# the way in is the way on Following Jesus into Joy

## The Kingdom of God is...

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
(Matt 6:10)

- 1. <u>active</u> rule/reign/order
- 2. coming <u>near</u> (imminent, personal, holistic)
- 3. received (yielded to)

## Luke 17:20-21 (KJV)

<sup>20</sup> And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation:

<sup>21</sup> Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is <u>within</u> you.

## God's reign becomes active

on the inside

so we must follow Jesus in

#### Romans 14

<sup>17</sup> For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, <sup>18</sup> because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval.

## Two Main Things...

- Joy is fundamental to the Kingdom. It matters to Jesus whether you are living in joy (just like righteousness and peace).
- Just like righteousness and peace, it takes effort (thankfully) to follow Jesus into joy.



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# The Way In (Invitation)

As you go through your week, reflect with Jesus on how you view joy compared with righteousness and peace as an indication and priority of God's Kingdom.

For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy. (Romans 14:17)