Give me one hundred men who love only God with all their heart and hate only sin with all their heart and we will shake the gates of hell and bring in the kingdom of God in one generation. John Wesley

## TITLE: WE WELCOME YOUR KINGDOM

Ecclesiastes 10:5-7 <sup>5</sup> There is another evil I have seen under the sun. Kings and rulers make a grave mistake <sup>6</sup> when they give great authority to foolish people and low positions to people of proven worth. <sup>7</sup> I have even seen servants riding horseback like princes—and princes walking like servants!

Sad that princes who are called are confused walking when they should be riding. It is not saying we should not serve; it is saying that in that culture princes were supposed to be riding. Why? Because that was their rightful place of honor.

I do not adhere to nor endorse a poverty mindset for the believer. I never have. Something is out of alignment. I think the devil is out to assassinate your assignment and sabotage the KOG and if he can do that, you will be out of alignment with your calling, your purpose and your position. It is a travesty when we accept mediocrity and average as Gods will for your life. "Just getting by" is not a Kingdom mentality.

Choices can change your character. If one door closes it is for a reason. That is not where God wanted you. There is always better. Our lives saturated with the glory of God should be a living, breathing sign and wonder before the world.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. **The government** will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen! NKJV vs 7 **Of the increase of** *His* **government** and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Tertullian- 2<sup>nd</sup> century church leader said, "Christ came to set up the Kingdom of God on earth and to overthrow the power of satan."

Everything Jesus did was to get us somewhere. We celebrate what Jesus did but we forget what he did it for! He did not come to get you to heaven but to get heaven into you. He came to establish his Kingdom in your heart. He re-established his Kingdom Realm in you and me so the earth can be filled by it.

When Jesus taught the disciples how to pray, he gave them an important key to releasing the KOG on earth. Matthew 6: 9-10 "Your kingdom come, your will be done." He is telling his followers to pray that God will exercise his power and authority in the world so that his purposes and plans are accomplished in and through his people.

Luke 17:21 "The Kingdom of God is in the midst of you" Jesus was saying that God is here breaking into this reality. The KOG also means GOD HAS BECOME ONE KING.

Acts 1:2-3 NLT <sup>2</sup> until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit.<sup>3</sup> During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about **the Kingdom of God.** This is right after the resurrection before the ascension.

Acts 28:30-31 <sup>30</sup> For the next two years, Paul lived in Rome at his own expense.<sup>[a]</sup> He welcomed all who visited him, <sup>31</sup> boldly proclaiming the Kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ. And no one tried to stop him

Luke began Acts talking about the Kingdom and Paul finished talking about the Kingdom. Any idea why Paul was beheaded in Rome? Because in Rome Caesar was Lord and Paul was saying Jesus is Lord and His Kingdom will rule and reign. He taught people for 2 years right in the middle of Roman authority about the unseen Kingdom of God, which not too long after was seen and demonstrated all over the Roman empire.

**Mark 1:15** New Living Translation <sup>15</sup> "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"

What is the Kingdom of God? Matthew 6:10 tells us, "as it is in heaven" displayed on earth. The KOG is the rule of God. Where is it? Mark 1:15 says, "The Kingdom of God is at hand." "At hand" means it is always near.

Repent means to change your mind. Re= bring back, Pent=On top Repent means to re-establish your rightful position

The biggest difference between the Old and the New Covenant is the location of God.

Old- He was around or on you. New -he is in you

Problem back then was the people were looking for Political Revolution and a National Restoration. They wanted a warrior, a powerful figure that would control and dominate the land on behalf of the Jewish nation. They were looking for a rescue ranger, a buzz light year, a super hero to sweep in from the eastern skies.

But instead they got a carpenter's son, a servant, a story teller who spent more time with the marginalized misfits, the unknown, unsung, undesirable common people.

They had an expectation of someone who would confront Rome and the Religious regimes of the region.

Luke 4:43 NLT but he replied, "I must preach the Good News of the Kingdom of God in other towns, too, because that is why I was sent."

Luke 12:32 NLT "So don't be afraid, little flock. For it gives your Father great happiness to give you the Kingdom.

When is something not a gift? When you have to earn it!

Luke 17:20-21 <sup>20</sup> One day the Pharisees asked Jesus, "When will the Kingdom of God come?" Jesus replied, "The Kingdom of God can't be detected by visible signs.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>21</sup> You won't be able to say, 'Here it is!' or 'It's over there!' For the Kingdom of God is already among you.

These people could not see it because they hid behind the veil of the perception that traditionally held back the presence/reality of God.

