



when the Holy Spirit controls our lives he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control... Galatians 5:22-23 (TLB)

- We need the **Holy Spirit** to live as citizens of heaven in this world.

...and always thankful to the Father who has made us fit to share all the wonderful things that belong to those who live in the Kingdom of light. For he has rescued us out of the darkness and gloom of Satan's kingdom and brought us into the Kingdom of his dear Son... Colossians 1:12-13

- The kingdom of God calls us to a powerful **lifestyle**.

For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God's power. 1 Corinthians 4:20 (NLT)

I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. John 14:12 (NLT)

- The task we've been given is to **invest our lives** in the kingdom.

(The Kingdom of Heaven) Is also like a man going off on an extended trip. He called his servants together and delegated responsibilities. To one he gave five thousand dollars, to another two thousand, to a third one thousand, depending on their abilities. Then he left. Right off, the first servant went to work and doubled his master's investment. The second did the same. But the man with the single thousand dug a hole and carefully buried his master's money. "After a long absence, the master of those three servants came back and settled up with them. The one given five thousand dollars showed him how he had doubled his investment. His master commended him: 'Good work! You did your job well. From now on be my partner.' "The servant with the two thousand showed how he also had doubled his master's investment. His master commended him: 'Good work! You did your job well. From now on be my partner.' "The servant given one thousand said, 'Master, I know you have high standards and hate careless ways, that you demand the best and make no allowances for error. I was afraid I might disappoint you, so I found a good hiding place and secured your money. Here it is, safe and sound down to the last cent.' "The master was furious. 'That's a terrible way to live! It's criminal to live cautiously like that! If you knew I was after the best, why did you do less than the least? The least you could have done would have been to invest the sum with the bankers, where at least I would have gotten a little interest. "Take the thousand and give it to the one who risked the most. And get rid of this "play-it-safe" who won't go out on a limb. Throw him out into utter darkness.' Matthew 25:14-30 (Msg)

And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' Matthew 25:30 (NIV)

This is a story about **investing** in the kingdom while we're **waiting** for the King.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. John 14:3 (NIV)

Therefore go and **make disciples** in all the nations, **baptizing them** into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you; and be sure of this—that I am with you always, even to the end of the world." Matthew 28:19-20 (TLB)

#### **Kingdom mindset that allows us to invest:**

- As servants, everything we have **comes from** the King and **belongs** to the King.

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it...Psalm 24:1

What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if everything you have is from God, why boast as though it were not a gift? 1 Corinthians 4:7 (NLT)

- I'm no longer an **owner**, I'm a **steward**.
- What I've been **given** is not exclusively for **me**.
- There is an expectation that I will **invest** what I have been **given**.
- Investing your life is **risky**, but it's required.
- God wants us to do **something** with all He has given us.

"The master was furious. 'That's a terrible way to live! It's criminal to live cautiously like that! If you knew I was after the best, why did you do less than the least? The least you could have done would have been to invest the sum with the bankers, where at least I would have gotten a little interest. Matthew 25: 26-27 (Msg)

"Without faith it is impossible to please God." Hebrews 11:6

#### **How to invest in the kingdom of God:**

- Evaluate what has been **given** to you.

- I will intentionally share my **resources**.

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

- I will intentionally invest my **time**.

Matthew 25:35-40

- I will intentionally share the **gospel**.

Therefore go and **make disciples** in all the nations, **baptizing them** into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you; and be sure of this—that I am with you always, even to the end of the world." Matthew 28:19-20 (TLB)



## **TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.**

### **Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:**

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Why do we need the Holy Spirit to live as citizens of the Kingdom here in this world?
- In your own words what does it mean that the kingdom of God calls us to a powerful lifestyle?
- Do you feel that you invest your life in the kingdom of God? Explain.
- Is there anything from the parable that stands out to you or surprises you?
- Do you try to live from the Kingdom mindset that says: Everything I have comes from the King and belongs to the King? How does that mindset change how you live?
- Go through the points under the sub-heading: Kingdom Mindset that allows us to invest. Are there any of these that are difficult for you to apply in your life? Explain.
- In your own words, what does it mean to be a steward?
- When you evaluate all that has been entrusted to you, how does that inspire a greater investment from you?
- Which is hardest for you to invest - Resources, Time or the Gospel? How are you going to risk it?

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Today's Talk..



How to invest in the Kingdom

Sunday, September 17th, 2023

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