

**“THE KINGDOM OF GOD”**  
**Session 3 “Living a Kingdom lifestyle”**  
**Rev. Rick Dietzman**  
**May 15, 2011**

INTRODUCTION

**What is our purpose in life?**

Colossians 2:2

*Paul said: “My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ.”*

**I. Becoming “World Christians”**

“God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life”

Law 1 of the 4 spiritual laws – published by Campus Crusade for Christ

“God loves his Son and has a wonderful plan for Him, to bring all the nations to His feet as Lord of all, and He loves you and me enough to give us a place in it.”

David Bryant “Beyond Loving the World”

- This is God’s Story
- We are included in His purposes
- We can see our role in these purposes

*Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...” Matthew 28:18*

Every \_\_\_\_\_ is called to live on \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinary people can \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

**II. God’s opportunities are investments**

*It will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. Matthew 25:14*

To those who invested well he said...

*'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' Matt 25:21*

Matthew 13:23

*The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!"*

Hebrews 6:10-15

*God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, in order to make your hope sure. We do not want you to become lazy, but to **imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised**. When God made his promise to Abraham, since there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and give you many descendants." And so after waiting patiently, Abraham received what was promised.*

### **We must not be foolish in our investing**

Ephesians 5:15-17

*Be very careful, then, how you live-- not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.*

**Expectation: If I sin I won't make it to \_\_\_\_\_**

**Mystery: If I sin I'll be \_\_\_\_\_ and squander a priceless inheritance**

*Ephesians 2:8-10 (New Living Translation)*

*God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.*

### **III. The great value of the kingdom:**

Matt 13:44-46

*"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.*

Hebrews 12:14-17

*Make every effort to live in peace with all people and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. He could bring about no change of mind, though he sought the blessing with tears.*

Ephesians 5:5-10

*For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person-- such a person is an idolater-- has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord.*

See also Galatians 5:19-23, I Corinthians 6:9-11 which also speak about inheritance.

## **What are we living for?**

Galatians 5:24-25

*Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

1Thessalonians 2:19-20

*Paul to the Thessalonians: "For what is our hope, our joy, or **the crown** in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? **Indeed, you are our glory and joy.**"*

Life on Purpose – living in step with the Spirit

**The practice of going:** immersing ourselves cross culturally

**The practice of welcoming:** connecting with those who come to us

**The practice of sending:** furthering God's work in the world

**The practice of mobilizing:** empowering others in God's kingdom purpose