Without being political, Jesus became a political threat to Herod because his influence radically began to change a culture.

Matthew 27:11 Now Jesus was standing before Pilate, the Roman governor. "Are you the king of the Jews?" the governor asked him. Jesus replied, "You have said it."

They killed him because he was a political threat; not intentionally. He won the hearts of people because he brought them into a revelation of his Kingdom. He introduced a new way a living, not a new party.

To this day, the kingdom of God is still a threat to modern day forces of darkness.

A changed heart is more of a threat than a full church!!

**John 18:36-37** Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world." <sup>37</sup> Pilate said, "So you are a king?" Jesus responded, "You say I am a king. Actually, I was born and came into the world to testify to the truth. All who love the truth recognize that what I say is true."

**NKJV** Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." <sup>37</sup> Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say *rightly* that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

Karl Thomas " The kingdom of God is not something that can be localized to a particular time or place. It is not a physical kingdom that can be pointed

to or observed. The Kingdom of God is a spiritual reality that his present wherever Jesus is honored as King."

THE KOG is in full expression when the people of God get a full revelation of who they are and it is from that place of identity that the Kingdom of God comes in full view. Without that revelation of identity church is relocated to an institution and its members are limited to a moral code of good works.

Every aspect of your life reflects your understanding of the KOG!! Your attitude, demeaner, your language, your work ethics, your giving. All of it is birthed from the womb of THE KINGDOM.

The kingdom is about people, not politics. It is about passion, not protest.

The evidence of the Signs of the times is not what you see on the corner of SUPERSTORE. Signs, bumper stickers, t-shirts have never led anyone to Jesus! It is what you see lived out in people, for the goodness of God leads people to repentance.

PEOPLE FULL OF THE COMPASSION OF CHRIST is what builds the Kingdom of God.

Acts 17 Paul and Silas then traveled through the towns of Amphipolis and Apollonia and came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. <sup>2</sup>As was Paul's custom, he went to the synagogue service, and for three Sabbaths in a row he used the Scriptures to reason with the people. <sup>3</sup>He explained the prophecies and proved that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead. He said, "This Jesus I'm telling you about is the Messiah." <sup>4</sup>Some of the Jews who listened were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, along with many God-fearing Greek men and quite a few prominent women.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>5</sup> But some of the Jews were jealous, so they gathered some troublemakers from the marketplace to form a mob and start a riot. They attacked the home of Jason, searching for Paul and Silas so they could drag them out to the crowd.<sup>[D]</sup> <sup>6</sup> Not finding them there, they dragged out Jason and some of the other believers<sup>[Q]</sup> instead and took them before the city council. "Paul and Silas have caused trouble all over the world," they shouted, "and now they are here disturbing our city, too. <sup>7</sup> And Jason has welcomed them into his home. They are all guilty of treason against Caesar, for they profess allegiance to another king, named Jesus." <sup>8</sup> The people of the city, as well as the city council, were thrown into turmoil by these reports. <sup>9</sup> So the officials forced Jason and the other believers to post bond, and then they released them. Kingdom defined: The domain over which the spiritual sovereignty of God or Christ extends whether in heaven or on earth.

There is a KING and he has a dominion and over that dominion is a DOME. THE Kingdom is the governing influence of a king over his territory impacting it with his will, his purpose and his intent. Producing a citizenry of people who reflect his culture and manifest his nature and glory.

We are not members of a church as much as we are citizens of the Kingdom of God and we come together corporately to praise our King, experience his presence, hear what He has to say through his servants and reproduce that culture in our area of influence.

What would this look like if we actually believed it and lived it? Modern day Christianity would look more like heaven than earth. The first thing out of your mouth would not be, What denomination are you?

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

NKJV. "For the kingdom of God *is* not in word (Logos) but in power. (Dunamis)"

Romans 4:17 For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. ....NLT but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

What does the Kingdom bring? <u>Righteousness, Peace and Joy in the</u> <u>Holy Spirit.</u> The Kingdom of God is in the Holy Spirit

We are not here each week to be consumers of word only but to be ignited to release the power of God throughout the week to heal the sick, cast out demons, raise the dead etc freely you receive now freely give. (MATTHEW 10:8)

I want to see a dunamis church. I want to see kids praying for their parents, I want to see young people make a stand in their High school, I want to see the SEE YOU AROUND THE POLE again. I want to see us actively engaged in outreach, sharing our faith, handing out sandwiches to the homeless and then praying for freedom!

