The Kingdom Part 2 by Ps Larry Elliott Positioned

<u>Luke 4:43 NKJV</u> "but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent."

We ended last week on the powerful truth:

Luke 22:35-38 NKJV

- 1. God wants to Provide for you and He can (He is Willing and Able).
- 2. We need to be Prepared: (For the Battle and to exercise our Authority in Christ)

<u>Matthew 11:12 NKJV</u> "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force."

Kingdom (Grk: basileia)

- 1) Royal power, kingship, dominion, rule
- 2) The royal power of Jesus as the triumphant Messiah
- 3) And the royal power and dignity conferred on Christians in the Messiah's kingdom

I'm convinced God wants us as a Local Church and as individuals to move into a NEW REALM of OPERATING in His Kingdom!

Violence (Grk: biazo) to seize upon or to press (or opposite)

Violent (Grk: biastes) to be an enforcer / to exert or be energetic

Take it (harpazō)

- 1) to carry off by force
- 2) to eagerly claim for one's self
- 3) to snatch out or away
- The Kingdom can only gain traction and advance in our WORLD to the proportion it will advance in our HEARTS (Lives)

This will take a:

- I. Determination
- II. Passion
- III. Perseverance
- IV. Even a Desperation at times to see God moving your life.

SO it comes down to how we see ourselves and that determines our position.

If I'm well positioned I can face anything.



An unprepared person is AVERAGE and says:

I am not growing and I don't like change.

I prefer entertainment over progress and then puts the blame on others (circumstances) I have no control over my life.

A prepared person is EXCELLENT and says:

I'll keep moving and progressing I'll learn adapt quickly to change. I am curious and constantly learning In Christ I'm in charge of my life.

- That's a powerful position!
- We must start to believe we have been strategically positioned for this time.

Position / A specific place or location:

- a. The right or appropriate place.
- b. A strategic area occupied by members of a force.
- c. The way in which something is placed.
- d. The arrangement of body parts as in our posture.
- e. An advantageous place or location.
- f. A situation as it relates to the surrounding.

BE CONSCIOUS OF YOUR POSITION IN CHRIST

<u>John 15:5 NKJV</u> I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

- In this verse, Jesus says, "I am the vine, you **are** the branches."
- Don't **try** to be the branches." In Christ we are already the branches.
- We simply have to be conscious every day of our position in Christ.
- God sees us today in Him and we can enjoy His Presence and produce fruit in His Kingdom.
- 🕯 The devil wants you to focus on your **condition** instead of your **position** in Christ.
- The condition you are facing could be financial lack or poor health or a bad habit that's oppressing you.
- You are the righteousness of God and are seated with Him in heavenly places.
- Stop FOCUSING on your Condition and get into your POSITION, that's where the POWER IS, that's when you will start to produce the FRUIT.



Three powerful truths from the Sermon on the Mount.

<u>The greatest SERMON ever preached.</u>

<u>Jesus teaches this at the inauguration of the Kingdom that will help us to get POSITIONED AND STAY WELL POSITIONED</u>

<u>Background to Sermon on the Mount</u>

Matthew 3 John prepares the way and Baptizes Jesus

Matthew 4 Jesus tempted and overcomes (spiritual warfare)

Leaves with power

<u>Matthew 4:17 NKJV</u> "From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.""

I want to encourage us to go and read Mathew 3-7 this week.

1. HUMILITY

Matthew 5:3 NKJV ""Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Humility is the ability to become and remain teachable

Question: Are you TEACHABLE?

Key Concepts

A common misconception is that humility only involves having a low self-esteem, a sense of unworthiness?

However, true humility also involves an:

- accurate self-assessment.
- recognition of our limitations.
- keeping our accomplishments in perspective and
- forgetting of self.

In other words HUMBLE people don't have to present themselves as being better than they are.

Humility is part of the fruit of Temperance:

Temperance is the strength that protects us from excess.

It is the practiced ability to monitor and manage our emotions, motivations and behaviour. It's the ABILITY to be TEACHABLE.



Exercises for Boosting Humility

- 1. Take the attention off yourself (complement and promote someone else).
- 2. Talk less and listen more.
- 3. Admit your mistakes and apologize without making excuses.

2. PRAYERFULNESS

Matthew 6:10 NKJV "Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Not all Prayer is Pleasant but all Prayer is Powerful.

Prayer may not always be Enjoyable or EASY but it is ALWAYS Effective!

We must all endure the agony of prayer while coming to grips with our Destiny then we will start to enjoy the BENEFITS & FRUITFULNESS it will produce in our lives and others.

We all need prayer SUPPORT!

SO:

Who are you praying for today?

Robert Morris when satan attacked his life:

- God is in Control
- Spiritual Warfare is real
- God answers Prayer

3. OBEDIENCE

<u>Matthew 7:21 NKJV</u> ""Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

Romans 5:19 NKJV "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous."

2It's through Christ's obedience we find our position within the Kingdom.

It's through disobedience the enemy wants to move us out of position so we operate in the FLESH rather than in the spiritual.

Stand your ground by growing in Christ and learning obedience.

<u>Hebrews 5:8 NKJV</u> "though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered."



- Obedience is not the most popular word these days. But in 1 Samuel 15:22, the Bible says obedience is better than sacrifice.

We can all get busy with LIFE, we can even be tithing, giving our talent, blessing the poor. ALL GOOD THINGS

But to be POSITIONED for PROGRESS we need:
HUMILITY
PRAYERFULNESS
AND
OBEDIENCE

Mark 10 talks about the rich, young ruler who had been living sacrificially by the commandments.

But when Jesus told him what he needed to do, he didn't like it.

Verse 21 says:

Then Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him...

Sadly this young man would not receive what Jesus said to him and he "went away sorrowful".

Exodus 18 describes how Moses' father-in-law Jethro, brings correction and instruction. In verse 17 Jethro says, "The thing that you do is not good." Verse 24 goes on to say: "Moses heeded the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said."

PRAYER: Lord God, PLEASE help me to become humble so I may have a teachable spirit. Teach me to be a prayerful person and to walk in obedience. Bring the right people into my life that can speak to me with godly wisdom and discernment, and give me a heart to hear and receive, in Jesus name.

