JESUS – Hope, Help, and Healing 'The Reign of God' Mark 4:26-34 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

The following questions are intended to use in discussion and application of the past week's sermon.

Listening

What part of the sermon was most helpful to you or challenged you to think and/or live differently? How will you apply this message to your life?

Engaging

As a sampling of passages on the 'kingdom' in the book of Mark (not exhaustive), see 1:15, 3:24, 4:11, 26, 30, 12:34, 15:43. What things can you pull out of this sampling of passages about the nature of the kingdom of God? What questions do they leave you with?

Jesus's first parable (verses 26-29) emphasizes the way a seed grows without human effort. Yet even in this example, man is involved. In what sense is man involved in the kingdom 'growth' and in what ways are we not?

Applying

Do you have any 'seedlike beginnings' of a thing that grew into a much larger development? Does this impact the way in which you view 'small things' (good or bad)?

For areas of your life or the world around us where the reign of God is not welcome, what words or concepts might you use to describe the state of those areas?

For the areas mentioned above, are there practical steps that you might pray for in order to introduce or welcome the reign of God?

Praying

In light of this message and discussion:

How can we pray for each other? Where do you feel challenged or convicted?

What can we praise God for? How can we pray for our church?

