



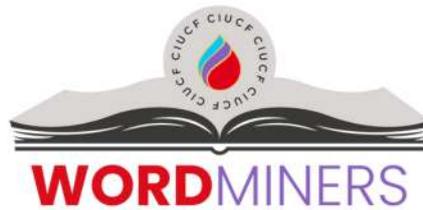
# Reflections

(A monthly Devotional Series)

A publication of  
CIU Christian Fellowship Bible Study Unit

## WORD MINERS

**MAY 2025 EDITION**



# Reflections

(A monthly Devotional Series)

A publication of  
The Bible Study Unit  
Cyprus International University Christian Fellowship (CIUCF)

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# INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME FOR MAY 2025

By Pst. Desire Awoh

The phrase "Thy Kingdom Come" is more than a line in the Lord's Prayer—it is a divine mandate and a cry for the establishment of God's rule, reign, and righteousness on earth. As believers, we are not just saved to escape hell; we are saved and sent as ambassadors of a greater Kingdom with a higher calling. This month, we journey into understanding God's Kingdom Agenda—His master plan for manifesting His will on earth through His people.

The Kingdom of God is not a place limited by geography or politics; it is the rule of God in the hearts and lives of those who submit to His authority. Jesus preached more about the Kingdom than anything else during His earthly ministry, declaring its arrival and inviting all to enter, live by its values, and extend its influence. This Kingdom operates with principles radically different from the world's—love instead of hate, truth instead of deception, service instead of domination, and holiness instead of compromise.

To understand and walk in the Kingdom Agenda, we must know its purpose, embrace its culture, live by its principles, and carry its message with urgency. God's desire has always been for His will to be done "on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). That means every believer plays a role in bringing heaven's perspective to earthly realities—in families, communities, workplaces, and nations.

Throughout this month, we will explore what it means to be citizens of God's Kingdom, how to live under His government, and how to influence the world around us without being conformed to it. From the character of the King to the culture of His people, from personal transformation to public witness, we will uncover the divine strategies for manifesting the Kingdom in our generation. As we dive into these truths, may our hearts burn with fresh passion for the King and His purposes. May we be equipped not just with knowledge but with conviction and clarity to live out the Kingdom Agenda daily. The Kingdom of God is within us—now it's time to live it out for the world to see.

**Desire Awoh,  
Lead Pastor**

REFLECTIONS

# KINGDOM AGENDA (Pt. 1)

MAY

01

TEXTS:

**Memory Verse:**



# KINGDOM AGENDA (Pt. 2)

TEXTS:

**Memory Verse:**



# WHAT IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

**TEXTS:** Luke 17:20–21; Romans 14:17; Matthew 6:33

MAY

03

## Memory Verse:

*“AFor indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.”  
Luke 17:21 (NKJV)*



The term "Kingdom of God" is one of the most central and repeated themes in Jesus' teachings. Yet for many, it still feels abstract or distant. When the Pharisees asked Jesus when the Kingdom of God would come, He responded that the Kingdom is not something that can be observed with signs. "The kingdom of God is within you," He said (Luke 17:20–21). This shifts the understanding of God's Kingdom from being merely a future physical realm to something active and present – something spiritual and internal.

The Kingdom of God refers to the reign and rule of God over all creation, especially in the hearts and lives of His people. It's not limited by geography, politics, or borders. It is wherever God's will is being done and His authority is being honored. Jesus began His ministry by declaring, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 4:17), signaling that the Kingdom had broken into the world through His presence and mission.

Romans 14:17 further clarifies what the Kingdom of God consists of: "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit." These are internal qualities, not external laws or rituals. The Kingdom is not about eating or drinking or ceremonial acts; it is about living under the influence and authority of the Holy Spirit in our everyday lives. This means that the Kingdom is not a place we go to but a life we live.

To seek the Kingdom of God, as Jesus teaches in Matthew 6:33, is to prioritize God's rule and His way of doing things above all else. It means choosing righteousness over compromise, peace over conflict, and joy in the Spirit over temporary pleasures. When we make God's Kingdom our first pursuit, everything else falls into place, because we are aligned with the order of heaven.

Ultimately, the Kingdom of God is both now and not yet. It is already here—in our hearts, in the church, in our obedience—but it will one day come in fullness when Christ returns to reign visibly over all creation. Until then, we are called to live as Kingdom citizens, carrying its values and representing its King.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How have you experienced the Kingdom of God in your life recently?
2. What areas of your life still need to come under the Lordship of Jesus?

