

The Kingdom of God part 6 handout

Kingdom Equals Conflict

Matthew 11:10-19 (NKJV)

1. The Kingdom is already in and has been in conflict.

- A. The kingdom suffers violence and the violent take it by force.
- B. The kingdom is not a passive sport. The kingdom isn't about being "nice." The Kingdom is about revealing the King.
- C. Conflict is like the window of your soul, others can look in and see who's with you!
- D. Notice the religious reaction "we played the music and you didn't dance, we mourned, and you didn't lament"
- E. The world recognizes religion that conforms to it. It fights against non- conformists. Otherwise known as the "politically incorrect."
- F. The world and many in the church like it when Christians are nice.
- G. Even if you make it clear that your speaking to the issues, not against people doing such things, they continue to rail on you.
- H. Christians have been told to be quiet about their beliefs everywhere except maybe in the church. Now many in the church are telling Christians to be quiet about their Kingdom beliefs in the church. Shut up, you're offending people.
- I. We don't need to judge and condemn people, call them names and become mean spirited. Jesus was and is the friend of sinners. He is not however the friend of sin.
- J. Sixty eight percent of college students consider conservative beliefs to be hate speech that shouldn't be covered under the First Amendment right to free speech.
- K. Since the church decided to be nice it's relinquished it's influence in the seven mountains of influence: Religion, Family, Education, Government, Education, Media, Arts & Entertainment, Business
- L. These seven power structures mold the minds of the world.
- M. The result of mind changes in our generation has been rapid moral decline.
- N. This is why so many people voted for President Trump.
- O. So why have so many Christians given into the pressure to remain silent?

2. Christians need to return to the Gospel of the Kingdom.

- A. In the Kingdom there's a right and wrong. And no one votes on it. Let God be true and every man a liar.
- B. Too many are giving into the pressure of conformity, instead of pressing back against conformity pressure. Luke says it directly. **Luke 16:16 (NKJV)**

C. When the kingdom is preached, not the socially acceptable Gospel believers must press into it.

D. As long as you avoid pressure, you avoid the King and His Kingdom.

E. A social Gospel conforms to religious pressure. A Kingdom Gospel resists religious pressure and brings transformation. Kingdom believers are cultural change agents of their King.

Romans 12:1-2 (NKJV)

F. The Social Gospel says "be nice!" The kingdom Gospel says "be faithful to God and His Word, be the Kings voice speaking the mountains of influence.

G. Peace is not the absence of conflict. You are not promoting peace by being silent to injustice, unrighteousness, or deceit.

H. The number one reason we avoid conflict is fear. We fear having conflict with others but especially our enemies. Paul said to not fear conflict. **Philippians 1:29-30 (NKJV)**

I. Paul said that conflict led to the furtherance of the Gospel. **Philippians 1:12-15 (NKJV)**

J. Jesus said in the last days many will be offended and become deceived, their love will wax cold, all because they were not prepared for conflict.

3. Every great opportunity and blessing lies behind the door of conflict.

A. The more conflicts, the more opportunities.

Numbers 13:30-33, 14:1-3 (NKJV)

C. Not only did it keep them from entering the promised land - it made them rebels who were mad and critical of God and His leaders.

D. God doesn't always let us know the conflicts that lie ahead on the path He's taking us on. He expects us to trust Him for conflicts that come our way.

E. We will all have to face our Giants!

F. What Conflicts are you hiding from?

G. God has spoken to me more than once to stop praying for the Giants to get weaker, pray for God to make you stronger!

H. Look for the right things to happen. Quit looking for trouble, you'll keep finding it.

I. Start setting giant killing goals to move forward.

J. Learn how to be better at conflict resolution from someone that's good at it.

K. Quit being nice and choose instead to reveal God through your conflicts by remaining true to His Word and Spirit.

L. Spiritual Transformation requires agitation and conflict. Jacob had to wrestle with the angel before he was transformed from Jacob into Israel.

M. We have to get into God's Word like when you do laundry.