

The Dimensions of the King's Domain.

7.19.15

Review – Prequel to the Gospel of Mark; understanding the Kingdom is central to understanding what Jesus has called us to do; apostolos

6 Dimensions of the Kingdom of God

His Kingdom Is...

I. Established on servanthood

a. Script: Mark 9.33–37; Mk.10.35–37, 42–45;

i. Phil.2 – He laid down His divine nature and became a servant. God became a servant.

ii. John 13.3–5 – He knew who he was and what he was called to do and where he was going got down and served them. The Ultimate Authority submits Himself to the needs of others.

iii. Mk.9 – The illustration of bringing the child in the group. Children were “the least” in society. They were overlooked, abused, disregarded. To “welcome” meant more than a hearty greeting, but to invite them in and serve their needs. “You are under my covering and I will take care of you.”

iv. Servanthood is how the K is established and how it flourishes. Christians are at their best when they are serving the least.

v. The chief characteristic of true servanthood is humility, but it is a humility that stems from gratefulness and authority not sin and shame.

1. Mark 10 – The world use their authority abusively; I use my authority submissively; you follow my example.
 - a. We have authority and we are to use it to serve others.
 - b. LtCol Todd Luce and his role as the leader of our CPE class. A perfect model of servant leadership.
2. Humility from sin and shame says, “I’m so awful; I’m just a rotten sinner in need of forgiveness; I need to have a humble attitude.” Gratefulness acknowledges the sin, but operates from thankfulness.
 - a. Jesus understood who he was, all that he had and what he was called to do and he served. Likewise, we serve others knowing who we are in Christ, all that we have and what our job is.
 - b. We serve from a son’s mentality and not a servant’s mentality. A servant sees themselves as second class (everybody is better than me), but a son understands his position and authority in the household and voluntarily chooses to serve.
 - c. Likewise, I don’t serve my wife from a position of weakness (I don’t deserve you; I’m so bad; you’re so good; I want you to be happy with me, etc). but one of authority. It’s not an authority that dictates, manipulates or suffocates. It’s not authority that is used abusively, but is used submissively. It says: I want the best for you; to delight in you; to make your life easier.

- d. The example of servanthood in the Bible we are to model is a King with a servant's towel around his waist washing feet.
 - i. John 13.12-15
- vi. The King of the Universe, the Creator of all comes to planet earth and establishes His kingdom by servanthood. He doesn't bash heads or force decisions. He just serves.
- b. Appl - How much different would our lives be if our authority were expressed more frequently by a towel? His Kingdom was established on servanthood. This is the model of how we are to interact with each other.
 - i. I know who I am; I know what I have;
 - ii. How is your service to others? Are you demanding others serve you? You know what we call humans who demand for others to serve them? Babies.
 - iii. Do you look for opportunities to serve? Gaps that need to be filled? Men to serve on WPT, Men's Ministry, Ushering, A/V, among Children & Youth, Small Groups
 - iv. How is your serving? Serving always begins at home; community, church, et
 - v. Ill - Founder of SouthWest Airlines created a culture of service.

II. Experienced by faith in Jesus

- a. Script: Mark 12.34; John 3.1-21; Mk.11.22-25
- b. You can be near the Kingdom and not enter it. You begin the journey in the Kingdom by placing your faith in Jesus. The initial encounter is the point that you enter into salvation. Have you been born again?
- c. We daily encounter more of the Kingdom through faith as we take on the mountains before us, and believe God for their removal.
- d. Many people of faith have little faith

III. Characterized by love for God and others

- a. Script: Mark 12.28–31; John 13.34f
- b. Love for God & others brings freshness to all of life; it energizes us.
- c. Love is an aroma; it changes the environment; it affects everything around it.
 - i. Use people to spray aerosol through the worship center/ show reneuzit.
 - ii. Or, talk about what it smells like on the Kid's BBQ Fundraiser Sunday.
 - iii. What happened? I just changed the environment
- d. I know this is true, b/c when there is division in work group, anger in a family, or apathy within a church it stinks!
- e. Appl -When you're walking in love with God & others it affects the spiritual climate around you. You're building the Kingdom!