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of Your Kingdom. Help me to understand more deeply what it means to live under Your rule and to reflect Your righteousness, peace, and joy. Let my heart be a place where Your Kingdom is alive and active. Reign in every area of my life, and teach me to seek You first in all things. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Take 10 minutes today to surrender a specific area of your life (such as your thoughts, decisions, or habits) to God's rule. Consciously invite Him to reign there and look for one way to practice righteousness, peace, or joy in that area today.



REFLECTIONS

# RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

MAY

04

# THE PURPOSE OF THE KINGDOM ON EARTH

MAY

05

**TEXTS:** Matthew 6:10; Genesis 1:26–28; Habakkuk 2:14

## Memory Verse:

*“Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”*  
**Matthew 6:10 (NKJV)**



When Jesus taught His disciples to pray, He didn't tell them to wish for escape from the earth. Instead, He instructed them to pray: “Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10). This powerful line reveals the divine intent that heaven's order, justice, love, and truth should invade and transform earthly systems. The Kingdom of God is not about abandoning the earth; it is about transforming it until it mirrors the reign of God.

From the beginning, God's purpose was that the earth be filled with His glory through mankind. In Genesis 1:26–28, God gave humanity dominion and charged them to be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. This wasn't merely about population growth—it was about reproducing His image-bearers, who would govern creation under His leadership. The fall disrupted this plan, but through Jesus Christ, the original purpose is being restored. God's Kingdom on earth is about reestablishing His righteous rule through redeemed humanity.

The Kingdom of God exists on earth to manifest God's character and power in every sphere—family, government, education, business, media, arts, and the church. It's not confined to church buildings or religious rituals. Wherever God's people live out His principles—truth, justice, love, humility, and holiness—the Kingdom is being expressed. This is why Jesus called us “salt” and “light” (Matthew 5:13–16)—agents of transformation in a decaying and dark world.

God's ultimate goal is not just to save individuals, but to establish His reign across the nations. Habakkuk 2:14 declares, “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.”

Likewise, Revelation 11:15 reveals the end goal of history: “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.” This shows that God’s Kingdom is not a religious escape plan but a redemptive takeover — an invasion of love, justice, and truth that transforms the world.

As citizens of this Kingdom, we are co-laborers with God. We bring His reign into our world by being ambassadors of His values, agents of His authority, and vessels of His Spirit. Our lives should reflect heaven’s order wherever we go — at work, in school, online, and at home. The Kingdom of God has a purpose on earth: to reveal God’s glory, restore His order, and redeem all things through Jesus Christ.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. In what areas of your life can you better reflect the values and priorities of God’s Kingdom?
2. How can you use your influence to bring God’s reign into a specific sphere (e.g., your workplace, family, or community)?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for revealing the purpose of Your Kingdom on earth. Help me to live each day with a heavenly mindset and an earthly mission. Let Your Kingdom come through my thoughts, my actions, and my influence. Use me to restore what is broken and to reflect Your glory in every area of life. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify one area in your environment — your home, workplace, or community — where God’s order or values are not yet evident. Take one intentional step today to reflect the Kingdom there, whether through a kind act, a word of truth, a prayer, or a principled stand.



# GOD'S ORIGINAL AGENDA FOR MANKIND

**TEXTS:** Genesis 1:26–28; Psalm 8:4–6; Ephesians 2:10

MAY

06

## Memory Verse:

*“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion...’”*

**Genesis 1:26a (NKJV)**



Before sin entered the world, before there was a fall, pain, or confusion — there was purpose. God created mankind with a clear and powerful agenda. In Genesis 1:26–28, we see that God's original intent was for humans to be His image-bearers on earth, reflecting His character, nature, and authority. He made us in His likeness and gave us dominion over all creation — not to exploit it, but to steward it as His representatives. This was not just a physical mandate; it was a spiritual one rooted in identity and mission.

God's agenda for mankind was relationship and rulership. He created man to walk in fellowship with Him and to govern creation in alignment with His will. Psalm 8:4–6 reinforces this truth: God made humans “a little lower than the angels” and crowned them “with glory and honor,” giving them dominion over the works of His hands. This shows the high value God places on human life and responsibility. We were never meant to live aimlessly or under oppression; we were created to reign with God's wisdom and love.

Unfortunately, sin disrupted this original agenda. Mankind's disobedience fractured the connection between Creator and creation. Instead of walking in dominion, man became subject to fear, sin, and death. But the good news is that in Christ, God is restoring His original plan. Ephesians 2:10 says we are “His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” Through salvation, we are not just rescued from sin; we are restored to purpose.

