

Kingdom Mind Kingdom Purpose

Citizens of the Kingdom pt. 2 & 3

Colossians 1:12–13 (NLT) — 12 always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. 13 For he has rescued us from the **kingdom of darkness** and transferred us into the **Kingdom of his dear Son,**

I. You and I, we don't belong here!

A. We are not at home in this world

1. When Jesus opened up our eyes to see that we were lost and in a hopeless situation
2. When we finally saw that we were living lives of quiet desperation...
3. Or in some cases not so quiet desperation
4. When I prayed and said to Jesus, I have made a mess of my life but if you want it you can have the rest of it...
5. God reached down and took me out of the Kingdom of darkness, and placed me into the kingdom of His Son; the kingdom of Light

B. I am not at home in this world

1. I am a citizen of another world, another kingdom

Ephesians 2:19 (NLT) — 19 So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. **You are citizens** along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family.

1 Peter 2:11 (NLT) — 11 Dear friends, I warn you as "**temporary residents and foreigners**" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls.

C. The trouble is that I am living here in this world, that's not my true home, and I find myself in continual conflict with the philosophies of this world

1. Daily I am bombarded with messages that convey a different value system than that of my true King.

D. The kingdom of darkness values "self" over others

1. My needs, my wants, my desires

2. do unto them before they do it unto you.
3. Hurt me, I'll hurt you more
4. If it feels good, do it
5. If I lose that loving feeling, then I'm gone
6. If I can't be with the one I love, I'll love the one I'm with
7. Because it's all about me in the Kingdom of darkness
8. Self over others

E. The kingdom of darkness values "stuff" over people

1. I want more, therefore I need more
2. I have to work hard to get ahead
3. Ahead of who, ahead of what
4. I am in the rat race and I am winning; and the problem with the rat race is even if you win the race you're still a rat.
5. You read the bumper sticker that says, "He who dies with the most stuff wins"
6. So, I work 60-70-80 hours a week to get ahead so I can earn more...
7. and I am so wiped out that I have nothing left to give to my family when I come home
8. And my wife and kids who I am working so hard to get ahead for, have forgotten my name
9. In many cases, they would trade the stuff for you
10. Unfortunately in some cases because what we have is never enough, they cry out for more, bigger, better, and we jump on the treadmill working harder to get more, and once we get more, it's still not enough

F. The kingdom of darkness values stuff over people

1. The heart that pursues money and material gain as an end in and of itself is rooted in evil and headed for evil

G. The values of the two kingdoms are in stark contrast to one another

H. Though I live in this world, I am not of this world

1. The kingdom of which I am a citizen is in me.

2. Jesus said this clearly...

Luke 17:21 (NKJV) — 21 nor will they say, ‘See here!’ or ‘See there!’ For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.”

II. Some time ago the Lord began to speak to me about His Kingdom

A. He began reminding me that I belong to Him and His kingdom

1. He began to speak to me about my passions, my priorities, and how I process life

Matthew 6:33 (NLT) — 33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

2. Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness speaks to me about having a heart of the Kingdom

B. This is “Kingdom heart”

1. A heart that passionately desires to know the King

2. To have intimacy with God

3. Intimate knowledge of who He is

4. What pleases Him

5. What desires He has

6. What dreams He dreams

7. To know Him, so that I can live to please Him

C. Seek first, His kingdom

1. Putting on the top of my list of priorities, His kingdom and not my own

2. Having a passion to see His kingdom grow in me so that it can grow around me

D. When we speak of the kingdom of God we mean the total, unlimited, uncompromising submission to the rule of God in every area and detail of life.

- 1. It is to yield to His will and His ways for His purposes in all of my life**
- 2. And once His kingdom is firmly established in my heart, then it will surely impact my behavior, and the choices I make**
- 3. And once that takes place it begins to change the world around me**
- 4. My family, my neighbors, my classmates, my co-workers, my church... it all begins to change because of my kingdom heart**

E. Having a kingdom heart is vital, having a kingdom mind is strategic

Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV) — 7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. ...

