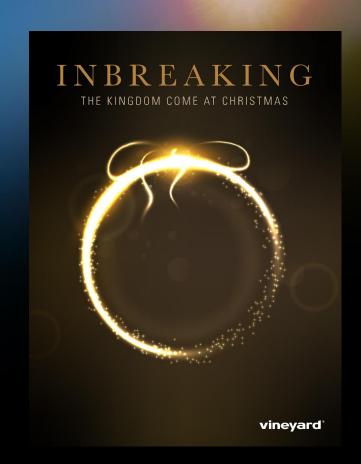
## Let's Live Eternal Life Right Now

#### In the weeks to come:

- Hope
- Peace
- Joy
- Love

### Challenge

Use the *Inbreaking* booklet one or more times this week—either with your family, with a friend or spouse, or by yourself—as a way to bring the beauty and power of God's Inbreaking Kingdom into your life as we enter into the Advent season and prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.



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