God still desires a people who reflect His image and carry out His will on the earth. Every believer has been invited into this grand Kingdom assignment — to rule not with worldly power, but with spiritual authority grounded in righteousness, peace, and joy.

This means that your daily life, choices, and calling are part of a bigger agenda — to display God’s character and influence your world for His glory.

Understanding God’s original agenda helps us reject lesser purposes and live with divine intentionality. You were made for more than survival or self-promotion. You were made to walk with God, represent Him, and extend His Kingdom in everything you do. Purpose isn’t something you invent; it’s something you discover in the presence of the One who designed you.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. In what ways have you embraced or neglected God’s original purpose for your life?
2. How can you better reflect God’s image and influence in your daily environment?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for creating me in Your image and for giving me purpose. Forgive me for the times I’ve lived below Your intention for my life. Restore in me a clear sense of calling and responsibility. Help me to walk in fellowship with You and reflect Your nature wherever I go. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Spend a few quiet minutes today meditating on Genesis 1:26–28. Write down one area of your life — work, relationships, service — where you will intentionally reflect God’s image and take dominion through obedience, excellence, or love.



# THE KING AND HIS DOMAIN

TEXTS: Psalm 24:1–2; Revelation 19:16; Colossians 1:15–17

MAY

07

## Memory Verse:

*“The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.”*

**Psalm 24:1 (NKJV)**



In every kingdom, there is a king and a domain—a realm over which the king rules. The Kingdom of God is no different. At the center of this Kingdom is a King: Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords (Revelation 19:16). He is not just a symbolic or religious figure; He is the sovereign Ruler over all creation, with unmatched authority, dominion, and power.

Psalm 24:1–2 establishes the scope of God’s domain: “The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein.” Everything—every land, every nation, every system, and every life—belongs to Him. There is nothing outside His jurisdiction. This truth is foundational to understanding the Kingdom of God. It’s not limited to a church building or a religious group; His rule extends over all things.

Jesus affirmed this when He declared in Matthew 28:18, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” As King, Jesus reigns over both the seen and unseen realms. Colossians 1:16–17 says that all things were created through Him and for Him, and in Him all things hold together. This means His rule is not only rightful but also sustaining. He doesn’t just sit on a throne in heaven; He actively upholds the universe and guides history toward His purpose.

Understanding the domain of the King changes how we live. If Jesus is King over all, then our response must be one of submission and stewardship. We do not own our lives, talents, or possessions—they belong to the King. Our responsibility is to align every aspect of our lives with His will. Whether it’s our work, relationships, finances, or time, everything should be lived under the authority and direction of the King.

At the end of the day, acknowledging the King and His domain means living with reverence and purpose. It means rejecting the lie that there are "secular" areas exempt from God's rule. In God's Kingdom, every area of life is sacred and subject to His reign. When we live this way, we become true Kingdom citizens — ambassadors who represent the King and expand His influence in every space we occupy.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Are there areas of your life that you've been managing as if they belong to you instead of the King?
2. How can you intentionally bring one part of your daily life under Christ's authority today?

### **Prayer:**

King Jesus, I acknowledge You as Lord over all. Forgive me for the times I've lived as if I ruled myself. I surrender every part of my life to Your authority. Teach me to live in alignment with Your will and to represent Your Kingdom with faithfulness and honor. In Your holy name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Today, choose one specific area of your life (e.g., how you use your time, your words, or your finances) and commit it fully to the Lordship of Jesus. Take a practical step to show He is King in that area — whether by making a change, setting a boundary, or serving someone in obedience.



# KINGDOM CULTURE & IDENTIFICATION

**TEXTS:** Acts 11:26; Matthew 5:14–16; Romans 12:1–2

MAY

08

## Memory Verse:

*“And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.”*  
**Acts 11:26b (NKJV)**



In Acts 11:26, we read a profound statement: “The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.” This wasn’t because they wore badges or introduced themselves with titles. The people around them could see that they were different. The way they lived, loved, spoke, and carried themselves reflected the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Their identity was so marked by Christ that outsiders named them after Him—Christians, meaning “little Christs.” This is a perfect picture of Kingdom culture producing visible identification.

