

Kairos Bible Study: Reflecting on Scripture

Divide the group up into twos or threes and provide them with the following texts, identifying which word in each is a translation of the Greek word *kairos* in the New Revised Standard Version:

Mark 1:14-15	“the time” (is fulfilled)
Luke 12:54-56	“the present time”
Luke 19:44	“the time” (of your visitation from God)
Romans 13:11-13	“the time . . . the moment”
11 Corinthians 6:1-2	“the acceptable time”

Invite each group to reflect on the following question:

What does this text reveal to you about the meaning of the word kairos?

Invite each group to report back using the following notes to draw out points as necessary. From the insights of each group and key quotations (found in Chapter 1) draw out a common understanding of *kairos*.

Mark 1:14-15 — *Kairos* is a time that requires a conversion from people.

Luke 12:54-56 — *Kairos* is extraordinary time, requiring interpretation. The capacity to read the signs of the times—the kairos—and respond is an issue of faith.

Luke 19:44 — *Kairos* is a dangerous time. It is critical to recognize it, for if you allow it to pass the loss will be immeasurable. There is a burden or responsibility tied up in the recognition of the kairos.

Romans 13:11-13 — *Kairos* time is here. It calls for action, conversion and transformation—a change of life.

11 Corinthians 6:1-2 — *Kairos* is not just crisis but opportunity and favour. God assists us in discerning the kairos—a moment of grace.

Reflecting on our Time

Using the definition that the group has developed, reflect together on the current state of the world. You could choose to think globally or focus very specifically on your own local reality. Ask the question: Given what we know about *kairos* from scripture (and from the global community of faith), how is our time—this socio-political moment—a time of crisis and opportunity? Ask the group to name “*Kairos* moments” which have happened in their lifetime.

This bible study can be used to lead into a description of how KAIROS, the organization, is responding to the current *kairos* moment.

Optional addition:

Explore how communities of faith from around the world have understood this notion of *kairos* to relate to their context. See chapter 1 for a summary of these communities, and consult the website for links to some of the key documents.