F. If the Kingdom of God is going to rule and reign in my life and through my life, I have to start THINKING differently

G. The decisions I make must be processed through the grid of “what effect will my choice have for the sake of the kingdom?”

H. As I process the choices, I must have a kingdom mind, or I will fall into futility in my thinking

Romans 1:20–22 (NKJV) — 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, **21** because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **22** Professing to be wise, they became fools,

Proverbs 14:12 (NKJV) — 12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

I. They ignored God

- 1. They did not worship Him as the creator and originator of life**
- 2. They were not surrendered to Him**
- 3. They were not thankful in their hearts**
- 4. They processed life by what they could see, feel, think outside of considering God, His will, His purposes**

5. And their thinking became futile (incapable of producing any result; ineffective; useless; not successful)

6. And once their thinking became futile, their foolish hearts were darkened

7. The head affected the heart

8. Listen to these same verses out of the NLT

Romans 1:21–22 (NLT) — 21 Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks. And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, **their minds became dark and confused**. **22** Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools.

J. For those of us who are called by the name of Jesus

1. We are Christians

2. We have been bought with a price

3. We are not our own

4. If we are truly citizens of another kingdom

5. Then we must think differently about life and how we process our decisions in life

K. Let's look at an example of this from a parable Jesus shared with His disciples concerning the Kingdom of Heaven

Matthew 25:14–30 (NLT) — 14 “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. **15** He gave five bags of silver to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—**dividing it in proportion to their abilities**. He then left on his trip. **16** “The servant who received the five bags of silver began to invest the money and earned five more. **17** The servant with two bags of silver also went to work and earned two more. **18** But the servant who received the one bag of silver dug a hole in the ground and hid the master’s money. **19** “After a long time **their master returned from his trip and called them to give an account of how they had used his money**. **20** The servant to whom he had entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, ‘Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.’ **21** “The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’ **22** “The servant who had received the two bags of silver came forward and said, ‘Master, you gave me two bags of silver to invest, and I have earned two more.’ **23** “The master said, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’ **24** “Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, ‘Master, **I knew you were a harsh man**, harvesting crops you didn’t plant and gathering crops you didn’t cultivate. **25 I was afraid** I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.’ **26** “But the master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! If you knew I harvested crops I didn’t plant and gathered crops I didn’t cultivate, **27** why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank? At least I could have gotten some interest on it.’ **28** “Then he ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. **29 To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance**. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. **30** Now throw this useless servant into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

- 1. All three servants were given a trust and a responsibility**
- 2. The Master had certain expectations, that were the same for all three servants = they were to use wisely what He had given them for the sake of his kingdom**
- 3. Two servants used the deposit the master had given them wisely...**
- 4. They thought in kingdom terms**
- 5. Their concern was for their master and his benefit**
- 6. They were wise and faithful**

L. The last servant failed because of how he processed

Matthew 25:24–25 (NLT) — 24 “Then the servant with the one bag of silver came and said, ‘Master, **I knew** you were a harsh man, harvesting crops you didn’t plant and gathering crops you didn’t cultivate. **25 I was afraid** I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.’

1. This servant thought certain things about his master which led him to make conclusions about his master and then react wrongly
2. The problem was his thinking...
3. He was self-centered and not centered in His master's will or purposes
4. He did not have a kingdom mind, and therefore failed to do His masters bidding, and ultimately was judged severely

M. If you have given your heart to Christ...

N. If you have prayed and asked Jesus to be your Savior and Lord...

1. Then like me, you don't belong here...
2. We don't belong to this world
3. And if that's true then the way we think and process the decisions we make in life needs to reflect our true citizenship.
4. I need to know the answer to the simple question, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" – then do that!
5. Not what I want but what He wants
6. Not my will, but His will.