The Kingdom of God has a culture—a set of values, behaviors, priorities, and standards that are rooted in heaven and expressed on earth. As Kingdom citizens, we are not just called to believe in Jesus but to live like Him. In Matthew 5:14–16, Jesus calls us “the light of the world,” and commands us to let our light shine before men so they can see our good works and glorify the Father. Our culture must be visible: in our kindness, our patience, our purity, our generosity, and our truthfulness.

Kingdom culture is counter-cultural. Romans 12:2 urges us not to be conformed to the patterns of this world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. When the world promotes self, we walk in humility. When the world tolerates compromise, we choose holiness. Philippians 2:14–15 calls us to live “blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” In such contrast, our identity in Christ becomes unmistakable.

It is not enough to attend church or carry Christian labels—our lives must preach the message. Kingdom ambassadors don’t only represent Christ with their words, but more importantly, through their lifestyle. Our speech, our choices, our relationships, and even our online presence must be consistent with the culture of God’s Kingdom.

As 1 Peter 2:9 reminds us, we are “a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people,” and we are meant to “proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

When we truly embrace Kingdom culture, we become living billboards of heaven on earth. The world should not be confused about where our allegiance lies. Like the early believers in Antioch, our conduct should provoke recognition—even admiration—from those who watch us. Let your life be a clear and bold declaration: I belong to Jesus, and I live by His Kingdom’s values.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Can people around you clearly identify you as a follower of Christ without you having to say it?
2. What specific area of your life needs more alignment with Kingdom values?

### **Prayer:**

Lord, I desire to be a true representative of Your Kingdom in all I do. Help me to live in a way that reflects Your love, truth, and righteousness. Let my lifestyle point others to You and bring glory to Your name. Give me the grace to boldly embrace Kingdom culture and reject anything that does not reflect You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Today, evaluate your lifestyle and choose one area — whether speech, attitude, dress, media consumption, or relationships — that needs to better reflect Kingdom culture. Make one intentional change that clearly identifies you as a Kingdom citizen.



# NOT OF THIS WORLD

**TEXTS:** John 17:15–16; 1 John 2:15–17

MAY

09

## Memory Verse:

*“They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.”*  
**Ephesians 17:16 (NIV)**



The Bible tells us that the values of this world often go against what God wants. In the Bible, “the world” often refers not to people or the physical earth, but to the sinful system of values that stand in opposition to God.

1 John 2:15–17 clearly lists what “worldliness” looks like: The lust of the flesh (craving sinful pleasure), The lust of the eyes (materialism and envy), The pride of life (self-centered ambition). As followers of Jesus, we are called to live differently. Being “not of this world” means having hearts and minds that are transformed by God. This change affects how we think, what we value, and how we live each day. Instead of following the ways of the world, we follow the ways of God.

Jesus showed us how to do this. Even though He lived among people, He didn’t live like the world. He loved others, helped them, and walked with them in everyday life — but He always pointed them toward God and His kingdom.

Living for God doesn’t mean we stay isolated from the world. It means we stay involved in life, but with a different purpose. We choose not to follow the world’s ways of pride, greed, or selfish desires. Instead, we stay loyal to God and His agenda.

The Bible reminds us that we are citizens of heaven (Philippians 3:20). Even while we live on earth, we live:

- As holy people — chosen and set apart (1 Peter 2:9)
- As Christ’s ambassadors — representing Him in everything we do (2 Corinthians 5:20)
- With a heavenly mindset — storing up treasures in heaven, not just chasing things here (Matthew 6:19–20)

When we fix our minds on God’s kingdom, it changes how we treat others, how we make decisions, and how we see ourselves. We don’t need to chase approval from the world. Our identity is safe and strong in God.

Being “Not of This World” means giving our highest loyalty to God — the One who rules over all but is also close to us. It means living with purpose, with hope, and with integrity. It means staying grounded in the Bible and doing our part to show God’s love and truth here on earth.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Are there any areas in your life where you’ve been more influenced by the world than by God’s Word?
2. What does being “not of this world” look like in how you talk, spend, dress, or use social media and modern technology?

### **Prayer:**

Dear Lord, help me live in this world without becoming like it. Remind me daily that my true identity is in You not in what the world says about me. Give me the strength to stand firm in Your truth, even when it's hard. Teach me to love others without compromise and to reflect Jesus in every area of my life.



### **Recommended Action:**

Today, reflect on the mindset that guides your actions in every area of life, and choose one way you can begin to forsake any worldly mindsets that you may have embraced maybe by turning off toxic content, choosing kindness over pride, love over selfishness etc.



