

Lesson 6B - Your True Identity - Living in the Kingdom of God, Walking as Royal Sons Reigning, Ruling, & Reflecting His Glory

Living in Father's Family in His Kingdom

1. He spent more time talking about the Kingdom than He did about any other topic.
 - Jesus came to re-introduce people to the idea of a loving Father and the Kingdom of God. **Matt. 6:10** All His actions and words demonstrated Kingdom principles.
 - Jesus also encouraged His followers to *"seek first the Kingdom of God..."* **Matt. 6:33**
2. Father's Kingdom is not speaking about the natural environment where we live or the customs, history, or make-up of any nation.
 - It is a **spiritual Kingdom** where **Father is King** and we all are **citizens of that Kingdom**.
 - In the Living Bible **Eph. 2:19** says, *"Now you are no longer strangers to God and foreigners to heaven, but you are members of God's own family, citizens of God's country and you belong in God's household..."*
 - We are to be ambassadors for His Kingdom to the entire world. **2 Cor. 5:18-20**
3. We were meant to live as princes in Father's kingdom, but too often we fail to see or act like we have a special place in Father's family.
 - *"There is an evil I have seen ... as an error proceeding from the ruler: I have seen **servants on horses, while princes walk on the ground like servants.**"* **Ecc. 10:5-7**
 - If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior and Lord, you are a part of Father's family and have a right to His kingdom.
 - *"...it is Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* **Luke 12:32** Will you receive all the good things Father has for you?
4. Some facts about Father's kingdom and how it functions are:
 - **The King owns everything** in a Kingdom and **there is no lack**. **Lev. 25:23, Ps. 24:1** We are stewards of what the King owns, and therefore, we should keep a loose grip on everything we have. But the King only looks as good as the subjects in His Kingdom, thus **He promises to take care of us and protect us** from all our enemies. **Ps. 65:11; Ps.91**
 - **We are all kings and priests** in God's Kingdom. **1 Cor. 4:8, Rev. 1:6-7** Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords. **1 Tim. 6:15** In this role of being a "king," **we are more like governors** over the colonies of the Kingdom. The governor represents the King in the colony and has the same authority and power as the King. The governor is not dependent on the area where he lives for his supplies and needs, but his needs come from the kingdom he represents.
 - **There is no time** in the Kingdom; it is **always now**. Father operates outside of time and is not limited by time. Jesus was slain before the foundations of the world, thus His death on the cross impacts all people for all time. **Rev. 13:8** We need to be aware of time because the world operates in time, but as far as living in the Kingdom, we are not limited by time. Faith is always **now!** **Heb. 11:1** *Healing, prosperity, health, blessing are **always now***, not some day in the future. We can live in the Kingdom and not be limited by time in this world; we can call our future into our present by the words we speak.

Royal Sons Reigning, Ruling and Reflecting His Glory

- **The Kingdom system operates on the principles of giving and receiving and sowing and reaping.** The world's system operates under the law of buying and selling and toil and sweat. **Gen. 3:17-19** We are to live from Father's kingdom through faith and prayer. *"Your Kingdom come, your will be done here on earth as it is in heaven."* **Matt. 6:10**

True Identity – Royal Sons & Daughters

1. We are all Father's children, *sons or daughters*, if we have made Jesus our Savior. We are also *joint heirs* with Christ since we are a part of His family. **Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 3:26-29**

- We are meant to *"bear the image of the heavenly Man"* which means you are to act like Jesus is today, a royal King! **1 Cor. 15:49**
- *Imagine if you were raised in a palace* and everyone told you that you are destined to be a king or queen. How would you feel and act? Others would be assigned to train you to act like your Father and walk like a king before you were ever crowned. **Gal. 4:1-6**
- Instead of feeling like a king or queen, many of us have grown up feeling we have no worth or significance. We see ourselves as paupers or lowly servants. Let's look at a couple of people's stories from the Bible and see how they learned to walk as royalty.
 - Father had **Moses**, who was born to slave parents, raised as a son of the king (pharaoh). He knew he had significance and he learned how to behave in the presence of royalty. Later Moses was used by Father to deliver the Israelites from Egypt.
 - **Solomon** was raised to be a king. He believed he'd interact with rulers and have influence. **1 Chron. 22:9-10; Prov. 23:1**
 - Mordecai raised **Esther** to believe she was significant and beautiful even though she was a Hebrew and an orphan. Once taken to the King's palace, she found favor in the sight of all who saw her, was crowned queen and later saved her people. **Est. 2:15**
- Our old life died when we were baptized. When we were raised up from the water, we are "in Christ" and received a crown! So start acting like a royal son or daughter!!!

