



## I. INTRO/REVIEW

A. The Kingdom is here

**Matthew 6:10 (NIV) your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Matthew 4:17 (NIV) From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."**

- Turn from your value system to God's
- Turn from the way you think, and think like God

**Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**

**A Kingdom is:** The governing influence of a king over His territory impacting it with His personal will, purpose and intent, producing a culture, values, morals and lifestyle that reflect the king's desires and nature for His citizens

B. We don't know what it's like to live in a kingdom

## II. THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

A. The god of this world

**2 Corinthians 4:4 (NLT) Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don't believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good News. They don't understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God.**

- B. Flawed reproductions
- First 5 chapters of Genesis summed up in chapter 5

**Genesis 5:1-3 (NKJV) This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created. And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.**

C. You're just like your father!

**Ephesians 2:1-3 (NIV) As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.**

**John 8:44 (NIV) You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.**



D. Only by God's mercy and grace

**Ephesians 2:4-6 (NIV) But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,**

**Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV) For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

### III. RESCUED

A. Rescued

**Colossians 1:13-14 (NLT) For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.**

B. We receive Jesus but we must seek the Kingdom

**Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**

C. Jesus is the door

**John 10:9 (NKJV) I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.**

D. Enter the Kingdom as a child

**Matthew 18:2-4 (NIV) He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**

### IV. DON'T STOP

A. Seeking the Kingdom requires sacrifice

**Matthew 13:44-46 (NKJV) "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.**

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B. The desire of the King

**Luke 6:40 (NLT) Students are not greater than their teacher. But the student who is fully trained will become like the teacher.**

- He wants us to be transformed people who actually reflect and represent him!