TEXTS: Romans 14:20-21; 1 Peter 1:15-16

**Memory Verse:**

*“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”* **Matthew 5:16 (KJV)**



Holiness is the fruit we bear as people who are constantly transformed. However, the theme of this devotional is for us to understand that holiness isn't just personal, but it is in exercising our freedom with responsibility, love, and consideration for others.

Paul addresses different categories of people— weak in faith (holding on to Jewish dietary laws and customs) and those liberated in their understanding of Christian freedom. Paul doesn't criticize those weak in faith; rather, he gives a responsibility to those liberated in their understanding to “live in a way that doesn't cause their weaker sister or brother to stumble”.

We understand that holiness is relational. It's how we live in community, considering the spiritual well-being of others above our own freedoms and preferences. We are to constantly think about whether our actions, though not sinful, may cause others to sin, cause disunity and division among believers.

The balance to this is not that we turn a blind eye to what the Bible outrightly points out as sin, but rather disputable matters (quarrel of opinions), disagreements where it is permissible for believers to act in different ways. While we sacrifice personal freedoms for the sake of others' spiritual well-being, we must never compromise on the truth of God's Word when it comes to clear sin. Love calls us to act— both in sacrificial kindness and in standing firm against sin. We should restore gently, but also act firmly when necessary, always seeking to lead others back to holiness and closer to Christ.

Holiness is sacrificial living, just as Jesus did; we can also sacrifice our personal liberties. Christ's holiness was demonstrated through His self-giving love. In the Kingdom of God, holiness is not about clinging to what's rightfully ours but giving up for the benefit of others.

Our heart posture should be that of unity and peace in the body which is central for the advancement of God's kingdom here on earth.

Holiness as kingdom citizens is living in a way which reflects our understanding that love, joy and peace are defining characteristics of God's kingdom. There's no holiness if the characteristic of our king isn't reflected.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Are there any areas in your life where your personal freedom might be causing confusion or stumbling for a fellow believer?
2. How can you reflect the holiness of God more clearly in your relationships and daily interactions with others?

### **Prayer:**

Lord, thank You for choosing me to be part of Your holy people. Teach me to walk in a way that reflects Your heart and character. Help me not only to pursue personal purity but to live with love, compassion, and consideration for those around me. Give me wisdom to balance truth with grace, and let my life promote unity and peace in the Body of Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify one area of personal freedom (a habit, preference, or lifestyle choice) that may be misunderstood or harmful to someone weaker in the faith. Choose to lovingly limit or adjust it this week out of consideration for others, while also reaching out to encourage or disciple a fellow believer who may be struggling.



REFLECTIONS

# RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

MAY

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# THE GREAT COMMISSION: KINGDOM EXPANSION

MAY  
12**TEXTS:** Matthew 28:18–20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:14–15

## Memory Verse:

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”*  
**Matthew 28:19a (ESV)**



The Great Commission is not merely a farewell speech from Jesus; it is the strategic blueprint for the expansion of God's Kingdom on earth. After His resurrection, Jesus declared, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:18–19). These words form the foundation of our Kingdom mission. They are not optional – they are a mandate. The King has commissioned His people to carry out His will across the earth.

Kingdom expansion is not done through military force or political domination but through the proclamation of the Gospel and the transformation of lives. In Mark 16:15, Jesus said, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.” The strategy is simple yet profound: preach, teach, baptize, and disciple. The message we carry has the power to change lives, families, communities, and nations. Each believer is a carrier of the Kingdom, and every heart won to Christ becomes a new territory reclaimed for the King.

In Acts 1:8, Jesus further outlines the reach of this mission: “You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” This reveals the progressive nature of the Kingdom's spread – starting locally and then extending globally. The power of the Holy Spirit enables this expansion, giving boldness, wisdom, and effectiveness in witnessing. The Kingdom is not confined to church buildings; it moves through marketplaces, classrooms, homes, and even online platforms.

Paul's words in Romans 10:14–15 emphasize the urgency of our assignment: “How can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?” The Kingdom cannot expand without messengers. We are ambassadors of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20), entrusted with the message of reconciliation. Our daily lives, conversations, and actions should point others to the King and His Kingdom.

The Great Commission calls every believer — not just pastors or missionaries — to engage. Some will go across nations, others across the street. Some will preach in pulpits, others in lunchrooms or classrooms. Wherever we are, we carry the strategy of the Kingdom within us. The expansion of God’s Kingdom on earth depends on our obedience, our love for the lost, and our willingness to be used.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. In what ways are you currently participating in the expansion of God’s Kingdom?
2. Who in your life needs to hear the message of the Kingdom, and how can you reach them this week?

