

the  Venues
Go Deep
Bizarro Kingdom
7.5.2020

How did you celebrate the 4th of July?

What do you think about having an American flag in the church sanctuary?

- I haven't really thought about it.*
- I'm indifferent.*
- I'm great with it. It's a way to honor our country.*
- It's totally inappropriate. It smacks of civil religion.*

Read Luke 13:18.

How would you answer Jesus' question?

The word "kingdom" is "basilea," the same word used for the Roman Empire.

Read Mark 1:15. Since "kingdom" means "empire," what is Jesus saying here in Mark?

Read John 18:33-36.

What does it mean that Jesus' kingdom is "not of this world"?

If a Kingdom looks like its King, what does Jesus' Kingdom look like?

How does Jesus' Kingdom contrast with the kingdom of the world?

(Check out Matthew 5:38-48; Luke 22:24-26; Romans 14:17; Isaiah 9:7)

As a Jesus-follower, by which values are we to live?

The Flag Code states that the "American flag should be flown higher than lesser flags." If the flags are flown at the same level, the American flag should be placed to the right of other flags, because "the right is the position of prominence."

What problem do you see with this code?

To whom (what) should we give our allegiance (Matthew 6:24)?

How has this study affected your feelings about the American flag in the church auditorium?