2. **Royalty conducts their lives aware of their position.** They represent their Father's kingdom wherever they go. Do you present a true image of what Father's kingdom is like to others?

- Royalty knows **their identity isn't dependent on their performance or possessions**, but in their royal blood line. You are in the blood line of Jesus Christ! **1 Pet. 2:9; Rom. 8:29**
- They know there is an abundance to meet their needs so they **live secure in the blessings of the family**. They are about their Father's business, not money! **2 Cor. 9:8; Eph. 3:20**
- Royalty believes in the greatness inside them and **see themselves above situations with the resources and authority to deal with any problem**. **Phil. 4:19**
- They live knowing there is an **inheritance** to receive, not earn. We have an inheritance as part of Father's royal family. **Eph. 1:11 & 13-14; Col. 1:12; 1 Pet. 1:3-4**
- **Honor** is the attitude of nobility. Honor *expresses and sees the value in others*.
 - Kings and presidents give luxurious gifts to honor each other, not what is needed. The woman honored Jesus as she poured the costly ointment on His head. **Mark 14:3**
 - When the King of kings is inside you, you can honor all men even if they don't deserve it. The angel Michael did not treat his enemy with disrespect. **Jude 9-10**

Royal Sons Reigning, Ruling and Reflecting His Glory

- **Honor** is the cornerstone for **empowering our culture** and **eliminating the need for control**. We can compliment others with honor in our hearts and respect their choices
- Royal people have a powerful sense of justice in their souls that compels them to action against injustice. They desire to help others and they take action.

True Identity – Reigning and Ruling in Father's Kingdom

1. In the beginning, Father told His man to **have dominion** over all that He had made. He meant for us to reign and rule with Him. **Gen. 1:26, 28**
 - In Webster's 1828 dictionary, **dominion** is defined as *sovereign or supreme authority; the power of governing or controlling*.
 - In Hebrew **reign** means *to ascend to the throne, rule, have dominion, and have power*.
 - Even after Adam gave away his right to reign, through Father's covenant with His people, He promised them a place of ruling with Him. **Deut. 15:6** says, "*For the Lord your God will bless you just as He promised you... you shall reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over you.*"
2. There is a **difference** between having **dominion** and **dominating**.
 - We were meant to subdue and have dominion over things that Father created. **Ps. 8:6**
 - We are also to rule over all the spiritual darkness of Satan. **Luke 10:19; Phil. 2:9-10**
 - We were *never meant to dominate*, intimidate, put down or control another human being.
 - We must submit to Father ourselves, seeing Him as the One who shall reign forever. **Ex. 15:18; James 4:7**
3. We are **to rule and reign with Christ Jesus** over situations in our lives and stop the enemy.
 - Father seated Christ at His right hand in the heavenly places above all of the enemy's power. **Eph. 1:20-21**
 - Father has already **made us** (past tense) kings and priests and we shall reign on the earth. We are told we will be reigning with Him for a thousand years! **Rev. 5:10; Rev. 20:6**
 - **Eph. 2:6** says Father "*raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.*" We are meant to see ourselves above every problem and able to rule with Him. If you are seated above, when you look at problems they will look small!
 - It is **His grace** and **gift of righteousness** that places us in Christ and allows us to reign with Him. There may be challenges, but He will help us overcome. **Rom. 5:17, 21; 2 Tim. 2:12; Rom. 8:37**

