

# KINGDOM LIVING

Four things (4 P's) that we can enjoy and experience when we put the Lord and the things of the Kingdom first in our life are;



- ☐ PROTECTION
- ☐ PEACE,
- ☐ PURPOSE, and
- ☐ PROVISION



These can all be experienced and enjoyed when we accept and apply the wisdom and counsel of Jesus in Matthew 6:19-21 and Matthew 6:24-34

I will begin by looking at Matthew 6:19-21 & 24-34



**Jesus Himself said,**

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” **(Matthew 6:19-21)**

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

*(Matthew 6:24)*

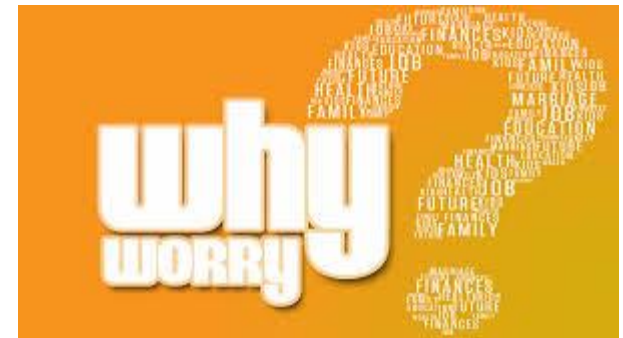


**Either our love for God or our desire for money and material things will influence our choices in life. Where our loyalty is will be reflected in how we use our money, time and talents**

“Therefore I say to you, **do not worry about your life**, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature”** (*Matthew 6:25-27*)



“So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?” **(Matthew 6:28-30)**



**“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. **For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.** But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”**  
**(Matthew 6:31-33)**



“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”  
**(Matthew 6:34)**



I will now look at these four things (4 P's) in turn

## Protection

- Firstly, there is no better place than being in the centre of God's will for our life. Nothing can ever happen to us apart from the will of God for our life when our lives are fully surrendered to the Lord



**Jesus Himself said, “Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will.”**

**“Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.” (Matthew 10:29 & 31)**



- We have however a very real adversary, the devil who is continually seeking to pull us away from God's will for our life and if possible to destroy all the good things that God has planned for our life

**Jesus Himself said,**

**“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy...”**

**(John 10:10)**



*"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.  
I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."  
John 10:10 (ESV)*

## **The Apostle Peter wrote,**

**“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.”  
(1 Peter 5:8-9)**



It is crucial that we always remain under God's umbrella of protection by walking in His will for our life

- **Walking in God's will for our life and abiding in His love is therefore firstly a great key to experiencing God's ongoing PROTECTION in our life. There is no safer place spiritually than being in the centre of God's will for our life**

**The Psalmist wrote, "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.**



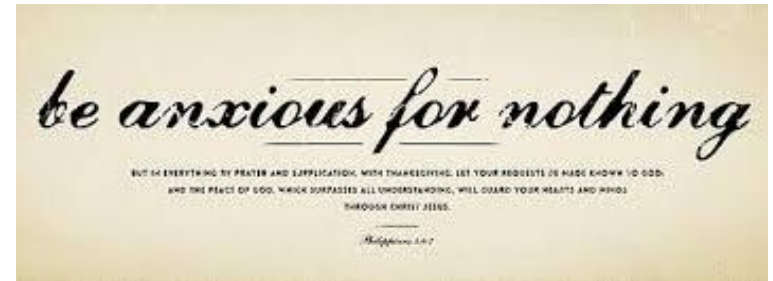
**I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust." Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler<sup>[a]</sup> And from the perilous pestilence." (Psalm 91:1-3)**

# Peace



- Peace comes from continually choosing to trust God in all circumstances and at all times
- We must simply choose to apply the counsel of Jesus to our own lives and not worry - Our heavenly Father knows what we have need of in life even before we ask

- Continually giving our cares IMMEDIATELY to the Lord in prayer helps to keep our heart and mind free of anxiety and stress



**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

**“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7)**

- **We have a God who is both willing and able to help us in time of need**

**“For with God nothing will be impossible”  
(Luke 1:37)**

- **We have a God who hears and answers our prayers.**



**The Apostle John wrote, “Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (1 John 5:14-15)”**

- Being God dependent helps us to also maintain our peace during life's trials and challenges

In the book of Isaiah we read,

“You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.” (Isaiah 26:3-4)

You keep  
him in **PERFECT**  
**PEACE** whose  
mind is  
stayed on You because  
**HE TRUSTS IN YOU.**  
Isaiah 26:3 tsv



- We have a God who is able to continually give us wisdom to make right choices in life
- We need to learn to always first seek God in faith for wisdom before we run around everywhere seeking the opinions of others
- God is also well able to connect us with the right people to speak into our lives and circumstances





**In the book of James we read,**

**“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.” **(James 1:5-8)****



- Learning to live one day at a time helps us not to be overwhelmed by future problems that we can do nothing about today
- God ALWAYS gives us the grace to handle today's problems and tasks
- Having great peace in our heart is also a great indicator that we are in the centre of God's will for our life - The place of God's favour and blessing
- SO SECONDLY WHEN WE PUT THE THINGS OF THE KINGDOM FIRST IN OUR LIFE WE CAN ENJOY GREAT PEACE IN OUR HEART EVEN DURING THE STORMS OF LIFE



