



**Generosity – May 27, 2018
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The Kingdom of God is the rule and reign of God. We want to be a church that builds His Kingdom through effective ministries today. In this series, we will look at three things that are vital to the effectiveness of building God's Kingdom here and now.

The Kingdom of God is a Revolution

The Kingdom of God is the new world order produced by the revolutionary changes brought about by the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, God's anointed King.

Christ is Risen.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22, But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

If our King is dead, we have no Kingdom.

Christ is Reigning.

Acts 2:32-35, God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it. Exalted to the right hand of God, He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now

see and hear. For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “The Lord said to my Lord: ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.’”

He is the second Adam, now ruling from His heavenly throne.

Christ is Returning.

John 14:3, And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

I Thessalonians 4:16, For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

The second coming is the consummation of the Kingdom.

Building the Kingdom of God Here and Now

Generous – living life open handed

2 Corinthians 9:6-8, The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

God loves generosity.

The prize is not in the size of the gift but in the sincerity of the giver.

Not reluctantly
 Or under compulsion
 But cheerful

God is sufficient.

Regardless of how desperate one's circumstances may be, a person who wants to give can do so in dependence on God.

This verse is full of words indicating God's enabling grace:

All grace...
 in all things
 at all times
 having all that you need

His "every" grace abounds so that believers can abound "in every good work."

God enlarges the harvest.

2 Corinthians 9:10-11, He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

The riches of the righteous are incalculable.

The more one gives to others, the more he is enriched. Thus, he can be generous on every occasion.

City Church Commitment

We will not give to get!

We will seek to live in partnership with God.

We will live open handed, knowing this brings the favor of God.