



The Master Key: Seek First the Kingdom
Lesson 1: What is the Kingdom?

1. Introduction

The foundation verse for this class is Matthew 6:33.

Matthew 6:33

If you can receive what Jesus is telling you in Matthew 6:33, it will change your life – specifically financially.

Financial pressure is a terrible thing. Whatever is going on in your life – it is constantly gnawing at the back of your mind.

When you have financial pressure, you can live your life, but you are always thinking about a bill that needs to be paid or about lack in a certain area.

There are also times when you would like to give to the work of God, but you feel like you cannot give as much as you truly desire.

This is not God's will for you.

He is a God of _____ and provides more than enough for you.

2. The Master Key

Matthew 6:33

Many of us know this verse, but we are not living it.

This is the Master Key for living in God's blessing, abundance, provision, plenty, and prosperity.

Matthew 6:33

All these things. What things?

Matthew 6:32

Here we see the phrase again – _____

Gentiles refers to godless people or people outside the covenant of God.

Godless people spend the bulk of their time seeking after all these things.

Matthew 6:32

Some people think they are more spiritual than everyone else and they try to tell us that we do not need all these things.

However, we have scripture that tells us the Father knows we need all these things.

You need some stuff. Your family needs some stuff. Your church needs some stuff.

Most Charismatics and Pentecostal type people like the ending phrases of verses in the Bible.

If you hear – *and all these things shall be added to you* – There is shouting and praising God!

But people do not get excited about seeking first the kingdom.

3. “All of these things being added to you” is dependent upon and comes after seeking first the kingdom.

There are many Christians who know this verse, but the kingdom is not first with them.

When they get paid or make some money, the first thing they think about is the house payment, purchasing clothes for their children, or bills that need to be paid.

Many people say that family comes first. But there can only be one first place in your life. If family is in that place, God is down the list somewhere else.

That is why so many people never have anything to give, and it is their fault.

Many of us are not putting God first.

If something else is first, we are _____ the first principle of prosperity.

Millions of Christians think first about their bills, their desires, their hobbies, and all kinds of other things.

Putting the kingdom first is nowhere in their minds or in their hearts.

If you want God to bless you like He wants to, you must do what He said. _____

That is with your heart, with your actions, with your words, with your plans, with your money – with everything!

God needs to be first!

4. Tithing

Some people tithe sort of, kind of, or when they can.

They look at it like – “I want to. But I don’t have it.”

But this is what people are not acknowledging – Why don’t you have it? Why are you not in that situation?

People are not taking responsibility. They are acting like victims.

What do you have to do? – You must make up your mind. Either the tithe is His or it is mine.

If it is yours, you can do whatever you want to do with it.

Is it His or is it mine? – It is that simple.

It is a decision to obey God. That is how you begin – _____

Then take the tithe and separate it from your money.

Decide that you are not going to touch it no matter what kind of financial shape you are in. No matter what bills need to be paid.

That is when your breakthrough will begin to happen.

Proverbs 3:9, 10

Everybody wants to shout about being filled and overflowing!

But you cannot shout about verse ten if you are not willing to shout about verse nine.

You must get excited about honoring the Lord with your possessions and the firstfruits of your increase.

What is God saying? – “Put Me first!”

Here is a powerful truth – _____

If you obey Him and put Him first – you have confidence.

“Lord, I am putting you first! You told me if I bring my tithe, that you would open the windows of heaven and that you would pour out blessing until there was not enough room. You would rebuke the devourer for my sake. You said it!”

5. What belongs to God and what belongs to me?

The tithe is ten percent. Anything above ten percent is your offering.

The offering belongs to you. It is yours to do with what you want.

The tithe belongs to God.

A lot of people say this – “Everything I have belongs to God.”

This is not completely true. If everything you have belongs to God, then you have nothing to give to Him.

Then it would be impossible for you to give Him an offering.

The tithe is God’s. The rest of it is yours.

The part that belongs to you – you can pay your bills with, spend, and you have something that belongs to you that you can give to Him.

Christians who do not tithe are saying, “That is mine. I earned it. It is mine to do with what I want to.”

People do not realize it, but it is arrogance.