# Purpose

- Purpose comes from knowing Christ intimately and in pursuing God's plan for our life – God has a unique unfolding plan for every believers life



## **The Apostle Paul wrote,**

**“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”  
(Ephesians 2:10)**

- Purpose comes from continually putting the Lord and His plan for our life first



- Living for the Kingdom Cause and continually doing things unto the Lord is a great key to living a life of great purpose and meaning even in the mundane things of life
- Living for the Kingdom cause will always help us to have right priorities in life such as appreciating quality time with our family and friends. The pull of the western world is always one of materialism which ultimately affects our relationships both with God and with others

- Living for the Kingdom Cause has eternal significance as we help to populate heaven AND to minister hope and encouragement to those in our world



- It is in flowing in God's will for our life that we experience great purpose and meaning in life

**Jesus Himself said,**

**“... I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10)**

- Joy and purpose and promotion in God's Kingdom comes from faithfully using our gifts and talents for the Kingdom Cause. We see this clearly in Jesus' Parable of the Talents

**Jesus said,**

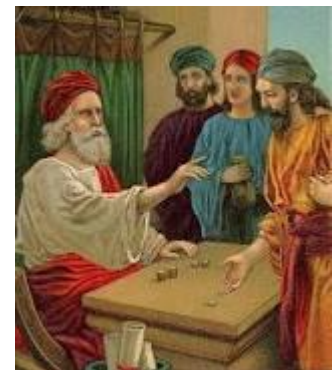
“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man travelling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey.” **(Matthew 25:14-15)**



“Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his Lord’s money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.” **(Matthew 25:16-19)**



“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ “His Lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. **Enter into the joy of your Lord.**” (Matthew 25:20-21)





“He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ “His Lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. **Enter into the joy of your Lord.**” (Matthew 25:22-23)



**Our highest life potential as believers comes from following God's Kingdom blueprint for our life – God's ways are higher than our ways**

**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

**“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,”  
**(Ephesians 3:20)****



**In the book of Isaiah we read,**

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.” **(Isaiah 55:8-9)**

**So thirdly as we pursue God’s Kingdom Cause for our life we will experience great PURPOSE in our life as we realise our full potential in Christ, AND**



# Provision

- When we truly put Christ first in our life and are committed to following God's will and plan for our life we can be assured that God will continually meet our every need in life



**Again Jesus said,**

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

- God knows how to meet our every need in life, how to open up the right doors of employment and to fund all that He calls us to do in life
- In every season of our life we can depend on God's faithfulness to meet our every need in life as we simply follow God's Kingdom plan for our life and the leading of the Holy Spirit.



**The Apostle Paul wrote,**

**“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”  
(Philippians 4:19)**

- God's blessings are also related to our diligence and hard work



- But we can be assured that as we put the Lord first place in our life and diligently follow His plan and career or ministry calling for our life, we will invariably see God blessing the work of our hands and meeting our every single need (and not greed) in life
- God will also bring into our lives the people that we need to help fulfil God's plan for our life

- In terms of faith missions trips and projects it is always as we step out by faith to commence them that God then begins to move on our behalf and supernaturally fund them. God's will is always God's bill

**In the book of Hebrews we read,**

**“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)**

- We must also never put God in a box. He is able to meet our needs in many different ways.



- So fourthly, when we put the things of the Kingdom first in our life and wholeheartedly pursue God's plan for our life we can depend upon God's faithfulness and promise to meet our every need in life
- That when we wholeheartedly live for the Kingdom Cause we will always see God's PROVISION for our life and our every need being met





## SO IN CONCLUSION

- If we serve mammon and our money is our security, we will never be totally secure, nor have a sense of being totally secure. Many people who were once rich have become bankrupt
- However, when we serve the Lord by putting the things of the Kingdom first, our future is absolutely secure
- Jesus made this clear when He said, “But Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things (what we need in life) SHALL be added to you.” **(Matthew 6:33)**



- So the question is where is our trust and which master are we serving? Jesus made it clear, “... You cannot serve God and mammon”  
**(Matthew 6:24)**



- Is money our servant or master?
- Is Jesus Christ truly Lord of all of our life?
- Is our trust in Christ alone?
- Is Christ first in EVERY area of our life?
- What is our heart focused on (the temporal or the eternal things?)

- **Are we truly seeking to follow God's counsel and direction in every area of our life?**



**IF YES we will experience on a consistent basis;**

- i) GOD'S PROTECTION**
- ii) GOD'S PEACE**
- iii) GREAT PURPOSE AND MEANING IN OUR LIFE, &**
- iv) GOD PROVIDING OUR EVERY NEED IN LIFE**

So that we can truly experience in our own life, the life and life more abundantly that Jesus spoke of as we also store up treasures in heaven for the life to come as we appreciate the importance of having Kingdom PRIORITIES in our life