



Kingdom Builders Part 2

February 25, 2024 | Pastor Rafael Aristy

What is Kingdom Builders?

Kingdom Builders is a ministry initiative to help us be more intentional about how we GIVE, how we PRAY, and how we GO!

Kingdom Builders is a tool we use to deliberately ACT on what we believe Holy Spirit places in our hearts to do to advance the kingdom of God here on earth.

PJ shared:

- Why do we give? The spirit of tithing & offerings (Kingdom Builders). Why we believe in it.
- Reasons we give.
- The NOW, NEXT, & FUTURE framework that we use to accomplish the mission of God.

Now, Next, & Future Framework

There are things God calls us to DO and needs He asks us to MEET that we MUST do **NOW**, like send Global workers and serve with local organizations (*a lot of our Kingdom Builders focus is in this area*). There are things we know God wants us to do **NEXT** which are things we will accomplish within the next year or so. And there are things we know God wants us to do in the **FUTURE**, which are things that require the most PRAYER because they require the most FAITH and PLANNING.

We just finished the 40-Day Being Challenge, looking at Jesus' 5 keystone habits. The goal of this challenge was for ALL of us to become more like Jesus. This pursuit NEVER stops!

Kingdom Builders is the continuation of our PURSUIT of becoming more and more like Jesus. We have a generous Father who GAVE His only Son (John 3:16)...who gives good gifts to His children ([Matthew 7:11](#), [James 1:17](#)). For us to be SELFISH is the OPPOSITE of being like Jesus. He gave when we didn't deserve it.

- Do you ever stop to think how much He gave to us before we ever cared? How does that affect how you live? Talk? Do life?

Vision and Mission: *We live to see lives transformed through Jesus! And, we are a family committed to seeing lives changed. We connect people to God and others, make disciples of Jesus, and are Spirit-empowered people who live out the Good News in our world. And we are each determined to fulfill our unique purpose in God's mission to everyone, everywhere, every day.*

Kingdom Builders is the continuation of our PURSUIT of becoming more and more like Jesus.

Our Mission is the expression of Good News Church, not only INSIDE these walls but OUTSIDE as well. It is how we COLLECTIVELY live our lives to make Jesus known! The last part of our Mission Statement connects directly to Kingdom Builders: **we are each determined to fulfill our unique purpose in God's mission to everyone, everywhere, every day.**

- Do you know your unique purpose? Share it. If anyone has taken 4 Purpose, can you share what you learned?

- If you do not, have you considered taking 4 Purpose?

We Connect. We make Disciples. We Empower and ARE empowered.

As a family of faith, who is empowered by Holy Spirit, we are DETERMINED to use our resources, talents, and skills to fulfill the mission of Jesus...To seek and save that which was lost (LUKE 19:10)

Kingdom Builders can seem a bit of a weird term to some. We are not used to thinking of ourselves as being part of a kingdom. We live as part of a republic, not a kingdom. In America we don't have a king, we have a president. A president is an elected official who serves for 4-8 years, while most times a king inherits his position through a royal bloodline. A president is limited in authority by a constitution, other governing documents, and branches of government. A king has absolute power and authority. **Jesus is THE King...and He has a kingdom.**

- How does living in a kingdom vs. a republic practically look in your life as a Christ-follower?

Matthew 25:31-36 NLT 31 "But when the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit upon his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate the people as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will place the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. 34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. 36 I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me."

When Jesus comes back in all His glory for the final judgment, ALL NATIONS will be gathered in His presence. He will divide the people into two groups, SHEEP to the right and GOATS to the left. There's a difference between the sheep and the goats. The sheep modeled the life of Jesus. They SAW a NEED and they MET that NEED!

God has gone to great lengths to display His love, care, and compassion for the disenfranchised and marginalized. **He expects those who follow Him, His sheep, to do the same.**

- What does this look like in your life? In the community around you? What could it look like for your life group?

WE ARE KINGDOM BUILDERS AND KINGDOM BRINGERS!

The kingdom of God is wherever the rule and the reign of King Jesus is. We BUILD the kingdom - meaning we do the things the King desires for us to do. We BRING the kingdom - meaning we carry the AUTHORITY and CHARACTER of the king wherever we go.

