

KINGDOM LIVING: Good Trouble

As preached on Sunday, August 9th

Read: Matthew 5:1-12

1. What did you think of John Lewis' comments about "getting in the way" and "making good trouble"? Do you agree or disagree? Why?
2. In his 8th beatitude, Jesus declares a blessing upon those who are persecuted. Was he referring to just anyone who is persecuted or to those persecuted for a particular reason?
3. What does Jesus mean when he says "theirs is the kingdom of heaven"? Why is this blessing the same as the blessing associated with the 1st beatitude?
4. Jesus' 9th beatitude seems very similar to his 8th. What is the difference between them? How do the blessings between the 8th and 9th beatitudes go together?
5. In what ways are Jesus' "persecution" and John Lewis' "good trouble" related?
6. How can our understanding of an action-oriented faith that brings good trouble keep us encouraged in times of persecution?
7. What good trouble will you engage in as you follow Jesus in this world?