

Living Without Hurry and Worry in Such A Time As This

Session 3A: Kingdom Living

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LIVING IN GOD'S KINGDOM

What do we do with this?

- We preach the Kingdom of God, and the _____ of the Kingdom of God to everyone.
- We make it clear that we are invited to bring our kingdom into God's Kingdom.
- How are you doing with your kingdom?

A human being essentially is a _____ and _____ being. That's what we are made for.

Genesis 1:26: God is not only creative, He creates _____. He invites us to take that into His Kingdom. The image of God in the human being is responsibility, creativity, dominion...that's what we're meant to have.

1 Peter 5:6: You were made to be exalted in righteousness. "Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God..." that's His Kingdom. That means learn how to act in dependance on Him.

Anything you can do with anger you can do much better _____.

- *The Divine Conspiracy* chapter 5
- You can stand for what's right so much more strongly and clearly without anger.
- Once anger gets involved it's not about what's right it's about who'll win.

LEARNING TO BE CONTENT

- **Philippians 4:4:** God is the only _____ of joy. My peace lies in the greatness of God and in nothing else.
- **Philippians 4:6:**
 - Like the farmer (Mark 4:26-27) where the grain grew all by itself.
 - You'll have peace that you don't understand, that's beyond comprehension.
 - Because you're a person who lives with thankfulness to God, gratitude, confidence in God, and when issues are faced, you take them up with God.
- It doesn't make you passive, it makes you stronger, bolder, makes you more able to stand and to act because you're not wasting all your energy on worrying. You'll have greater clarity.
- **Philippians 4:8** This is based on the vision of God. Paul was blessed with encounters with Jesus that made him so sure of this great stream of living water which is God that he says just concentrate on these things.
- **James 1:17:** God is just bursting with goodness and that's why he created the world and he created beings, so we could contribute to the goodness that's in the world.
- **Philippians 4:9:**I have to be able to say that! I can't just talk about it. That means I have to be realistic and accept grace...I want to point you to Him through me. I am the issue in my responsibility to do what Paul said. I have to find a way to do that.
- **Philippians 4:10-11, Psalm 23** Paul had found the great fountain of sufficiency in God through Christ.

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- **Philippians 4:12:** He's talking about being able to have abundance as well as suffering...he knows how to do that.

"Wear the world like a _____ that touches you at few places and there, lightly."

~ St Francis of Assisi

- **Philippians 4:13** Don't take that out of context. That's the *context of living* like Paul is talking about. In order to enter into that, we have to be responsible for how we direct ourselves and that's where spiritual disciplines come in.

CHOOSING TO PRACTICE KINGDOM LIVING THROUGH DISCIPLINES

If I am going to live in this kind of world and this kind of life I must do it because of the practices which I've chosen for myself. I'm planning for it.

You do not become a disciple and you do not become a person who is content no matter what happens unless you have _____ how to live your life.

That's one of the biggest problems today because the teaching of grace that we have has made us passive. Grace is treated as something that comes upon you like lightning not something that you make a point of cultivating.

Disciplines are about _____ grace.

2nd Peter 3:18....That's what we're supposed to do. The way we do it is by disciplines.

Disciplines: an activity in my _____ which enables me to accomplish what I cannot do by _____ effort.

- I can't be content no matter what the circumstances, unless I have received grace to do that. I can't do that by effort.
- The Scribes & Pharisees' mistake was that they *depended* on effort.
- The leaven of the Pharisees is hypocrisy is because they try so hard to be righteous but takes the wrong approach and fails. And because they're so concerned about righteousness then they revert to covering up and pretending to be something other than what they really are.

Disciplines are a way we can be _____ so we can turn loose of external righteousness.

How do you learn not to be angry? You can't just decide that. How does a confirmed alcoholic stop drinking?

It's when a person becomes prepared to _____ that they make progress. That's what disciplines are about.

A spiritual discipline – in the Christian understanding – is a discipline focused on enhancement of the interactive life of grace in the spiritual kingdom of the heavens. Focusing on grace.

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SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES AND GRACE

Grace is God acting in my life to _____ what I can't do on my own.

- Grace is not about guilt. It's about help.

Ephesians 3:8...That's grace! God doing in Paul's life what he could not do on his own.

- The person that really burns grace is a saint! Because _____ they do depends on grace. A sinner just needs forgiveness.

Disciplines are things that enable us to grow in grace.

- That means, *grow in the degree to which God is active in our lives.*
- Knowledge is always *interactive* _____.
- Disciplines are things that help us.

Grace is not opposed to _____. It's opposed to _____. Earning is an attitude. Effort is action.

Ephesians 2:8...we have to understand what that means. It means *God's action in our life*.

Salvation is a very encompassing term; it doesn't just refer to making it in when you die. It means deliverance and it refers to *all aspects* of our lives.

By the chosen things that we do we learn how to receive grace.

- We fill our minds with the right kinds of things.
- **Romans 12:2** ...
- Discipline is primarily something that has bearing on where our mind is.
- **Psalms 16:8**...

St Patrick's Breastplate Prayer (excerpts read by Dallas)

Joshua 1:8....

This is a choice! Where do I put my attention!? That's one of the ways we begin to bring grace into our lives.