The LOCAL initiatives in Kingdom Builders help us bring the Kingdom of God to the vulnerable: the HUNGRY, the THIRSTY, the NAKED, the SICK, and the INCARCERATED.

LOCAL

New Community	Arant, Chaplain Eunice
NE 117	Bowes, Tim & Jennifer
Assure	Clark, Toni
Gather at the Table	Ford, Chris
CHI Alpha - UNO Campus	Gingerich, Sam
NE Family Alliance	Grasz, Nate & Al Riskowski
Sheepgate - Omaha Campus	Kluth, Beau
IMS - Berean Instructors	Kruiger, Bill & Joan
Accepted Food Bank	Milone, Rick & Candice
Victory Boxing Club	Perales, Servando
TRAC National	Prussia, Will & Angela
Letters of Hope	Wiles, Margaret
TRAC NE Division	Rock & Karla Chavez
Good News Jail/Prison Ministry	Samantha Sheiffer
CHI Alpha - Lincoln/ NE District	Brad Novasad
Dwell Church	Aeric Wallace

We are the hands and feet of our King! Remember the last line of our Mission: "We are EACH determined to fulfill our unique purpose in GOD'S mission to EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, EVERY DAY!" This is OUR mission family! This is what we do because of who and Whose we are...

Matthew 25:1-11 NLT

1 "Then the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. **2** Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. **3** The five who were foolish didn't take enough olive oil for their lamps, **4** but the other five were wise enough to take along extra oil. **5** When the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. **6** "At midnight they were roused by the shout, 'Look, the bridegroom is coming! Come out and meet him!' **7** "All the bridesmaids got up and prepared their lamps. **8** Then the five foolish ones asked the others, 'Please give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.' **9** "But the others replied, 'We don't have enough for all of us. Go to a shop and buy some for yourselves.' **10** "But while they were gone to buy oil, the bridegroom came. Then those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was locked. **11** Later, when the other five bridesmaids returned, they stood outside, calling, 'Lord! Lord! Open the door for us!'

God has gone to *great lengths* to display His love, care, and compassion for the disenfranchised and marginalized. He *expects* those who follow Him, His sheep, to *do the same*.

As I prayed about this message, the Lord brought to remembrance this passage. When I read it, I immediately felt Holy Spirit say, "**Kingdom bringers are prepared!**"

10 Bridesmaids (virgins) - 5 foolish and 5 wise

They were all there together waiting for the bridegroom. They all brought lamps. They all fell asleep.

What was the difference? Their preparation! **The wise ones prepared for the future but the foolish did not.** They all knew they needed lamps. They all knew they needed oil. AND they ALL had lamps and oil. The foolish bridesmaids ASSUMED they had enough, but the wise ones did not take a chance...They took EXTRA oil.

- Are you prepared? How so?

This connects to what PJ shared last week about **anachronistic living**, living outside of time. Do you know who is the best at living outside of time? Holy Spirit!

John 16:13 NLT "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. **He will tell you about the future.**"

- Have you learned to depend on Holy Spirit to guide you? Do you want to learn? Those in group, share how you have learned...

We depend on Jesus to reveal to us, by His Spirit, how much 'EXTRA OIL' we should pack for the journey. The last component of the Kingdom Builders initiative is **Future Investment and Expansion.**

- **Investment:** an act of devoting time, effort, or energy to a particular undertaking with the expectation of a worthwhile result. Tell
- **Expansion:** the action of becoming larger or more extensive: extension of a state's territory by encroaching on that of other nations, pursued as a political strategy

We depend on the Holy Spirit to help us make decisions that will EXPAND (make larger & more extensive) the Kingdom of God on the earth, and we INVEST (devote time, resources, effort, and energy) to see this happen!

Future Investment & Expansion

Community Outreaches
Ministry Opportunities
Global Workers Pipeline
Kids Helping Kids
Global Trips
Joseph Project 1, LLC
Teacher Outreach
Church Multiplication

Community Outreaches

In 2024, God is asking us to, "**Find your courage: Believe!**"

We are believing God for 100 people to come to faith in Jesus in 2024.

- We believe this happens as we step out to love and serve our community.
- We have to be courageous and creative to reach those who will not attend a church service.

We are asking the Lord, "What do you want to do in our community through us?"