O. I need to think about the Kingdom of God

1. I need to remember that just like the servants in this parable I have been entrusted with certain things from my master
2. I have been left here to do business for the master and His kingdom purposes until He comes
3. I am not here to enrich myself
4. I am not here on vacation... this is not some glorified "club Med."
5. You are not here to have the God of the universe respond to your every whim, want, and supposed need.
6. You are here to serve the King, and His Kingdom purposes
7. Jesus said it straight... Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all you need will be added to you."
8. This is how Jesus lived life

John 6:38 (NLT) — 38 For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will.

John 14:9 (NLT) — 9 Jesus replied, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don’t know who I am? **Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!** So why are you asking me to show him to you?”

9. Jesus came to establish the Kingdom of Heaven in the hearts of men...

10....and like leaven, it would spread...

11.Till His glory fills the earth

12.This is how He lived, He lived for Kingdom purposes

Matthew 12:50 (NLT) — 50 Anyone who does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother!”

P. So, let’s try to bring this home to where we live

III.How do you process the decisions you make?

A. Do you begin by asking the Lord what do you want me to do?

B. Do you consider what impact your decision may have on the kingdom of God?

1. Let’s take a few examples

2. Periodically we have a missionary or guest speak in the church

3. When the missionary speaks, and we receive an offering... do you follow your pastor’s instruction and ask the Lord “what do you want me to do?” then wait and listen for a moment?

4. If you give out of obligation or because you feel coerced... you are not thinking in Kingdom terms

5. If your hearing is closed to giving, you are not thinking in kingdom terms.

6. However, if you say Lord, everything I have belongs to you, what would you have me do... then follow the Spirit’s leading... you are thinking with a Kingdom mind

Luke 12:48 (NLT) — 48 But someone who does not know, and then does something wrong, will be punished only lightly. When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required.

Genesis 12:3 (NLT) — 3 I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”

7. We are blessed to be a blessing

8. When we are given much, we have responsibility to use what God has given us to extend His kingdom purposes

9. But remember, the same expectation on the servant who was given only 2 talents was the same as the one given 5.

10. We all are expected to use our time, our talents, and our treasure to extend God’s kingdom purposes.

11. We are to have a kingdom mind and think strategically on how I can extend God’s kingdom here on earth.

IV. WE as a community of faith have certain core values.

V. We believe these values are a reflection of those things which God values

A. One of our core values is help each and everyone of us to become fully dedicated followers of Jesus.

1. Jesus told His followers to go into all the world and preach the good new to everyone everywhere.

2. Jesus core value is a love for the Lost

3. If that’s what my king values, then as a citizen of His kingdom it becomes what I value most.

B. We live in a community of people that have some religion, but loads of them don’t know much about the God in heaven who loves them.

1. We must do something about that

2. Many have been exposed to church, but won’t come to church

3. They were hurt, disenfranchised by the church... everyone’s got a story

4. There are also many who have never been exposed to the teachings of the Lord in any fashion
5. We have many children who know nothing about God, or Jesus , or the stories in the bible
6. They were raised in homes where parents don't go to church or acknowledge the Lord in any way... so how are they going to know if they have never been taught

C. Each year our church does a huge outreach to the kids in our community called "summer explosion." It's a week of fun, games, and the gospel. It's a strategic way to help children hear the gospel, with the hope that the seed of it will be firmly planted in their hearts.

1. Once received they will accept Christ as their Savior
2. Once saved they will receive the King into their hearts, and like leaven it will begin the transformation process of becoming more like Jesus in thought, word, and deed.
3. Now they will become agents of change. Ambassador's of Christ
4. And they will help others; mom and dad, siblings, friends
5. And the kingdom will grow in our community and beyond.

