

## Shift from Church-Minded to Kingdom-Minded | Part 2

It is a great privilege to get to share God's Word with you today.

Janet and I traveled to St. Louis this week to be with our close friends at his father's funeral. While at the viewing that evening.... A minister friend sat beside me and began talking to me about the Kingdom of God....

He was shocked when I told him just last Sunday we talked about the difference between a church mindset and a kingdom mindset...

For 45 minutes.... He shared with me how we invest too much time at church on inspiration and not nearly enough time on activation..... he talked to me about how we must equip and activate the church toward a kingdom mentality.

### **Matthew 6:33 says.... Seek first the Kingdom of God.**

Why is this important..... because the church can just be a place we come to.....but being a kingdom representative calls us to do good works.

- Someone will need you to pray for them today!
- Someone will need you to encourage them!
- Someone needs a visit in the hospital.
- Someone needs a pot of soup.
- Someone will need you to listen.
- Someone may want to know more about God....
- Someone needs healing are you ready to pray for them. Someone needs a miracle will you speak it over them.

The word church in the Greek means "called out one"; the word kingdom in the Greek means the King's rule, power, or authority.

The church is to be the ones called out of the world to represent God on the earth. How many of you like politics.....

How many of you have ever gotten upset with your local representative or senator because they did not represent your values or how you wanted them to vote?

Just as your state representative is supposed to represent you..... We are supposed to represent God on the earth.

Unfortunately, the church has become more religious minded than Kingdom minded. Religion is more about control, rules, rituals, and performance... The Kingdom of God is more about Grace, Truth, Holiness, Transformation Equipping and Releasing people to do what God did on the earth.

Why is this so important.... Because a kingdom mindset shifts us from thinking we just need to ("get people into church") to realizing we need to ("we need to represent God in the world"). No one appreciates a Representative or Senator who doesn't get out and represent the people.

As representatives of God we often look to escape the world, it's a mentality that says....hurry up Jesus and get us out of here....things are getting bad.....

But think back to the book of Daniel.....Did God rapture Daniel, Meshack, Shadrack, and Abendego because things were bad in Babylon? Or did He strategically place them there to use their gifts to make a difference.

For nearly 70 years Daniel was a prophet, he interpreted dreams and managed the affairs for rulers like Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, and Darius. God did not separate Daniel from the world, he put him right in the middle of it.

A kingdom mindset sees our responsibility to be equipped to serve our current Babylonian culture

The Kingdom mindset sees our purpose is to transform the culture—family, education, government, media, and business with the gospel and biblical values.

The church mindset is to get people to come to a church building on Sundays.....there is nothing wrong with that..... But it's more than that!!!!

The Kingdom mindset is that everyday we are available to use our God's given spiritual gifts.

**Jesus, John the Baptist, and the apostles went about proclaiming the kingdom—not the church (read Matthew 3:2, 4:17, 10:7; Acts 28:30-31). Although the church is in the kingdom, it is not the entire kingdom.**

“Kingdom” denotes the reign of God over the whole earth.

Those with a church mindset view Jesus merely as the King of the church, not the King of all things.

So why are we not pursuing a Kingdom mindset.... because we are good with 2 to 3% being in ministry....

While we say things like.... that's my pastor, that's my priest....yes while we recognize those offices....they are not God's super saints... with super abilities...

It is not about abilities..... It is about our mentality.

**The main way the enemy defeats us is by making us feel inferior within ourselves.**

Most of you in this room do not feel intelligent enough, or smart enough. Most of you do not feel like you are articulate, or gifted enough.

The absolute truth is you don't have to be any of that....you don't have to have the office or calling of an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor or teacher... if you are born again.....you are a representative of God....

Being born black or white, Hispanic or Asian or whatever nationality does not come with a covenant, with an anointing or with authority.

Only being born again does..... When you are born again it not only changes your condition internally, it changes your position.

In other words...when you are born again you become more than just a person in a church who has given their life to Christ.....you become sons and daughters of God.

God didn't call you out to live for yourself, he called you out to live for Him.

Heaven is not God's main goal for you..... If heaven was God's main goal for you....[He](#) would have saved you and taken you immediately to heaven....

[He](#) saved you so you would represent Him in the world. He gave you the Holy Spirit to empower you to be like Him.

Why is that even important.....because understanding your identity is what gives you victory over the enemy.

Most of us want to make a difference, we just don't think we have what it takes. We don't think we have the ability, power or authority to do it.

But let me share something with you...about ability, power and authority....

King Charles III was crowned on May 6, 2023, in a ceremony at Westminster Abbey in London.

While he became king immediately upon the death of his mother, the formal coronation didn't take place until eight months later

The fact is King Charles didn't have to feel like he was king.... He did not have to fast for his authority. He did not have to pray for his authority. He was simply born into the royal family.

Let's go a little deeper..... King Charles did not have to worship or praise for authority....[He](#) born into a royal family....and being born into a royal family gave him authority.

Too many believers do not understand they have authority. They are waiting to feel powerful. Authority is not something you feel.

Authority doesn't require feelings to be exercised. Because we are spiritual and emotional beings, we often think we must feel powerful in order to get results.

Authority is a right and rule given by position.

You don't have to feel it, but you do have to believe it.

Let's Stand...

Let's say these together.

- Jesus is first in my life. I exist to serve and magnify God's reputation on the earth.
- I am anointed, empowered, equipped and called to reach people far from God.
- The world will be different and better because I served Jesus today.
- I am not what I have or buy. My identity is in Christ and Christ alone.
- I am empowered. I am chosen. I am called. I am a masterpiece of God, created in Christ Jesus, to do good works which God prepared in advance for me to do.