



Sunday November 29, 2009
The Kingdom of God
Part 8 : Kingdom Mandate

Matthew 6:9-10

In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.

Jesus came to introduce His Kingdom to us. He did not intend for it to fade away but rather to be like that mustard seed that keeps growing or like that leaven that keeps permeating and infiltrating the environment in which it is placed. He expects that to continue today through sons and daughters of the Kingdom that He has placed in the earth. There is a Kingdom mandate on our lives to see His Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Kingdom Within You

Luke 17:20-21

Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; ²¹ nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.

God's Kingdom – His rule and reign – works out from within us, in us and through us. We must live with the consciousness of the Kingdom of God within us. The righteousness, peace and joy of the Kingdom is within you. The power and authority of the Kingdom is within you. The prevailing force of the Kingdom of God is within you, Where ever you go, the Kingdom of God is being taken. There is an opportunity for Kingdom advancement where ever you are. There is an opportunity for manifestation of Kingdom authority and dominion in to every situation you enter.

Pressing in to the Kingdom

Matthew 11:12

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.

Luke 16:16

The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it.

This seems to be a dichotomy. The Kingdom is within me, and yet I am to press in to the Kingdom of God. The preaching and teaching of the Kingdom of God must spur you to press in to it. "Pressing into" means to forcefully or violently enter in to it. There is an element of "violence" or forcefulness with which we must take the things of the Kingdom.

Here is another paradox. We are called to be both Kingdom-children and Kingdom-warriors. It takes wisdom to know the correct posture – to be childlike or to be warrior-like - to receive what God has for us.

On the one hand there are things of the Kingdom that we must receive as a little child. Jesus said "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:32). God just gives it to us and we receive as little children.



And yet on the other hand, we have to be warrior-like when we have to aggressively pursue what the King has made available to us in His Kingdom. We are not fighting the King because He is not the one keeping it away from us. Rather we are fighting our own flesh, fleshly thinking, the influences of the world, the tares, that is the sons of the wicked one, and demonic powers that hinder us from experiencing what is ours in the Kingdom of heaven. There are some things in the Kingdom that we will never experience, unless we are willing to contend for it with a violent aggressiveness that will not let go until we have it. As a community, we need to come together and contend together to become a force for God in our city, nation and in the nations. We must contend together to become a church that will overthrow the powers of hell and bring the will of God into any situation.

Everything in submission to the King

As a first step in fulfilling our Kingdom mandate, everything in our lives must be in submission to the King. We must welcome the King's domain in to every area of our lives and allow it touch our everyday living. We must live and operate out of a "Kingdom of God" perspective—where everything we do is an extension of the King's domain here on earth—His rule being released in us and through us. As Jesus said we must seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. To us the pursuit of the Kingdom must become all consuming. Like the pearl of great price and like that treasure hidden in the field, we must put everything we have – all our dreams, our ambitions, our purposes into the "Kingdom basket". This is the only thing that matters to us. This is the only thing that we live for. To see His Kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Unleashing Kingdom Influence

We must then be willing to position ourselves in this world. He has instructed us to do business till He comes, not hide in monasteries or church meetings till He comes. He has told us to engage the world with the intent of becoming profitable. The only way we can unleash Kingdom influence in the world is by engaging the world. Step into your mountain or mountains. What is your mountain or sphere of influence that God has called you to - Arts and entertainment, media, education, business, government, family, religion? Position yourself on your mountain. Expect the mustard seed of the Kingdom within you, the leaven of His Kingdom within you to being to permeate and penetrate your environment through you. You begin to influence your world through Kingdom thinking and Kingdom living. You do not conform to the ways of the kingdoms of this world. You operate from a different Kingdom culture. Yours is a prevailing culture – the culture that is stronger and more powerful than the culture of the world around you.

Advancing Kingdom Invasion

Begin to pray "thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" where ever you are. Pray this for your home, your neighborhood, your school or college, your workplace and where ever you have a chance of bringing the Kingdom. When you pray this way, you are expressing your desire to see God's Kingdom advance through your life in to your world. When you go to school, you are not only going there to receive an education, but you are there as a son or daughter of the Kingdom. In your workplace, you are not going just to earn a salary, but you are there for Kingdom advancement. You have a message to proclaim "the Kingdom of heaven is here". You have a mandate to see God's Kingdom come and His will be done there in



that school. So start praying. Even a simple whisper will get things started. Look for ways to see how His Kingdom can advance in that area. Keep your heart and mind open for ideas, strategies and things that God will want you to do to advance His Kingdom in that place. He may want you to start something, perhaps a prayer meeting. He may want you to engage people in that place in some way. He may want you to address a specific need in that place by serving the people there. He may want you to engage in intense prayer for a season and then step out in action. He may want you to stay and work your way in to a place of influence so that your life can be a testimony to many. He may want you to integrate Kingdom principles in what you do, so that like leaven working through a lump of dough, you can progressively influence the culture of that organization. You are there to see the advancement of Kingdom invasion in that place.

Walking in Kingdom Power, Authority and Dominion

Luke 10:1,9

After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go. ⁹And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Remember that the Kingdom always comes with power. The Kingdom we represent and are part of is more powerful than any demonic power. Whenever you get an opportunity exercise Kingdom authority that is vested in you. All of heaven backs you up, when you use the name of Jesus. Be forceful about exercising authority. Sometimes, demonic forces are stubborn and do not give in easily. We have to be more persistent than the devil, knowing that we have greater authority and it is the devil who must retreat. I desire to see us become a community of believers who manifest Kingdom power and authority everywhere we go. Works of power, destroying demonic works, miracles must become the norm for us as a believing community.

It is all about the King!

Finally, in our Kingdom mandate we must remember that it is all about the King. It is not even about our local church, ourselves, our ministry, our reputation. None of these matter. At the end of it all, it is all about Jesus! We are here to see Him exalted, glorified, worshiped and adored. Whatever we do, it is to see Jesus lifted high, a banner that flies across this land!

Matthew 6:13

..For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>