

Summary

This sermon focuses on living according to God's kingdom principles rather than grabbing for worldly things out of fear and lack. The pastor uses the analogy of children at a piñata party to illustrate how people grab for acceptance, security, intimacy, peace, and relationship in worldly ways when God has already provided all things that pertain to life and godliness through His kingdom. The message emphasizes that Jesus's first sermon was about the kingdom of God being at hand, and that true repentance means allowing God to change our minds so we can access kingdom truths.

The pastor stresses the critical importance of engaging with God's Word, sharing a personal vision of standing in the Bible rather than on it. He outlines four key aspects of God's kingdom: recognizing our spiritual poverty and need for Him, praying 'Your kingdom come,' seeking first the kingdom of God above all else, and understanding that the gospel brings healing and authority over demonic forces. The sermon challenges believers to move beyond mere church attendance to genuine relationship with God through His Word and to step into the authority and provision that comes with kingdom living.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You today with grateful hearts, acknowledging that You are the King of kings and that Your kingdom is available to us. We ask that You would open our hearts and minds to receive what You want to teach us through this time together. Help us to set aside our own agendas and distractions, and make us receptive to Your Spirit's leading. Lord, we recognize our need for You and ask that You would reveal areas in our lives where we've been grabbing for worldly things instead of trusting in Your provision. Speak to us today and help us to grow closer to You and to one another. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's the most unusual or creative piñata you've ever seen at a party, or if you've never been to a party with a piñata, what shape would you want yours to be?

Key Verses

1. 2 Peter 1:3
2. Psalm 34:9-10
3. Mark 1:15
4. Matthew 5:3
5. Matthew 6:10
6. Matthew 6:33
7. Matthew 9:35

8. Matthew 12:28

9. Psalm 119:11

Questions

1. The pastor mentioned that people grab for different things out of fear - money for security, pornography for intimacy, drugs for peace, etc. What are some things you've found yourself 'grabbing for' when you feel like something is lacking in your life?
2. How does the promise that God's divine power has granted us 'all things that pertain to life and godliness' change your perspective on areas where you feel lacking?
3. The pastor shared his vision of standing 'in' the Word rather than 'on' it. What do you think is the difference between these two approaches to Scripture?
4. What does it practically look like to 'seek first the kingdom of God' in your daily life? What challenges do you face in making this your priority?
5. The sermon emphasized that spiritual hunger grows the more you feed it, unlike physical hunger. Have you experienced this in your own relationship with God's Word? How so?
6. When you pray 'Your kingdom come, Your will be done,' what areas of your life feel most challenging to surrender to God's will?
7. The pastor mentioned that most American Christians are 'woefully ignorant' of God's Word. What practical steps can you take to deepen your engagement with Scripture?
8. How does understanding that the kingdom of God brings healing and authority over darkness change the way you approach prayer and ministry to others?

Life Application

This week, establish or strengthen your daily rhythm of being with the Lord through His Word. Whether you're currently reading one verse or one chapter, commit to consistent engagement with Scripture. Additionally, practice praying 'Your kingdom come, Your will be done' in situations where you're tempted to worry or try to control outcomes. Look for one opportunity to step into kingdom authority by praying for someone who needs healing - whether physical, emotional, or spiritual.

Key Takeaways

1. God has provided all things that pertain to life and godliness through His kingdom - we don't need to grab for worldly substitutes out of fear or lack
2. Engaging with God's Word is essential for knowing Him and accessing kingdom truths - we must move beyond surface-level Bible reading to being surrounded and consumed by Scripture
3. True repentance means allowing God to change our minds so completely that we turn and act differently, not just asking for forgiveness

4. Seeking first the kingdom of God means prioritizing His will above our own plans and desires, trusting that He will provide what we need
5. The kingdom of God comes with authority over sickness and demonic forces, and believers are called to step into this authority through faith in Christ

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for opening our eyes to the reality of Your kingdom and the provision You've made available to us. We confess that too often we've been grabbing for worldly things instead of trusting in Your perfect provision. Help us to be people who feast on Your Word and find our identity, security, and purpose in You alone. Give us the courage to seek Your kingdom first, even when it means letting go of our own plans and control. We ask that You would heal us - spirit, soul, and body - and use us as vessels of Your kingdom authority to bring healing and freedom to others. Transform our minds through Your Word and help us to live as true citizens of Your kingdom. May Your kingdom come and Your will be done in our lives and through our lives. In Jesus' powerful name, Amen.