

Kingdom Preppers Week 3
Intentionally Seeking God's Kingdom First
2/15/2026

Seeking Requires Intentionality

In Gospel of Matthew 6:33, Jesus commands us to “seek first His kingdom and His righteousness.” The word *seek* means to search and to aim. You cannot aim at something unless you know what the target is, and you cannot search for something unless you know what you are looking for. Drifting happens naturally; seeking never does. If we are not intentional, we will drift spiritually. Think of swimming across a river with a current. If your goal is to reach a rope swing on the other side, you must intentionally swim against the current. If you simply jump in and float, the current will carry you away from your target. Spiritually, sin is the current of this world. If we do nothing—if we simply float—we will drift from God's purposes. Some of us are floating right now, and as a result our spiritual lives, our marriages, and even our children are drifting. Seeking God's Kingdom requires deliberate effort.

The Responsibility of Spiritual Leadership

Scripture places significant responsibility for spiritual leadership on men. For a church to fulfill its mission of expanding God's Kingdom through discipleship and replication, it requires men who will step into their God-ordained role. A man cannot spiritually lead in the church if he is not leading himself. He cannot lead his family if he is not leading his marriage. And he cannot lead his marriage if he is not first submitting himself to God. It begins with personal spiritual discipline and flows outward.

At the same time, we recognize there are women faithfully carrying spiritual leadership in their homes because they must. Some do not have husbands, and others have husbands unwilling to lead spiritually. God sees that faithfulness and honors it. Many people are walking with Christ today because of the steadfast spiritual leadership of a mother or grandmother who refused to drift.

Adam: Leadership Begins With Responsibility

In Book of Genesis 2:7, we see that God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into him the breath of life. Then in Genesis 2:15–17, God placed Adam in the garden to work it and commanded him regarding the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Before Eve was created, Adam received God's Word and God's command. Adam was given responsibility first. That is the foundation of leadership—receiving God's instruction and being accountable for it.

Genesis 2:18 tells us that God created a “helper suitable” for Adam. This word does not mean inferior. In other places in Scripture, the same word is used to describe God as our helper. It means indispensable partner—someone who supplies what is lacking. God's design was never domination but responsibility. The man was entrusted with leadership rooted in obedience to God.

Passive Presence Is Not Leadership

In Genesis 3, Eve is tempted and eats the fruit, and Adam is present. He does not intervene. He does not protect. He does not lead. When God comes into the garden in Genesis 3:9 and calls out, “Where are you?” He calls for Adam. Though Eve sinned first, Adam is held accountable. In Genesis 3:17, God reminds Adam that the command had been given to him.

This moment teaches a critical truth: being present is not the same as leading. Adam was physically there, but he failed spiritually. Leadership demands accountability. Even when we do nothing, we are still responsible before God. Choosing passivity is choosing to step outside of God's design.

Abraham: Leading in the Midst of a Sinful Culture

In Genesis 18:18–19, God speaks of Abraham and says He has chosen him so that he will direct his children and his household to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just. This declaration comes while Abraham is interceding for Lot in Sodom—a city marked by deep corruption. In the middle of a sinful culture, Abraham's calling remained clear: guide his family in righteousness. “The way of the Lord” refers to a lifestyle that reflects God's character and expectations. It means living differently from the surrounding culture. Fathers are called to guard their homes against cultural drift and intentionally guide their families toward righteousness. Seeking the Kingdom first means establishing God's ways within our households, regardless of what is happening around us.

Generational Leadership: Isaac and Jacob

The pattern continues through Abraham's descendants. Abraham blesses Isaac, Isaac blesses Jacob, and Jacob blesses his twelve sons. Spiritual leadership is passed from one generation to the next. A father shapes future generations not only by words but by example and intentional discipleship. Fathers are called to instruct their sons in godliness and teach their daughters what to look for in a man who will spiritually lead. When men seek God's Kingdom first, they create a legacy of faithfulness that extends beyond their lifetime.

The Call to Intentional Seeking

Seeking God's Kingdom first is not accidental. It requires daily intentional decisions: spending time in God's Word, initiating prayer in the home, modeling repentance, and choosing obedience over passivity. Drifting is the default setting of the human heart. Swimming toward the Kingdom requires effort. The question before us is simple: Are we intentionally swimming toward God's purposes, or are we floating with the current? God's design calls us to aim, to strive, and to lead with accountability. The Kingdom is advanced not by those who drift but by those who intentionally seek Him first.

FEBRUARY 2026

CUMBERLAND FELLOWSHIP

CFLife.Church

Monday Night 2/16 @ 6pm

PRAYER & PRAISE

Say Yes to the Prom Dress 2026

Saturday, February 28th from 10am - 12pm (girls only)
at Cumberland Fellowship Church, 1640 West Ave. Crossville, TN

Come shop for your perfect prom dress! We will have FREE dresses, shoes, accessories, goody bags, and giveaways to make this be a prom dress shopping experience to remember!

ADDITIONAL SHOPPING DAYS:
(open to boys too)

- Monday, March 2nd from 3-6pm
- Tuesday, March 3rd from 3-6pm

TAKING DRESS DONATIONS NOW:

@ CF during office hours
@ Pretty Clothes Shoppe during business hours

For questions, please email missy@cumberlandfellowship.com

RECOVERING CROSSVILLE

Stop by the Cafe- grab a drink/biscuit and support recovery!

Coming up:

Baptism Sunday
2/22

Say Yes to the
Prom Dress
2/28

Sign up on the CFLife App

- To Serve
- Submit prayer request
- Join a small group

TAKE A CLASS

- New Believer's Class
- Next Steps Class
- My Story Training



LOVE GROW GO