

IDEA 1

Steve started his sermon by highlighting a helpful pathway and acronym for seeking first the kingdom.

A - Allegiance

I - Integration

M - Mission

The focus of this week's sermon was on the first step - Allegiance to the King.

What stories, people or places come to mind when you hear the word allegiance?

Why do you think this is the first step on the pathway to seeking first the kingdom?

IDEA 2

"My concern for the church is not these obvious challenges to our allegiance. The pathway to becoming a Judas won't be found in a Roman Colosseum or a Lion's den. The pathway is much more subtle.."

Steve highlighted 3 ways that our loyalty to Jesus can be undermined:

- Consumerism
- Individualism
- Nationalism

Why do you think the subtle challenges to our allegiance are more of a concern than the more obvious ones?

Of the 3 ways Steve described, which of these would you say challenges your allegiance to King Jesus most? Why?

What other things would you add to the list that undermine our loyalty to King Jesus?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Grab some pens and paper and write out a pledge of allegiance to King Jesus. You may like to use or adapt the following prompts below:

King Jesus, I pledge Allegiance to you as the King of kings.

I confess the following things that have undermined my loyalty to you...

May I seek first your Kingdom in all that I do. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done. Amen.

You may want to put the pledge somewhere you can see it on a regular basis, to remind you of your allegiance to Him and His Kingdom.

APPLICATION

Discuss the spiritual practices described by Steve in his sermon.

- Generosity
- Engaging in spiritual community
- Over-familiarizing yourself with the Sermon on the Mount

What it could look like to apply one of these practices to your life this week?

- In what ways might God be calling to you to be generous towards others this week? (This could include your time, money, affections, etc)
- Who might Holy Spirit be nudging you to invite into your spiritual community?
- What could it look like for you to over-familiarize yourself with the Sermon on the Mount? (Read it everyday for a week/month, memorize it, write it somewhere visible, etc)