



**The Master Key: Seek First the Kingdom**  
**Lesson 3: The First Principle of Prosperity**

### **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.

Jesus should be first in every area of our lives, \_\_\_\_\_

### **2. The first principle of prosperity**

There are many people who put themselves first. But it should not be that way.

God is supposed to come first.

He is supposed to come before any person, thing, activity, or interest you may have.

If you put your stuff and your interests before Him, you are violating the first principle of prosperity.

What is the first principle of prosperity?

#### **Matthew 6:33**

All the things you need will be added to you \_\_\_\_\_

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This is the good way to live! It is okay for you to enjoy some things, but they cannot be first.

Did you know that you can add things to yourself? When you add things to yourself, they can become a burden. Why? Because you have added it to your life prematurely.

When God adds something to your life it is a different story.

### **Proverbs 10:22**

Often when people add things to their lives, instead of letting God do it, those things become a burden. They cannot keep up with the payments, cannot maintain it, etc.

But when God adds to your life, \_\_\_\_\_

Your flesh does not want to wait. It wants everything now. But some things God wants to give you so it is better to wait on Him.

When you put God first you will not listen to your flesh screaming – “I have got to have that now!”

### **Matthew 6:21**

### **Luke 12:15**

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When God gives you something in His timing it is almost always later than your flesh wants it to be.

But that is good for your flesh. \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes the Lord gives it to you when you are not thinking constantly about it because then it is in the proper place. It is not in first place.

Examples of this can be marriage or wanting an expensive item.

God will not give it to you if you are constantly thinking about it. You are supposed to be thinking about Him and His kingdom first.

### **3. Two kinds of rich**

#### **Luke 12:16-21**

There are two kinds of rich here – rich in the world and rich toward God. They are not the same thing.

Do riches satisfy? – No.

Riches do not bring fulfillment in life.

What is the only thing that brings total fulfillment in life? – \_\_\_\_\_

Do you remember when Jesus said that? – The disciples went to get him something to eat and when they returned, He said, “I have food to eat that you don’t know about.”

### **John 4:34**

What did Jesus mean? – \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

That is the only thing that will satisfy you.

Look at how many times this man talks about himself in Luke chapter twelve.

### **Luke 12:17-19**

He was working hard and consumed with his stuff, and he did not even realize that he was out of time.

### **Luke 12:20**

Time is more precious and in more need of redeeming than money or stuff.

People live like this like they are going to be able to do it forever and the clock is ticking.

Our time is so precious. Every day is precious.

You would be better off wasting money than wasting time. But most people don’t think that way.

## **4. The right and wrong mindset**

Let’s look at this man again and really think about him.

Most people read this parable and think – “This guy was a sorry individual.”

However, this parable describes most church people.

What was on this man’s mind? – Safety, security, and retirement

He is talking about “getting things set up” so that he does not have to work so hard.

He is talking about his savings, so that he can kick back and not work so hard. The purpose was so that he could relax and enjoy life.

This describes most people, even Christians. Work hard now, get the kids through college, save so that one day you can relax and have some fun.

What's wrong with that? – Nothing is wrong with it if you are a sinner!

But if you are a child of God, living your life is not supposed to be first.

What did this man do when he had extra come in? Was he talking about what he could do for the kingdom? – No

Not a word about the kingdom! \_\_\_\_\_

Don't misunderstand this teaching. It is okay to enjoy life, go to the beach, and take a vacation.

But there are no rewards for lying on the beach. There are no rewards for taking vacations.

You can do it, but God will not reward you for it because it has nothing to do with His kingdom.

It is the first step to break the curse of poverty in our lives.

### **5. Why does God prosper us?**

If all you are thinking is – “Good, now I have learned a principle about prosperity to make my life better” – you are not thinking right.

A kingdom mindset is this – \_\_\_\_\_

It is not “what can I use for me”; it is “what can I use that belongs to me for God's kingdom”.

When you live this way, all your needs get met.

Why? – Because you are seeking first the kingdom.

### **Matthew 6:33**

### **Luke 12:22-24**

You do not have to be like the world. You do not have to handle your finances the way the world says you have to.

It can look like you are not going to be okay. But if you are putting God first – you will be!

There will be other people who do all the “right” things, according to the world, but will lose it all.

Nothing in this world is 100% secure. Why not invest it in the kingdom of God where it is 100% secure?

### **Luke 12:25-28**

You must be absolutely persuaded that if you pursue the kingdom, you will never lack!

You must believe that if you seek God first and His will for your life first – it does not matter what the economy is like, or who is in office, or who is not – you must believe that you will be taken care of!

All you must do is seek His kingdom and He will add all that other stuff to you.

One of the greatest faith statements you can make is this – \_\_\_\_\_

- What are you going to do in your old age? – The Lord will provide.
- What are you going to do about college tuition? – The Lord will provide.
- What is this church going to do in the future? – The Lord will provide.

It does not mean that you sit around and wait for God to do everything. You still must do what He told you to do. You still must work. You still must be diligent.

However, you do not get obsessed with that. You do not act like a sinner, and you do not decide that you have no time for the kingdom until you get your other things done.

So many people in the church get paid and they do not think about the kingdom first. They first think about the bills they must pay.

If they have anything left over, then they give something to God.

You will not live a blessed life that way.

### **6. What does it mean to “seek God’s kingdom”?**

#### **Luke 12:29**

We are supposed to be seeking God’s kingdom – not stuff.

The same word “seek” is used here and when the Bible tells us to “seek” God’s kingdom first.

Seek God's kingdom. Do not seek stuff.

Definition of SEEK:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- To think about how to obtain
- \_\_\_\_\_

Most people think this way:

- How can I get that house?
- How can I get that car?
- How can I get that promotion?

They think about it. They plot.

Have you ever plotted to figure out how you could make something happen?

God tells us not to do that. He is saying, "Do not seek material things."

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You get up in the morning and think – How can I advance the kingdom today? What can I do for God? How can I help the work of God?

You think about it. \_\_\_\_\_

If you do this with the kingdom of God, you want what He wants. Now He can bless you!

### **Matthew 6:32**

God knows you need all these things.

You do not have to plot. \_\_\_\_\_

You do not have to figure out how to get it. He already knows how to get it. He has it all set up.

Is it true that if we seek after the kingdom of God, that God will add to us every natural and material thing we need without us stressing and struggling for it? Is it true? Then why don't we do it?