IV. Empowered by the Holy Spirit

- a. Script: Mark 9.1.; 18; John 16.5–11; Acts 1 & 2
- b. The Kingdom of God doesn't happen through military conquest or political maneuvering, ie, the crusades or armies forcing people groups to convert,
- c. It is empowered by the Spirit. Neither Jesus nor the early church had the power to change the course of history w/o the Holy Spirit. **When the children of God are full of the Spirit of God the Kingdom of God come in power.**
- d. We must ask every day for the fullness of the HS. We cannot accomplish the will of our King in a spirit of love and servanthood w/o the ongoing filling of the Holy Spirit. He is our best friend and makes the Kingdom advancing life possible. Don't you think for a moment that you have all the HS you'll ever need.
 - i. Separate yourself from sin & the world
 - ii. Consecrate yourself to Jesus & His Kingdom
 - iii. Appropriate by faith the baptism of the HS

V. **Demonstrated through good fruit and the supernatural**

- a. Script: Mk.16.15-18; Mt.7.16-20; Acts 10.38
- b. How do you know the KOG is among us? Love, servanthood, miracles, & lives being changed radically. Are people being healed & delivered? Is good coming from our lives and positive witness being left?
- c. Appl - How many would say you have seen a miracle - the power of God to instantly or gradually change or heal a person or deliver a person from a hard place?
 - i. Praise reports from the healing services
- d. Why sickness isn't the will of God - it didn't exist before in the Garden of Eden and it doesn't exist in Heaven (the Lord's prayer). When we pray, "God, if it's your will, please heal this person." We are saying, "God, if it's your will, keep them sick...iow, sickness is the will of God." **If it is God's will that you remain sick then every pill you take, every doctor you see, every surgery you have is an act of rebellion. By doing those things, you are rebelling against the will of God for your life.** This also means that every doctor, pharmacist, & nurse are as sinful as an addict and every hospital is as bad as a house of prostitution for all of them are contrary to God's will.
- e. Why healing takes place in heaven. It's not b/c of the location but b/c of the environment in the location
 - i. Illustr with two zip codes - zip code of LJ & Heaven
 - ii. Describe the environment/characteristics of these two
 - iii. Why the difference? One is the domain of the King & the other is becoming the domain of the King.
 - iv. Seattle healing rooms - John G Lake - 100,000 documented healings, "the healthiest city in the US", why? The domain of King was there.
- f. The KOG changes the environment it touches. Narnia thawing out and turning into a lush place full of vegetation.

VI. **Consummated in hope and freedom**

- a. Script: John 8.32, 34-36; Mk.5.1-20

- b. When people seeking help encountered Jesus they left him having hope and freedom. Think about how many people Jesus liberated through his love, teaching and personal ministry. The end products of the KOG are liberation from bondage and hope for life. Everyone who came to Jesus got liberated and left with hope!
 - i. Hope is the perspective and attitude of the Kingdom – Jer.29.11 (a hope and a future).
 - ii. Liberty or freedom is the environment of the Kingdom. We have a Father who says, “Everything I Have is yours.”
- c. Is that what people experience with us? Do people hear hope in our words and watch it with our lifestyle? Do people feel freedom in conversations with us or is it control or pressure or judgment or anger or frustration?
 - i. Some religious people lock others down with rules and certain actions. “You’re supposed to act like this and stop doing that and be here with this group.”
- d. God convicts us of sin to liberate us from it.
- e. Story of Saul. Jesus rebukes Saul not as an act of retaliation or protection but to liberate this man into his destiny.
- f. When the Kingdom comes we are able to experience freedom even in life’s most difficult challenges. We aren’t locked into the pain or hurt; we have hope that God can turn any situation around for good that there is hope for a better Day to come.
- g. Illust – Watching the coverage of the shooting at the SC church and the reporter at the church reporting about the outdoor worship and prayer service. He was overcome with emotion. Their faith was being expressed in hope & freedom.
- h. If your faith isn’t inspiring hope and fueling liberty in your heart, then you got something other than Jesus! The end result of His Kingdom is hope and freedom.

- i. Are you walking in freedom? Would you want others to pattern their lives after yours? Are you living with the hope that His Kingdom will prevail?

Conclusion

- What gaps need to be filled through your service?
- Who in your life needs hope?
- What areas of bondage need to be broken in your life?

The KoG is established on servanthood and is consummated in hope & freedom.