True Identity – Reflecting His Glory

1. Father's plan is - Christ Jesus "**bringing many sons to glory!**" Father **crowned Jesus with glory and honor**. Now He wants us to look and act like Him! He is working to restore the image of God in us so that we reflect Him to the world! **Heb. 2:9-10**
 - **Glory** in Greek means *glory(ious), honor, praise, worship, glory as very apparent, union, be in the same way*. In Hebrew it means *weight in a good sense, splendor, copiousness, gloriously, honorable*. Someone has said glory means **heavy with everything good!**

Royal Sons Reigning, Ruling and Reflecting His Glory

- **Moses** asked to see God's glory and Father said, ***"I will make all My goodness pass before you."*** Father's glory is all His goodness. May we expect only good from Him! **Ex. 33:18-19**
 - If He is the *"Father of glory"* and Jesus is the *"Lord of Glory"* then we need to see our identity containing glory too! **Eph. 1:17; 1 Cor. 2:8**
 - The heavens and all creation declare the glory of God. As you look at the beauty of a flower, the sky, a river or any of Father's creation know that He made you glorious too! **Ps. 19:1; Phil. 3:21**
 - We were made to be vessels of His glory, crowned with glory and honor. **Rom. 9:23; Ps. 8:6**
2. All of creation is waiting for ***"the revealing of the sons of God for it will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into a glorious liberty"*** through us. **Rom. 8:19-22**
- In ourselves we have all fallen short of the glory of God, but we have been made right by faith in His grace. We can now stand in the hope of His glory. **Rom. 3:23; Rom. 5:2**
 - To manifest the glory of God, our flesh needs to be crucified so that we let His life come out of us. **Rom. 8:18; Gal. 2:20**
 - It is ***"Christ in you, the hope of glory."*** **Col. 1:27** Can you see Christ living His life through your body? Ask Him to be the One who responds to others and expect things to change!
 - The more we know our Father and Jesus our Lord, the more we will experience His divine power and His glory. Reading the Word and beholding the face and character of our God will bring us into glory too. **2 Pet. 1:2-3**
3. Father desires that we live our days ***"beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord."*** This will result in our continuing to be ***"transformed into the same image from glory to glory by the Spirit of the Lord."*** **2 Cor. 3:18**
- Our part is to behold or keep our focus on Him. We need to let that image be placed in our heart so we see Him in us and ourselves like Him! **2 Cor. 4:6**
 - We are meant to be a glorious church with no spot, wrinkle or blemish. **Eph. 5:27** It is time that we be that glorious church and reflect Him to the world.
4. **We are to be the light of the world**, so are we shining with Him and for Him? **Matt. 5:14**
- We are simply earthen vessels that hold the treasure of His light and glory in our hearts. Will you let His power and light flow through you to touch a hurting world? **2 Cor. 4:7**
 - **Be God-conscious and let His glory shine out of you. Isa. 60:1**
 - Will you put on Christ and the armor of light so that others may see and know your loving Father that is full of glory and goodness? **Rom. 13:12,14**
 - **Eph. 5:18** says ***"Now you are light in the Lord, walk as children of the light."***
 - The world will be filled with the glory of the Lord. **Isa. 40:5; Hab. 2:14** It is His glory in you that the world will see. As the world gets darker, even if you only have a little light or glory, it will seem like a bright light to those in darkness and light their way!

1. What area or areas of independence do you see yourself walking in the most? Repent for your independence and ask the Lord to give you a new way to respond.

2. Ask the Father, “What areas or ways do I still try to wear masks or allow the imposter to rule my life?” “What lies have I believed that have caused me to do this?” “How do I walk free from this?” Write down what He says.

3. Ask the Father, “In what ways do I still act more like an orphan and not as a son?” “Speak truth to me about how I should be thinking and acting.” Write down what He says.-

4. Ask Father how He wants you to start living out of His kingdom rather than out of the world and its ways?

5. What quality of being a royal son or daughter needs to be developed more in your life?

6. What situation in your life has made you feel powerless to change it? Ask Father how to see yourself ruling and reigning over that situation.

Journal – Re-read Isaiah 60:1 in different versions. Next ask Father to remind you of past times when you or others have been aware of His glory shining out of you. Be thankful. Finally, ask Him to show you His glory (like Moses did) in a brand new way and record what He shares.