VI. Citizens of the kingdom have...

- A. A kingdom heart
- B. A kingdom mind
- C. And live with Kingdom Purpose
- D. If you love Jesus, and you love His Word, then it won't take long to stumble upon Kingdom Purpose

VII. Let's begin by defining "purpose"

- A. The reason for which something exists
 1. An intended or desired result, end; aim; goal
 2. determination; resoluteness
 3. the subject in hand; the point at issue

4. to set as an aim, intention or goal for oneself
5. To intend, design
6. to resolve to do something
7. To have a purpose

B. When we speak of Kingdom Purpose, we speak of the reason you exist

1. The aim or goal of kingdom citizens
2. Its determination inspired by heart for the King
3. It's resoluteness to see the Kingdom of God established in every person I have the ability to influence
4. It's the point of the issue; the subject at hand... that which was on Jesus heart and mind most

C. We can hear Kingdom purpose in the last words of the risen Christ before He ascended to heaven...

1. For 40 days following Jesus resurrection from the dead, He would appear to His followers
2. He interacted with them in such a way that it was undeniable to all He encountered that Jesus, whom they had seen crucified and buried was now truly alive.

(Acts 1:3 NIV) "After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and **gave many convincing proofs that he was alive.** He appeared to them over a period of forty days and **spoke about the kingdom of God.**"

3. He spoke about Kingdom Purpose
4. We have recorded some of what He said, and the heart of Kingdom purpose

Matthew 28:18–19a (NLT) — **18** Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. **19** Therefore, **go and make disciples of all the nations,**

Mark 16:15 (NLT) — **15** And then he told them, "Go into all the world and **preach the Good News to everyone.**

Luke 24:47 (NLT) — 47 It was also written that **this message would be proclaimed** in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: **'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.'**

John 20:21 (NLT) — 21 Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so **I am sending you.**"

Acts 1:8 (NLT) — 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will **be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere**—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Romans 10:13–15 (NLT) — 13 For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved." **14 But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?** **15** And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

2 Corinthians 5:17–20 (NLT) — 17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! **18** And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. **And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.** **19** For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And **he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.** **20** So **we are Christ's ambassadors**; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

D. There is one resounding message that is found in the words of the risen Christ...

- 1. He desires to see everyone have the opportunity to come to hear the good news and receive the message of God's great love and saving grace**

E. This is kingdom purpose... to live purposefully for the sake of the King and His kingdom

- 1. This begs the question, what are you living life for?**
- 2. What is your aim in life?**
- 3. What are your goals?**
- 4. What is your intended purpose?**
- 5. What are the passions of your heart?**

a) Is your heart to seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness?

b) Is His passion your first priority?

6. As you process and reason about the decisions you must make are you strategically thinking and reasoning with the grid of what will best further the King's and His Kingdom in my life and in others?

F. There is a story told in the book of Isaiah which I think encapsulates this best...

- 1. There is a revelation of God found here that is amazing**
- 2. Lets look together**

Isaiah 6:1 (NLT) — 1 It was in the year King Uzziah died that **I saw the Lord**. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple.

G. Isaiah wrote these words...

- 1. It was a time of grief**
- 2. The king he served had died**
- 3. It's interesting to me that often during our darkest times if we will look, we can see the Lord**
- 4. God has a way of showing up and revealing Himself in our dark moments in life**
- 5. Isaiah grieved, then he saw the Lord**

H. The Vision

- 1. Isaiah sees the throne room of God**
- 2. He sees the Lord seated on the throne**
- 3. The King is always seated...**
- 4. It speaks of His authority, His majesty**
- 5. The room is filled with the glory of God... That's the train that fills the temple**

Isaiah 6:2–4 (NLT) — 2 Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. **3** They were calling out to each other, "**Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Heaven's Armies!** The whole earth is filled with his glory!" **4** Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke.