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, thank You for entrusting me with the privilege and responsibility of expanding Your Kingdom. Fill me with boldness, compassion, and wisdom as I carry the message of Christ to others. Help me to see every opportunity around me to be a witness, and empower me by Your Spirit to speak and act in love and truth. May I never be passive or silent in this mission. Use me to bring many into Your Kingdom. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify one person in your sphere of influence who does not yet know Christ. Pray for them and intentionally create an opportunity this week to share the message of God’s love — through a conversation, an act of kindness, or an invitation to church or a faith-based event.



# DISCIPLING NATIONS

**TEXTS:** Matthew 28:19–20; Isaiah 2:2–3; Revelation 7:9–10

MAY

13

## Memory Verse:

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”*

**Matthew 28:19–20a (NIV)**



When Jesus commissioned His followers to "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19), He wasn't merely calling them to evangelize individuals; He was revealing a vision for global transformation. Discipling nations means shaping cultures, systems, and values according to the teachings of Christ. It is a call to influence not only hearts but also homes, governments, education, media, and economies with the principles of the Kingdom of God.

In Isaiah 2:2–3, the prophet foresaw a time when "all nations" would stream to the mountain of the Lord to be taught His ways. This echoes the heart of God for nations to be instructed in righteousness and walk in His paths. Discipling nations is more than converting people; it involves teaching obedience to the ways of Christ in every sphere of society. It's about transforming worldviews and aligning them with God's truth.

Paul's mission reflects this strategy. In Colossians 1:28–29, he declares his labor was not just to preach but to present everyone mature in Christ. Discipleship involves growth, accountability, and ongoing teaching. A disciplined person lives with Kingdom values and influences others to do the same. This ripple effect, when multiplied, begins to reform entire communities, cities, and eventually, nations.

Acts 17:26–27 reminds us that God determines the times and places where people and nations exist so they might seek Him. Every culture holds redemptive potential—unique gifts and callings that God desires to align with His purposes. The goal of discipling nations is not to erase cultures, but to redeem and direct them toward God's original design. Revelation 7:9–10 gives us the glorious picture of this end—people from every nation and tribe worshiping before the throne.

As believers, we are called to disciple where we are and where we are sent — whether in our local community or through missions, education, media, politics, or business. We must not limit discipleship to the four walls of the church. The Kingdom spreads when believers carry the Word into their professions and nations begin to reflect the reign of Christ in their systems and values. This is the heartbeat of discipling nations.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What sphere of influence has God placed you in, and how can you use it to teach and model the ways of the Kingdom?
2. Are you discipling others toward maturity in Christ, or simply sharing the gospel without follow-through?

### **Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, thank You for calling me to be part of Your Kingdom mission to disciple nations. Teach me to think beyond individual salvation and to see the bigger picture of Kingdom influence in every culture and system. Help me to live and teach Your truth in ways that bring transformation. Use me to raise disciples who will in turn disciple others. Let Your glory be revealed in every nation through Your Church. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify a specific area of influence in your life — such as your workplace, neighborhood, or online presence — and commit to intentionally model and teach Kingdom principles there. Start a Bible study, share biblical wisdom regularly, or mentor someone in their faith journey with the goal of long-term discipleship.



# SALT OF THE EARTH: PRESERVING KINGDOM VALUES

TEXTS: Matthew 5:13; Leviticus 2:13; Colossians 4:6

MAY  
14

## Memory Verse:

*"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything..."*

**Matthew 5:13a (NIV)**



In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus referred to His disciples as the “salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13). This was no casual metaphor. Salt in biblical times was not only a flavor enhancer but a preservative—it was what kept things from decaying. In the same way, believers are called to preserve the values of God’s Kingdom in a world that is prone to moral and spiritual decay. It is part of our responsibilities as Kingdom ambassadors to battle the moral and spiritual decadence that plagues our world.

The role of salt implies both influence and integrity. Salt does not have to be loud to be effective—it simply has to be present and potent. As believers, our presence in schools, offices, families, and society at large should preserve truth, promote righteousness, and challenge corruption. When we live by Kingdom values—truth, love, justice, humility, holiness—we act as salt that slows the decay of sin and preserves what is good (Romans 12:2).