Let us be a church that does the word and embodies the word. I pray that when we use the name of Jesus that all heaven breaks loose. Every kingdom has a Ruler and a Realm. It is not a place. It is a monarch and the exercise of his influence through his people. The Kingdom of God is expressed where his people have yielded to his authority and manifest his rule.

The power to change the world is not to develop the new Kingdom Party on Parliament Hill. The power to change the world is not from a leader or even a King but from the each and every individual here this morning who has embraced the teaching and live it out. There will be a transformation in the nation.

Changing the abortion laws is not in signs but the transformation of the heart of the mother.

Changing the drug culture is not changing the law but finding a way for the drug addict to overdose on Jesus and be delivered from the drug demon!

Isaiah 2:2 NIV "In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it."

NLT "In the last days, the mountain of the LORD's house will be the highest of all— the most important place on earth. It will be raised above the other hills, and people from all over the world will stream there to worship."

Mountains are symbols of influence. We are the Kingdom of God, and it is time we start identifying as such.

The 7 mountains of God are Family, Religion, Government, Business, Education, Arts and Entertainment, and Media. These are the seven areas that the Kingdom will reclaim.

The 7 Mountains of Influence, also known as the 7 Mountain Mandate, first came about in 1975 from Loren Cunningham, the founder of Campus Crusade, and Dr. Bill Bright, the founder of Campus Crusade for Christ (now known as Cru). Cunningham claimed that seven areas of influence will influence society. And if Christianity is to have an impact, we need to infiltrate and have power in all seven.

The name 7 mountains became associated with this movement based on the scripture verse out of Isaiah 2:2-3:

Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall

come and say,

*"Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths."* 

FEB 5, 2019 Crosswalk Magazine "We have also realized that it only takes 3-5% of a leadership operating at the top of a cultural mountain to shift the culture's view of an issue."

The answer is not retreat but renewal. Renew the heart and a heart will change the world

Why do you think we give 10% of our income to the Lord? We believe in the reason the church is here~~IT is not out of ritual, duty or even responsibility, it is out of my unwavering devotion to Jesus and the Kingdom of God.

Romans 5:17 NKJV <sup>17</sup> For if by the one man's <sup>[a]</sup>offense death reigned through the one, **much more** those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will **reign in life** through the One, Jesus Christ."

I want to reign in life! I want to be successful; I want to be the head and not the tail, I want to have more than enough and not sqeak by! I want to be blessed beyond measure and give more!

HOW?? Receive the gift of righteousness! Right thinking, Right living, Right giving and right receiving. I move in these things because it is a gift from God!

Colossians 1:12-13 New Living Translation <sup>12</sup> always thanking the Father. He has enabled you to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light.<sup>13</sup> For he has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.

Adam lost his rule not his relationship! He lost dominion not his DAD In order for Adam (MAN) to regain his right to rule, Jesus had come and get it back for Adam. Not only was the KOG restored but your right to rule in righteousness was as well.

Do not ever relinquish what Jesus gave his life for!! You now have authority to rule again! Stand Strong, Stand Firm and Stand up. Because if you don't

make a stand for something you will once again, like Adam, fall for anything!

Revelation 1:5-6-10 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who alloved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us block and priests to His God and Father, to Him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen

**REV 5:10** And have made <sup>[a]</sup>us kings<sup>[b]</sup> and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.

Why do think scripture says, GREATER is he who is in you than he that is in the world.?

**Religion** will always keep people on a treadmill of performance. **Religion** preoccupies man until he finds the Kingdom. **Religion** prepares man to leave earth. **The Kingdom of God** prepares man to dominate earth. **Religion** focuses on heaven, **The KOG** focuses on earth, **Religion** is trying to reach up to God-**The KOG** is coming down to man. **Religion** wants to escape earth-**The KOG** impacts, influences and changes earth. **Religion** seeks to take earth to heaven. **The KOG** seeks to bring heaven to earth.

The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus was just the start of the story.

Matthew 13;31 "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. <sup>32</sup> It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches."

Jesus made clear that the Kingdom of God is organic and not organizational. It grows like a seed and it works like leaven: secretly, invisibly, surprisingly, and irresistibly. Os Guinness

PEOPLE WILL COME TO THE KINGDOM ONCE IT TAKES ROOT,

WHO IS READY TO PLANT THE Kingdom of God???

MATTHEW 13:33 "The Kingdom of Heaven is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough." Everything that changed the world began with 120 people in an upper room who got an encounter from the Holy Spirit. 3000 came to Jesus that very day.