

ULC Sermon Study Resource
Non Negotiables // Celebrate Kingdom Partners
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Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: Do you work better by yourself or with a team? Why?

Readings: Philippians 1:3-14

Outline:

- I. Celebrate Kingdom Partners
 - a. Every person serves the kingdom through the gifts, roles, and work God has given. It is not all the same work but it is all working toward the same goal.
 - b. This is why we celebrate, support, and give thanks for the work of kingdom partners. They serve their specific role as we aim to serve ours. When each of us carries out the work God has given us, God is glorified, and God promises to use that work for his kingdom.

Q: *What practices can we implement to more frequently serve the kingdom of God?*
- II. We Need Kingdom Partners
 - a. We don't just like kingdom partners, we need them. We need each other. The mission of God invites all of us to partner together.
 - b. Not only do kingdom partners do the work we can't do, they extend the work we do. They help us to share the gospel with people that do not know Jesus every single day.

Q: *How does serving with a team make the work of God more meaningful and manageable?*
- III. Live With a Kingdom Posture
 - a. The posture of the Kingdom is not Zero Sum. The act of service towards God's will is not a competition with other partners. When our kingdom partners thrive, that's a win for the kingdom.
 - b. To reflect the life of Jesus into the world, we partner together with one another and with other kingdom minded partners. We embrace our calling as a church, and we support the calling and work of our kingdom partners.

Q: *How can we use our gifts and service to reflect God's love into the world?*

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) Are there areas in our lives that could better serve with Kingdom Partners?
- 2) What are the specific gifts, resources, and roles that have been given to us to serve with kingdom partners?
- 3) How can we better connect to kingdom partners and volunteer positions to serve God?
- 4) How can we learn to act in service for the sake of God's kingdom and not for the purpose of self-aggrandizement? Why is that difficult for us?

Suggestions for further study:

- Romans 12:3-7 **Q: *What, individually, do you believe God has given you to be able to bless others?***
- John 6:38-40 **Q: *When is it hard to keep our focus on the will of the Father as Jesus did?***

Closing Prayer:

Father God, you have revealed your will for us and for the entire world through your son Jesus. You have shown that that will is that we might look upon him and be saved and that He might raise us up. We ask that you would work in our midst by the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us partner with Jesus to do work that pursues your will. Amen.