Leviticus 2:13 reveals that every grain offering in the Old Testament had to be seasoned with salt, symbolizing a covenant relationship with God. In the New Covenant, we are the “living sacrifices” (Romans 12:1), and our lives must reflect the purity and flavor of Kingdom values. When believers compromise truth or conform to worldly standards, we risk losing our “saltiness”—our ability to preserve, impact, or influence. When we lose our saltiness, we lose our purpose and benefit to the kingdom.

In Colossians 4:6, Paul urges believers to let their speech be “always with grace, seasoned with salt.” This shows that salt is also about the tone and quality of our witness. How we speak, live, and interact with others should reflect the character of our King. We don’t just carry Kingdom values—we display them through our words, work, relationships, and responses.

To preserve Kingdom values is to stand firm when the world is shifting, to love when the world grows cold, and to hold fast to God’s truth when compromise is convenient. Titus 2:7–8 urges us to set an example by doing what is good and showing integrity in our teaching. Our daily lives must reinforce the reality of God’s rule, making people long for the Kingdom we represent. Salt that stays salty changes everything it touches.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. In what ways can you preserve godly values in your current environment without conforming to its pressures?
2. Has your “saltiness” diminished in any area of your life, and what steps do you need to take to restore it?

### **Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, thank You for calling me to be the salt of the earth. Help me to preserve Your values in a world that is drifting from Your truth. Strengthen me to stand firm in love, righteousness, and integrity. May my life bring flavor to the spaces I occupy and draw others closer to You. Keep me from compromise, and empower me to reflect Your holiness every day. In Your name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify one specific area in your life — whether at work, school, or home — where compromise is common. Choose a practical way to uphold and model a Kingdom value in that space today. It could be truthfulness, humility, compassion, or purity — live it out intentionally and encourage others by your example.



# AMBASSADORS OF CHRIST

TEXTS: 2 Corinthians 5:17–21, Philippians 3:20, John 17:15–18

MAY

15

## Memory Verse:

*“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.”*

**2 Corinthians 5:20 (NIV)**



An ambassador is a carefully selected representative, entrusted with the responsibility of conveying the values, interests, and instructions of their home country while living in a foreign land. As believers in Christ, we have been called to serve as ambassadors of the Kingdom of God—a Kingdom not of this world but one that operates through righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17).

2 Corinthians 5:20 teaches that we are not just followers—we are divine representatives. God is making His appeal to the world through us. This role shapes our identity, defines our purpose, and gives us a sense of holy responsibility. We are not here to promote personal agendas or blend into worldly systems but to boldly live out Heaven’s message in a way that reflects our King.

Philippians 3:20 reminds us that our citizenship is in Heaven, and though we live in this world, our allegiance and values must mirror our true homeland. Just as an earthly ambassador does not adopt the customs of the foreign land they live in, we are not to conform to the patterns of this world (Romans 12:2). Instead, we are to model the lifestyle of Heaven—demonstrating grace, truth, love, integrity, and power.

Jesus Himself prayed in John 17:15–18 that though His followers are in the world, they are not of it. He sent them out with a mission—to be influential voices and visible models of the Kingdom. Our words should carry the authority of the King, our actions should reflect His heart, and our relationships should point others to the hope of the Gospel. In a broken world, our ambassadorship is God’s strategy for transformation.

To be an ambassador of Christ is both a privilege and a daily calling. It means living intentionally, knowing that our lives are not our own. We are commissioned to reveal Christ to a world that is watching and searching. Our lives must become living messages—showing who Christ is, how His Kingdom operates, and what Heaven truly looks like when it touches earth.

### Reflection Questions:

1. In what areas of my life do I act more like a citizen of the world than a citizen of Heaven?
2. What message does my lifestyle send about the kingdom I belong to?

### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the privilege of being called Your ambassador. Help me to live each day as a faithful representative of Your Kingdom. Let my speech, actions, and decisions reflect Your love and truth. Empower me to be bold in sharing the message of reconciliation and to walk in alignment with Heaven's culture. I surrender my life for Your purpose. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### Recommended Action:

Start each day this week with the mindset: "**I represent Heaven today.**" Before you speak, respond, or make any major decision, pause and ask, "*Does this represent Christ well?*" Let your life be a visible and consistent message of the Kingdom.



