



RCCG OCEANIA

Identity & Purpose

Understanding the Kingdom of God

At a Glance

BIG IDEA

Jesus emphasized the importance of seeking the Kingdom of God above all else. Through parables and teachings, He revealed the value and mysteries of the Kingdom. Understanding this Kingdom is a lifelong journey that requires diligence and a desire to learn, as it holds the key to spiritual fulfillment and divine provision.

PRIMARY PASSAGES

Matthew 6:33

Matthew 4:17

Matthew 13

Key Takeaways

- The Kingdom of God should be our top priority.
- Jesus began His ministry by proclaiming the arrival of the Kingdom.
- Understanding the Kingdom is a continuous journey.
- The devil opposes the revelation of the Kingdom.
- Parables reveal the hidden truths of the Kingdom.

Introduction

The Kingdom of God is a central theme in the teachings of Jesus. It represents God's reign and His will being done on earth as it is in heaven. Understanding this Kingdom is crucial for every believer, as it is the foundation of spiritual growth and fulfillment.

Scripture Reading

- **Matthew 6:33** — This verse emphasizes the priority of seeking God's Kingdom above all else.
- **Matthew 4:17** — Jesus' ministry begins with the call to repentance and the announcement of the Kingdom.
- **Matthew 13** — Jesus uses parables to explain the nature and value of the Kingdom.

Key Points

1. **The Kingdom First** — God's priority is the Kingdom first, as emphasized by Jesus in Matthew 6:33. This means aligning our lives to seek His Kingdom and righteousness above all else. When we prioritize the Kingdom, we align ourselves with God's will and purpose. This alignment brings peace, provision, and purpose to our lives.
 - Evaluate your daily priorities to ensure the Kingdom is first.
 - Pray for guidance in aligning your life with Kingdom values.
 - Seek opportunities to serve and advance the Kingdom in your community.

Scripture: Matthew 6:33

Key Points (cont.)

- 2. The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry** — Jesus began His ministry with a call to repentance because the Kingdom of heaven had arrived. This proclamation set the tone for His teachings and miracles. It was an invitation to turn away from sin and embrace the new life offered in the Kingdom.
 - Reflect on areas in your life that need repentance.
 - Embrace the new life offered in the Kingdom through faith in Jesus.
 - Share the message of the Kingdom with others.

Scripture: Matthew 4:17

Key Points (cont.)

3. **Parables of the Kingdom** — In Matthew 13, Jesus uses parables to reveal the secrets of the Kingdom, illustrating its value and the need for understanding. These parables teach us about the nature of the Kingdom and how it operates in the world. They challenge us to seek deeper understanding and to live according to Kingdom principles.

- Study the parables in Matthew 13 to gain insight into the Kingdom.
- Discuss the meaning of these parables with a study group.
- Apply the lessons from the parables to your daily life.

Scripture: Matthew 13

Key Points (cont.)

4. **The Lifelong Pursuit** — Understanding the Kingdom is a lifelong pursuit that requires a desire to learn and diligence in study. As we seek the Kingdom, more is revealed to us. This journey involves growing in faith, wisdom, and understanding of God's will.
 - Commit to regular study of Scripture to deepen your understanding of the Kingdom.
 - Seek mentorship from mature believers who exemplify Kingdom living.
 - Pray for wisdom and revelation in your pursuit of the Kingdom.

Scripture: Matthew 13

Key Points (cont.)

- 5. Opposition to the Kingdom** — The devil fears the understanding of the Kingdom and will try to hinder it, as seen in the parable of the sower and Paul's experiences. Spiritual opposition is a reality, but through faith and perseverance, we can overcome these challenges.
- Be aware of spiritual opposition and pray for protection.
 - Strengthen your faith through regular prayer and study.
 - Encourage others who face opposition in their pursuit of the Kingdom.

Scripture: Matthew 13

Group Discussion

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

Observation

- What does Matthew 6:33 teach us about priorities?
- How did Jesus announce the Kingdom in Matthew 4:17?
- What are some of the parables mentioned in Matthew 13?

Interpretation

- Why is seeking the Kingdom first important for believers?
- What does repentance have to do with the Kingdom of God?
- How do the parables in Matthew 13 reveal the nature of the Kingdom?

Application

- How can you prioritize the Kingdom in your daily life?
- What steps can you take to deepen your understanding of the Kingdom?
- How can you support others who are facing opposition in their pursuit of the Kingdom?

Prayer Focus

- Pray for guidance in seeking the Kingdom first
- Ask for wisdom to understand the parables of the Kingdom
- Seek strength to overcome opposition in your Kingdom pursuit

Next Step

Commit to studying the parables in Matthew 13 to deepen your understanding of the Kingdom of God.

Conclusion

The Kingdom of God is a profound and transformative reality that Jesus invites us to seek above all else. As we prioritize the Kingdom, embrace repentance, and delve into the teachings of Jesus, we embark on a lifelong journey of discovery and growth. Despite opposition, the pursuit of the Kingdom promises spiritual fulfillment and divine provision.