**The Gospel of the Kingdom (7 of 7)**
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our Grantham Church YouTube Channel. If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the recent sermons page at our website and at the Grantham Church Podcast the following day, along with the small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

## Sunday, October 24th 2021

**Sermon Series Focus:** The world seems to be falling apart and the darkness is visible all around us. It raises questions like, "What is God doing about it? Where are things going? How should we respond to it all?" Jesus said, "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!" But what is this *gospel* of the kingdom? And how do we partner with God as believers in his good news? Join us for our fall sermon series as we explore the redemptive story of God and what it looks like when the gospel intersects with our lives and impacts the world through the local church.

**Sermon Title:** Gospel Saturation
**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 9:35-38; 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 1:16-25; Col. 1:19-20
**Sermon Focus:** Once we have been captivated by the power of the gospel in our own lives, we will naturally want to gather with the church, grow in our faith, give to the mission, and go into the world as good news people. This is what God intends through the local church as we are mobilized by his love and grace. In the final message of our series, Pastor David invites our congregation to own the lostness of our community and help further a gospel movement.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person, by phone, or video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. In Matthew 16:3, Jesus encouraged us to "interpret the signs of the times" visible all around us. As you look around you today, what are the signs telling you about the

direction of American society, and even more importantly the direction of the Church in America. What is happening? Why is it happening? Where do you think we should go from here? And how does that involve you?

2. Pastor David said that pastors across the country are concluding that the central problem in the American Church is our lack of discipleship. Many churches are either not making disciples in the way of Jesus and the gospel of the kingdom, or churches simply can't compete with all the liturgies of the world that are being given more power to shape us than the gospel. What can/should we do about this? Is it possible to make disciples of Jesus if media, culture, sports, hobbies, etc. are shaping us more than church life and Christian liturgies?

3. Pastor David called us to this idea of Gospel Saturation. It's defined this way: **"The church owning the *lostness* of an identified people in a defined place ensuring that every man, woman, and child has repeated opportunities to see, hear, and respond to the Good News of Jesus Christ."** How do you see the "lostness" manifested in our community? Be specific. Also, what would it look like for the Church in our area to "own the lostness" of the people?

4. Gospel Saturation is an entirely different operating system than say the "church growth" mindset. Discuss each of these points. Gospel Saturation prioritizes…
    - Mobilization over collection
    - Transformation over attendance
    - Collaboration over competition
    - Multiplication over addition

5. Take some time to discuss what each of these mean and look like:
   EMWC = An Opportunity
   His glory > Our story
   A church < The Church
   Every Believer = A Missionary

6. What would it look like for Grantham to operate according to this new OS? How might our thinking and practice need to change moving forward?