

1 Series: The Kingdom Way

Message Title: The Kingdom Way (part 3)

Message & Scripture Highlights:

Have a few people read the following scriptures:

Romans 14:17

for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

John 7:38

He who believes in Me as the Scripture has said, From his innermost being shall flow springs *and* rivers of living water.

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Discussion Part 1:

Paul the apostle makes it clear to the Roman church that the Kingdom of God is not about consuming, but rather about the virtues of God that we access in the Holy Spirit. Romans 3 tells us that we “*all have sinned*” and therefore accessing the fruit of the spirit, the virtues of God’s righteousness are not possible in ourselves. Discuss the emphasis this puts on Jesus’ words “*He who believes in Me*”. If you dare go deeper, overlay this thought with 2 Corinthians 5:21 - you will be amazed!

S.Marshall thoughts:

From the very beginning of time, God has designed life to flow out of us, being conduits of His family Name and nature. The Kingdom Way requires God’s children to be restored to a place of dominion & authority, ministering His will (His plan) on earth, as it is in Heaven. You cannot, I repeat, you cannot get heavenly results if you ignore and disrespect the Kingdom of God - even if it’s unintentional or accidental. That’s why God said in Hosea 4:6 “My people perish for lack of knowledge.”

Have someone read:

Matthew 6:33 (Amplified)

But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.

Discussion Part 2:

Combine the direction of Jesus in Matthew 6:33 with Romans 14:17 definition of God’s Kingdom. Discuss the benefits of being in the Holy Spirit and not consumer minded.

Stephen Marshall Thoughts:

Yes, God's thinking completely contradicts the world's broken thinking. Would you expect anything different? You really don't expect a loving God to diminish His original meaning of love and grace to fit humanity's political correctness. The world presumes we will buy into their version of fulfillment by getting 'stuff' from the outside, to somehow manage, & control the inside. Jesus said, "*It's not what goes into a man's mouth that defiles him, but what comes out of his mouth that defiles him.*" (Matthew 15:11) Of course you have to eat & take care of the externals, BUT, you don't seek them first if you truly want to experience that Kingdom Way Jesus came preaching.

Life Application:

Discuss with each other your top prayer request, and then consult with each other how to pragmatically move this four-step directive into action items:

Step 1 - Make Jesus the Lord of your life - in other words, "Jesus owns the wheel"

Step 2 - You respond to the language of the Kingdom - you respond to His steering

Step 3 - Patience & expectation - you're going someplace so stay steady & keep going

Step 4 - God honors you! You get to the destination, you arrive! Well done!

Now Pray The Word:

Get someone (or a few people) to lead out in prayer based on the Truth talked about.

Pray according to the above scriptures:

"Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, here on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory! That's why we want to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that Your righteousness, your peace, and joy flow in us, through us, and out of us. Let the mighty river of Jesus' life flow out of touching this world in a powerful way. ..." (Continue to pray specifically for one another's needs ...)