

Kingdom Fit: Relationships
Message 1
6-24-18

"No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the Kingdom."
Luke 9:62

This statement was made by Jesus who had asked two individuals to follow Him. Both gave excuses why they could not immediately follow Him. They had not disciplined themselves to commit to Jesus and the Christian life.

Discipline is hard, but it is also necessary.

"Train yourself in godliness." **1 Timothy 4:7 CSB**

The same discipline it takes to train physically; it takes even more to train spiritually.

"For the training of the body has limited benefit, but godliness is beneficial in every way, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come."

1 Timothy 4:8 CSB

So Kingdom fitness has earthly and eternal benefits.

It is physical and spiritual.

Bodily exercise is difficult because the body rebels against discipline.

Spiritual exercise has the additional element of dark forces that tempts you to "look back" and become unfit for the Kingdom.

This is why Paul reminds us: ***"We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."*** Ephesians 6:12 KJV

We are going to look at the areas of our lives where discipline is necessary. We are going to discuss finances, our body and our soul. We are going to begin this morning with a foundational disciple: right relationships.

"Do not be deceived: "Bad company corrupts good morals."
1 Corinthians 15:33 CSB

Relationship

Relate – to connect

Ship – suffix meaning "to be in the same condition"

"The one who walks with the wise will become wise, but a companion of fools will suffer harm."

Proverbs 13:20 CSB

You may not start out as a fool, but if you start associating with them eventually, you will become one.

Discipline of Relationships

You choose your friends. Never let friends choose you.

"The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray."

Proverbs 12:26 NKJV

Friendships and partnerships should be mutual and intentional.

Be careful. Most damage done by our relationships could have been avoided by making better choices.

It is easier to put the right person on the bus than to get the wrong person off the bus.

Spend your discretionary time with those who challenge you to be better.

"As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend."

Proverbs 27:17 NKJV

If you're the smartest person in the room; you're probably in the wrong room.

Develop healthy relationships that produce accountability and strength.

"And if someone overpowers one person, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not easily broken."

Ecclesiastes 4:12 CSB

Nothing will hurt you more spiritually than allowing the wrong people to influence your life.

Guard your healthy relationships.

Pray that the Spirit will bring people into your life that will encourage you and hold you accountable to God's high calling.