KINGDOM

Making Disciples

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "<u>All authority has been given to Me</u> in heaven and on earth. Go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you. You can know I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

- Matthew 28:18-20

- 1. Disciples operate under Jesus' authority and GO
- 2. We baptize in the Father/Son/Holy Spirit
- 3. We teaching men and women to observe God's Word

How do we encourage someone become a Christ follower and how do we help them move from here to there? Here are some thoughts!

- √ Define there for you
- √ How do I define process that is God-centered and personally adaptive?
- $\sqrt{}$ How do I give my heart and mind to pursue movement each day?

Remember:

- √ Connectivity requires effort, cultivating, and vigilance
- $\sqrt{}$ Distractions are many and must be wisely navigated
- $\sqrt{}$ Focus must be pursued each day

Whom has God placed in my circle of discipleship?
My spouse
My kids and grand kids
Who are my likely "neighbors" where I may cultivate?



KINGDOM CONNECTIVITY

And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonas, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of death will not overpower it.

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you set free on earth shall be set free in heaven."

- Matthew 16:17-19 -

The word *church* (a called-out assembly) is mentioned only three times in the Gospels while the *Kingdom* is spoken of 50 times in Matthew, 15 in Mark, 35 in Luke, and 11 times in John. *Why do you think this is?*

The church is birthed through the Kingdom of Heaven.

The King's church is all about connectivity with the King and His Kingdom.



Perspective

Since the Jesus explosion in the Gospels and Acts, the church in history has done much good. Often a civilizing factor in many decades and centuries, she has stepped up to present Her King to many. Like all human institutions, however, she has also been co-opted by her own pharisees and religious leaders. Wherever any historical opportunity or success occurs, mankind often thinks he or she can manage things better than the Holy Spirit. And so, instead of speaking accurately for God, we convolute the meaning of King, Kingdom, and Church. This is often why the credibility of so-called saints of the church is compromised, and why testimony to the King suffers.

So - She experiences Her successes and failures - as do all human institutions, and will be held to the Word of God for Her dedication to truth and effectiveness of mission - as will all human institutions. From God's Word we have concluded that the Spirit's unfolding power and protection for Jesus followers is **King first, then, Kingdom, then church.**

So, to discover the principles and power of the Kingdom Church, we must turn to the **King** of the earth to understand what it means to honor and follow God. Everyone has his or her idea of what church is and what it should look like. This is why there are so many church buildings on so many corners. We will do it this way. We will do it better. We will build the church. Consider however:

She is a Spiritual House being prepared for Heaven, called out of darkness into God's Light "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit." - Ephesians 2:19-22

She is to be the Pillar and Support of the Truth

"...but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth." - 1 Timothy 3:15

The Church is the Bride of Jesus

"Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." - Revelation 19:7

In order to understand the Kingdom Church, we must consult the words and teachings of our King. Remember, He is the One Who is building His Church (Matthew 16:18).



Praying for the KINGDOM CHURCH

Jesus is our Rescuer (Luke 19:10) We *lift up Creator God* Who is our rescuer.

Jesus is our Teacher (John 8:31,32) We are followers of the *teaching of Jesus* and His Father.

Jesus is our Healer (John 7:38; Luke 23:43) We are blessed with the *healing of Jesus* for our past, present, and future.

Jesus is our Comforter and Guide (John 14:18-24) We grow in the *comfort of the Spirit* toward a free conscience.

Jesus is the Head of His Church (Revelation 21:1) We pray for Kingdom workers around the world.

The church is not merely a place we go - it is who we are.

Isaiah 61:1-3

The Spirit of the Lord God has anointed Me:
To bring good news to the afflicted (poor in spirit)
Bind up the broken-hearted (those who mourn)
Release and freedom to captives
Recovery of sight to the blind
Set free the oppressed
Proclaim the coming of Lord God's supremacy

"To bring these to those who mourn among His people, giving them a beautiful identity instead of futility, the oil of joy instead of mourning, a covering of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. They will be called supports of righteousness, in the Lord's garden, that He may be glorified."

"Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." - Luke 4:14-21



KINGDOM CHURCH

The church is not merely a place we go - it is who we are.

Distinctives for Kingdom Connectivity

Organic over organizational/invisible over visible

- House to House/learning about and using our Spirit gifts (Acts 5:42; Ephesians 4:14-16)
- One-another Word focused (Romans 12:9-13)
- Celebrating the Lord's supper (Matthew 18:20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
- Sharing Psalms/Hymns/Spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:15-21)
- Speaking of the Father's goodness and Jesus' friendship (John 15:12-17)

Word connecting

- Connecting with *Jesus* in the healing of our souls (Exodus 15:26; John 8:31-32)
- Connecting with the Father in bending before His authority (Exodus 20:3; John 17:20-24)
- Connecting with the *Spirit* in sensitivity to hearing God's voice (Romans 8:26-27)

Resourced by Wisdom/the woven threads of the Father

- The Bible interpreting itself (2 Peter 1:19-21)
- Noble-minded men and women searching daily (Acts 17:11)
- Finding and walking the God path (Isaiah 50:45)

A Christ-follower's Servant focus

- Word of God and Prayer (Acts 2:42; Acts 6:4)
- Pursuit of building disciples (Matthew 28:18-20)

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- √ Kingdom Connectivity requires caring, effort, cultivating, and vigilance
- $\sqrt{}$ Distractions are many and must be wisely navigated every day
- $\sqrt{}$ Focus must be pursued each day



A KINGDOM CONNECTIVITY GET-TOGETHER

Being Discipled by God as a group/an hour or so with our King!

Song/God invitation
Hymn
Passage
Spiritual Song
Psalm
Lord's supper (Matthew 26)
20 Minutes in the Word
Prayer for our Pressing Needs
Testify
Catch Up/praying for each other

"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ." - Ephesians 5:15-21

- $\sqrt{}$ Process re: discipling and what about young children and family life things?
- $\sqrt{}$ What about choice of a place?
- $\sqrt{\text{What size of Group?}}$
- $\sqrt{}$ How do we communicate?



Connectivity Training for the Kingdom Church

20 CORE Podcasts about Kingdom connectivity First King - then Kingdom - then Church

Iesus Centric Podcasts Course at Fourthstream.com

- 1. What is it?
- 2. The Wisdom of Jesus
- 3. Matthew
- Matthew 4.
- 5. Mark
- 6. Mark
- 7. Luke
- Luke 8.
- 9. John
- 10. John
- 11. The Streamsbook: 40 Days to get to Know God's Son
- Epoch 6: the Shining Light 12.
- 13. Epoch 6: the Shining Light
- 14. Kingdom Spirituality
- 15. Kingdom Spirituality
- Kingdom Spirituality 16.
- 17. Kingdom Spirituality
- 18. **Epoch 1: Origins**
- 19. Epoch 1: Origins
- 20.
- Epoch 2: Deliverance 21. Epoch 2: Deliverance
- 22. Epoch 3: Kings & Kingdoms
- 23. Epoch 3: Kings & Kingdoms
- Epoch 4: Prophets & Captivity 24.
- 25. Epoch 4: Prophets & Captivity
- 26. Epoch 5: The Return/The Silence
- 27. Epoch 5: The Return/The Silence
- 28. Epoch 7: Ends of the Earth
- 29. Epoch 7: Ends of the Earth
- Epoch 8: End of the Age 30.
- 31. Epoch 8: End of the Age

74 Blog Posts

Conversations

The God Story Course

Awakening

Knowing Jesus

Kingdom Heart

Inside-Out

Warfare

Healer

Kingdom Connectivity

Home & Heart

Engage Training Course Strong Homes Course 40 Key Characters FS Music Resource

Kingdom Book

The God Story Turbulence Book Spacious Places Series

Deeper Course

Book by Book Series

Mentored by God Book

Curious Journey Book



The Kingdom Grows

- 1. Preparation (prophecies)
- 2. Arrival (accounts)
- 3. *Explosion* (results that are kingdom vs. man deliberate)