



The Master Key: Seek First the Kingdom
Lesson 4: Changing the Way We Think

1. Introduction and review

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, including our finances.

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

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 _____

We must be kingdom minded and break the curse of poverty in our lives.

But remember – God does not prosper you just so your life can be better. This is not a kingdom mindset.

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 – All of my assets are available for kingdom use.

In doing so, all your needs are met.

You must be totally 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 doesn't matter what the economy is like – you must believe that you will be taken care of by God.

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

Definition of SEEK:

- To seek by thinking
- _____
- Plotting

You must change the way you think every day!

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. You plot about how you will do it.

2. Change the way you think.

How do you make this happen? – You must change the way you think every day!

Do not presume you are doing this verse.

Wake up every day and think – “How can we reach more people for Christ? What else can we be doing to advance the kingdom in our city?”

When you get this mindset, it is okay to be obsessed! You are dreaming about it.

You are not dreaming about a car or money.

However, as you are obsessed with the kingdom, God will bring you the things you need.

But we must put the kingdom first.

Matthew 6:33

3. There are opportunities every day for you to put the kingdom first.

God, the King, puts things in front of you every day. When He gives us something that has to do with the kingdom, we should have no problem with doing those things.

If it has anything to do with the kingdom of God, it should not be beneath you or too insignificant for you. You should be ready and willing to give your time and your effort.

Psalm 84:10

Psalm 84:10 – The Message Bible

I'd rather scrub floors in the house of my God than be honored as a guest in the palace of sin.

I would rather hold a door open or scrub a floor – Why? – _____

Here is the question – Do you care about what God cares about?

When God brings opportunities, money, or things your way, what should you be thinking? – Kingdom, kingdom, kingdom!

“That missionary needs a new vehicle. The church needs new equipment. I can pay for that.”

Matthew 6:33

4. Are you thinking and plotting like the world?

Luke 12:29, 30

What do millions of people think about when they first get up in the morning?

How am I going to make some money? How am I going to get a promotion?

They think about it. They plot. – How am I going to get that house? That car?

God is not against you having stuff. He wants you to enjoy life. But there is more to life than having things.

God created you to produce! He created you to advance His kingdom and reach people for Christ.

Luke 12:31-34

What did Jesus say here? – _____

“I would if I could.”

If we could see into eternity, we would sell stuff and give it to the kingdom.

Because everything you have right now is going to rust or be worth nothing one day.

I don't want to die and go to heaven and wish I would have done something.

Isaiah 1:19

5. Follow me

Luke 9:59

What did it mean to the disciples when Jesus said, “Follow Me”?

It meant that they walked away from business, family, and their lives.

Luke 9:59

Did you notice that word? – _____

Luke 9:59

His father was not dead yet. He was just saying, “Jesus, let me wait until my father dies. I will take care of that and bury him.”

What did Jesus say? – Did He say, “I understand. You must put your family first. That is the Christian thing to do.”

If family is first – God is not. _____

Luke 9:60

Jesus did not teach family first.

He preached about repentance and the kingdom.

He preached “Let's advance the kingdom!”

People get mad when you suggest that they ought to be doing more.

“What else do you want from me pastor?”

It’s not your pastor who wants more. It is Jesus who wants more!

“But what about the things I need?”

He knows you need these things!

Matthew 6:33

If you will put the kingdom first, He will multiply your time. He will bring in the money. He will give you the favor. He will make it work for you.

6. Is that really in the Bible?

Luke 14:26

If you did not know that was in the Bible, you would probably think that it was heresy.

Matthew 10:37

The word “hate” has to do with loving something more or less than something else. However, it also has to do with anything that gets in the way or stops you from serving God and His kingdom.

There are many people missing the plan of God for their lives because they love that man, that woman, that son, or that daughter more than they love God.

Did Jesus put family first? – No.

His family thought that He “lost it”. They were coming to take him back home. But He did not even go out to greet them.

Adam is an example of someone who put his family first.

Genesis 3:17

Genesis 3:17 – Easy To Read Version

I commanded you not to eat from that tree, but you listened to your wife and ate from it.

The devil is counting on you loving your flesh so much that you will absolutely miss God’s plan for your life.

The greatest thing you can ever do for your family is to follow God with all your heart.

Are you going to allow anything to take the place of God in your life? Are you going to allow anything to take first place in your life? Your career, money, or family?

7. The kingdom is our ultimate pursuit.

Matthew 13:44-46

The kingdom is our ultimate pursuit. It is in our thoughts, plans and dreams. We are constantly asking ourselves – how do I advance His kingdom?

8. We need to advance His kingdom.

When does the kingdom of God advance? – _____

The reason why you were created and are living today is so that you can advance His kingdom.

You will never be completely satisfied until you are living for the kingdom.

2 Timothy 2:3, 4

We must have the mentality of a soldier to advance His kingdom. _____

Many Christians are self-centered and self-indulgent. They are completely unwilling to experience discomfort or inconvenience.

An opportunity comes for someone to do something for the Lord:

- “But my wife doesn’t want me gone for a week.”
- “I can’t spend all of that money.”

The Bible tells us that we must have a soldier mentality. What do soldiers do? – They leave their families and go where other people want to kill them! They do it for a natural kingdom.

Are you willing to endure some hardness in your life? As a soldier you go where you are sent, and you stay where you are stationed.

You have a purpose beyond working hard and saving for retirement. _____