I. The angelic host, their song, their prophecy

- 1. Next Isaiah sees angels...**
- 2. Angels are awesome beings**
- 3. They are mighty spirit beings, and some of them are outrageous looking**
- 4. These have six wings...**
- 5. With two they cover their faces... it speaks of humility before the king**
- 6. With two they cover their feet... their destination is not their own to decided... yielded to the King's purposes**
- 7. With two they fly... this speaks of their supernatural enablement**

J. These angles are singing a song...

- 1. In so doing revealing the essence of the God's being... Holy Holy Holy...**
 - a) Why three holies? Father, Son, & Holy Spirit = trinity revealed**
 - b) Holiness... God is separate and different from all other creation**
 - c) It's His purity that makes Him different.**
 - d) There is no moral fault in Him**
 - e) There is no inconsistency in Him**
 - f) He is perfectly righteous**
 - g) Perfectly just**
 - h) Completely faithful**
 - i) Always Good**
 - j) Full of love, grace, and mercy**
 - k) These emanate out of the essence of his being, and these qualities are in total perfection**

l) Please remember this about God... Remember this song...

m)The angels are messengers of God... they are declaring to us who He is

n) He is God in all perfection

K. Isaiah sees the Lord for who He truly is, and immediately when He is confronted with the holiness of God notice what happens...

Isaiah 6:5 (NLT) — 5 Then I said, “It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.”

- 1. In the brightness of God’s holiness, Isaiah sees himself and the world around him**
- 2. Woe to me... I am ruined... Literally come apart at the seams**
- 3. What is he convicted about most... I am a man of unclean lips and I live among a people of unclean lips**

L. We don’t really understand the power of words and their effect on ourselves and others

- 1. unclean lips... speaking defilement**
- 2. words of death**
- 3. words of doubt**
- 4. words with destroy**
- 5. Words that tear down instead of build up**
- 6. words that fail to acknowledge God for who He is**
- 7. Words that deny Him or accuse Him instead of honor Him and worship Him**
- 8. Vanity on our lips; foolish talking and course jesting**
- 9. words are powerful...**
- 10.watch your words; they will fill you with faith or fill you with doubt**

11. Isaiah says he is ruined, because he sees his sin but has no remedy.

12. He can do nothing to fix himself; just like you and me

13. There is no therapy; there is no human solution

14. woe is me

Isaiah 6:6–7 (NLT) — 6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. **7** He touched my lips with it and said, “See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven.”

M. Grace, Grace

1. what a picture of Grace

2. An angel brings a live coal... this speaks of purification – fire purges and purifies

3. Guilt is taken away

4. sin is atoned for

5. Now the guilty man who deserved punishment and death has found new life

6. He is clean; He is holy; He has a new start

7. And it's in that state of holiness that he finally hears Gods' heart beat

8. He hears God's passion

9. He dreams God's dream, and finds His purpose

10. He discovers kingdom purpose

Isaiah 6:8 (NLT) — 8 Then I heard the Lord asking, “Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? **Who will go for us?**” I said, “**Here I am. Send me.**”

N. When you really see the Lord

1. When you have a divine, spiritual encounter with the Living God

2. When you are cleansed from your sin and delivered from your darkness

3. You will hear God's heart cry; and when you do you will hear Him say...

O. Who will go for us?

1. For ages this is the heart cry of God

P. God sees your neighbor

1. Your co-worker

2. your boss

3. Your teacher

4. He sees that kid that sits behind you in school... you know, the one who really bothers you and you don't like

5. He sees the broken. empty hearts of those who put on nice cloths each Sunday and perform some religious ritual, trying to appease their guilty conscience for how they have lived all week.

6. He sees that couple you know that is on the edge of divorce, holding on momentarily, looking for answers, but one seems to help

Q. God sees them, and He loves them and has so much to offer them...

1. And so He looks for volunteers...

2. "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us..."

R. Kingdom purpose... Here am I, send me!

1. There are a whole lot of things that are competing for your time, your talent, your treasure

2. There's a lot of things you can live for

3. But if you are a kingdom citizen

4. And you have a kingdom heart that seeks first the Kingdom of God

5. And you have a kingdom mind that strategically thinks "what choice can I make that will advance God's kingdom in me and around me"

6. Then you will live for this one purpose to help people know the King