Because the truth is your heart would not beat again, except for the grace of God. He gives you the ability to get up in the morning and go to work.

When you realize this – you have no problem giving back to Him the holy portion – off the top of your pay. Your desire is to honor Him with the tithe.

6. Seed

When the Bible talks about money it compares it to seed. However, the real seed is your heart and your faith.

God allows us to wrap what is in our hearts with _____

It is not about the money. It is about your heart.

There is no amount of money that impresses God. It is what is in your heart. It is the faith that is in your heart.

It cannot be about the amount – look at the woman who had two mites!

Jesus watched what she put in the offering. (He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.)

He said that she gave more than all the rich people that day! Why? – She gave it all! You cannot give more than 100%.

Nobody can outgive you, no matter how much they have.

We are all on the same plane whether you are a millionaire or you have two dollars.

God looks at the _____ and God looks at the _____

7. What is the kingdom of God?

Some people are violating the first principle of prosperity – they are not seeking first the kingdom of God.

Matthew 6:33

What is the kingdom of God? What did Jesus preach about?

Matthew 4:17

There are many more verses showing that Jesus preached two things:

- _____
- _____

Definition of REPENT: _____

Since none of us have arrived at Christ-like perfection, we still need to change.

Is it possible to become less carnal and more like Christ? – Yes.

Then you should not be shocked when God shows you an area of your life where you need to change.

Matthew 4:23

What was he preaching? – The Gospel

The Gospel is also called the _____

The Gospel is the good news about what? – It is the good news about Jesus. But it is also the good news about the kingdom.

So many preachers talk about Jesus, but they do not talk about the kingdom. But this is what Jesus talked about.

Jesus talked so much about the kingdom that His disciples were always looking around thinking that the kingdom would appear at any time.

When Jesus sent his disciples out to preach, He told them to preach about the kingdom.

What is the first principle of prosperity? – _____

What is the kingdom?

It is made up of two words – KING and DOM

DOM is short for _____

Definition of KINGDOM: _____

A kingdom is what a king rules and reigns over.

IMPORTANT: _____

There are places in this world where Jesus is not ruling.

We are supposed to go there and preach. God confirms His Word with signs and wonders. This proves that the kingdom is here! We are to tell people, “The kingdom is here! Get into the kingdom now!”

Matthew 6:33

Definition of ADDED:

- To give more
- _____
- To proceed further

God's desire is to bring increase to our lives.

You can have increase if you seek first the kingdom of God!

There is another definition of ADDED: _____

The Gentiles are making these things the main thing. But God says, "These are just add-ons."

What you are going to eat, wear, drive, and live – the Lord knows you need all those things. But if you focus on that and seek after that, you are just like the world.

However, if the kingdom of God is consuming your heart, your mind, and your focus, and you are going after that thing, God says, "Don't worry about all those other things. I will lay those things right beside you. I am going to add those other things to your life."

If you will eat, drink, sleep, and live for the kingdom of God, the stuff will be there. The things you need will be there.

Money, things, houses, vehicles, and clothing – all these things are just add-ons.

8. The heart of the king

What is the kingdom? – _____

What is the heart of the king? – _____

He died for everyone!

His desire is for people to bow their knee to Him as Savior so they can be a part of the kingdom. He wants to meet their needs, set them free from bondage, feed them, clothe them, and heal them. But they must become a part of the kingdom.

9. Daniel

In Daniel chapter two, Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. It bothered him because he could not remember his dream.

He asked his astrologers and sorcerers to come. They said, “Tell us the dream and we will tell you the interpretation.”

He said, “No. You tell me the dream and the interpretation.”

They said, “That is asking too much king. Nobody can do that.”

Nebuchadnezzar got angry and said, “Kill them all!”

Daniel was a part of that group. So, they came to his house to take him away.

He said, “What’s going on?” They informed him about what the king had done.

Daniel convinced them to allow him to talk to the king. He told the king to give him some time and he would have the answer.

He went home and prayed. God showed him the dream and what it meant.

He was able to go back to the king and tell him.

Daniel 2:31-45

The stone that shattered all the other kingdoms is Jesus!

This is the kingdom you are supposed to be seeking – the reign and rule of the King of kings and the Lord of lords.