

The Kingdom is here . . . and is to come!: Matthew 4: 12-17

1. **Kingdom of Heaven.** (If you have seen the movie) What do you think the filmmakers were trying to communicate about the kingdom of heaven in the movie? What did you learn or disagree with in the movie?

2. **Jesus heads towards danger.** What's your approach to risk in life? What sacrifices are you prepared to make to go where God is leading?

3. **The people sitting in darkness.** Read Isaiah 9.1-7. God goes to these people first, the beleaguered, as he went to the sinners and the fishermen. How does that speak to you? Is God calling us to do the same thing?

4. **The Kingdom of Heaven/God.** God's reign and rule in the human heart. Discuss the way God exercises his rule in the human heart. How is He exercising his rule in your heart?

5. **Power in the kingdom.** Christ demonstrates the power of the kingdom by healing the sick. Do you see that happening in our world where the kingdom breaks in?

Your kingdom come. Your will be done. With what expectations should we pray this most famous of prayers? What consolation do you draw from knowing that one day the kingdom will be fully established?