- We believe there are EVENTS He wants us plan, FREE SERVICES He wants us to provide, and NEEDS He wants us to meet. Jesus is challenging us to build relationships with those who do not know Him yet. God is calling us to reach our community! (Dental services - Tutoring - Children outreaches)

- What do you have that God wants to use?

Kids Helping Kids

In partnership with some Global Workers we've supported - They want to start a Child Sponsorship Program where their youth can "sponsor" a UPG child in Southern Philippines. Each commitment financially is **\$180/year per student**. They have 617 students from 9 different UPG tribes receiving mentorship, education skills, rice allowance, school supplies, and gospel sharing.

Teachers Outreach

Teachers normally use their own financial resources to purchase supplies for their classrooms. That's love and dedication! We want to provide classroom supplies for our Good News family teachers and for an entire school (Westgate Elementary).

Global Trips

So far, four of our global trip members this year are new participants! This is a practical way to have our Good News family have firsthand experience of global work in a global context.

Church Multiplication

We are sensing God leading us to multiply. Multiplication can look different from church to church, and from model to model. However, one thing has become clear in the last few years, **more churches are closing their doors than those that are opening them. According to a Lifeway study in 2019, approximately 3,000 Protestant churches opened their doors in the U.S., but 4,500 churches closed their doors.** God is calling Good News Church to step out IN FAITH to reverse this trend.

We feel our church is approaching a crossroads. Once again, we have begun to experience growth. This is not the first time this has happened at Good News! Historically, we go through a season of growth where God is moving and His people are responding, but then we get comfortable and lazy. We start praying about adding services, and then something happens **that causes a disruption so we** simply say, "Thanks, but no thanks; we are doing just fine right here." We believe this has been our story- God has called us to multiply but we don't move.

Our pillars are **Connect, Disciple, and Empower**. We have witnessed the growth in our **Connect** pillar. Our church (and staff) feels more like a family than ever before. We have begun to make significant progress in our **discipleship** efforts with *increased involvement in Wednesday night breakout groups, one-on-one discipleship relationships, and intentional pursuit to become more like Jesus together*. We have seen momentum gained in our **Empower** pillar due to the 4 Purpose Project. However, many times we lack the necessary opportunities for those who feel called to a deeper commitment in ministry.

We believe Jesus is the hope of the world, and He uses the church to show the world who He is.

Church multiplication will position us to make a greater kingdom impact in the lives of our Good News family, our communities, and the nations.

We sense this is a couple of years away, but the need to begin moving in that direction is now. The larger the plane, the longer the runway has to be...**WILL YOU JOIN US IN PRAYER?**

Ecclesiastes 11:4 NLT "Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest."

If we wait for perfect weather, we will never do anything. If we wait for "PERFECT CIRCUMSTANCES" we will never plant the seeds God has placed in our hands. If we don't plant the seeds, they will SPOIL!!!

- How have you seen this in your own life? What seed are you holding and delaying?

2024 KB GOAL \$374,900.00

This may seem like a big number, and it is, but many hands lighten the load...We are doing this together...as a family should. Many of you have continued to give to KB and we are grateful to the Lord for you!

2024 Giving Breakdown Possibility

# Givers	Monthly Gift	Individual Giving (11months)	Yearly Total (11months)
1	\$1,500	\$16,500.00	\$16,500.00
2	\$700.00	\$7,700.00	\$15,400.00
7	\$400.00	\$4,400.00	\$30,800.00
20	\$200.00	\$2,200.00	\$44,000.00
100	\$80.00	\$880.00	\$88,000.00
200	\$50.00	\$550.00	\$110,000.00
200	\$25.00	\$275.00	\$55,000.00
139	\$10.00	\$110.00	\$15,290.00
		TOTAL	\$374,990.00

This shows us that it doesn't really matter how much you can give. There is someone the Lord has specifically blessed so that they can commit to \$1,500/month. There are some the Lord has blessed to commit to \$10/month.

A teaching moment with Jesus and the disciple:

Mark 12:41-44 NIV 41 "Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts.

42 But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

Jesus highlights a very important principle of the Kingdom of God: Jesus is watching what people are putting in the offering, and then calls His disciples over to teach them that God is not concerned with the AMOUNT of your offering, but rather about the heart from where this offering comes from.

- Where is your heart when it comes to your finances?

- What is God asking you to give?

- How will you be a part of the mission that He has called you into as a part of our Good News Family?