# LIVING BY KINGDOM VALUES

TEXTS: Romans 12:1–2; Titus 2:11–12; Galatians 5:22–23

MAY

16

## Memory Verse:

*“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”*

**Romans 12:2 (NIV)**



The Kingdom agenda is God’s design for total life transformation — an inward change that produces outward evidence. Paul begins Romans 12 by urging believers to offer their bodies as living sacrifices and to be transformed rather than conformed. Transformation starts in the mind; as our thoughts are renewed by God’s Word and the Holy Spirit, our values, choices, and conduct inevitably change to reflect heaven’s culture. As we are renewed in our inner man, our outward expressions bear testament to the transformation.

Grace is the catalyst for this change. Titus 2:11–12 declares that the same grace that brings salvation also “teaches us to say ‘No’ to ungodliness and worldly passions.” Kingdom values are therefore not merely human resolutions; they are the result of grace tutoring our hearts, empowering us to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in this present age. Grace not only saves us; it trains us and equips us to live a godly life.

Living by Kingdom values means adopting the mindset, character, and priorities of Christ. Galatians 5:22–23 describes this as the fruit of the Spirit — love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These traits are not ornaments we put on for show; they are the organic produce of an intimate walk with God. As we abide in the Spirit, the fruit grows naturally and becomes visible to all.

Kingdom values are profoundly practical. They shape how we handle money, treat co-workers, respond to criticism, and steward our time. Philippians 4:8 challenges us to focus our minds on whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and admirable. What we continually ponder will eventually manifest in day-to-day behavior, influencing families, workplaces, and communities for Christ.

Finally, Kingdom values distinguish us from a world driven by self-promotion and shifting morals. They mark us as citizens of another realm and ambassadors of a better way. When our lives consistently reflect the King’s character, we become living invitations for others to experience His transforming grace.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Which worldly habits or attitudes still compete with Christ-like values in my life?
2. What daily practice can I adopt to keep my mind continuously renewed by God’s Word?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for the grace that saves and trains me. Renew my mind through Your Word and fill me with Your Spirit so that Kingdom values shape every thought, word, and action. Let the fruit of the Spirit be clearly seen in my life, drawing others to Jesus. Empower me to say “No” to anything that contradicts Your will and “Yes” to everything that pleases You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Set aside a focused block of time each day this week — start with at least 15 minutes — to read and meditate on Scripture. Write down one truth from your reading and one practical way to live it out before the day ends. Consistent spiritual intake will determine consistent Kingdom output.



# KINGDOM LEADERSHIP

TEXTS: Matthew 20:25–28; John 13:12–17; Philippians 2:5–8

MAY

17

## Memory Verse:

*“Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.”  
Matthew 20:26 (NIV)*



In the world’s system, leadership is often defined by dominance, control, and the pursuit of power. But in the Kingdom of God, greatness is redefined through service. Jesus shattered the worldly model of leadership when He told His disciples, “whoever wants to be great must be a servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave.” (Matthew 20:26–27). True Kingdom leadership begins not with a crown, but with a towel.

Jesus, the King of all creation, knelt to wash the feet of His disciples (John 13:12–17), showing that leadership in God’s Kingdom is rooted in humility, sacrifice, and love. He wasn’t just performing an act of kindness—He was modeling a leadership culture. To lead like Jesus is to stoop low enough to lift others up. It is not about titles or recognition, but about responsibility, care, and example.

The Apostle Paul encourages us to embrace the same attitude as Christ, “who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage... he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!” (Philippians 2:5–8). Kingdom leadership is not about self-promotion but self-denial. It is about allowing God’s will and purpose to flow through us to bless and build others.

Kingdom leaders carry authority, but their authority flows from submission to God and love for people. Whether you lead a team, a ministry, a family, or influence others in your daily interactions, the call is the same: serve. A servant-hearted leader is secure in identity, consistent in character, and committed to the well-being and growth of others.

In a generation hungry for influence, we must remember that in the Kingdom, it is the servant who becomes the standard. As you grow in leadership, always ask: "How can I serve?" Let your authority be exercised not with pride, but with compassion, vision, and the heart of Christ.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. In what areas of my life do I struggle to lead with a servant's heart?
2. Who can I intentionally serve today as an expression of Kingdom leadership?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for the example of Jesus, the Servant King. Teach me to lead with humility and grace. Strip away every form of pride and selfish ambition in me, and help me to serve others with love and joy. May my leadership reflect the heart of Christ and point others to Your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Look for one practical way to serve someone in your circle today — whether by helping with a task, offering encouragement, or meeting a need — and do it with the intention of reflecting Christ's leadership.



REFLECTIONS

# RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

MAY  
18

# RIGHTEOUSNESS: THE HEARTBEAT OF THE KINGDOM

MAY  
19

TEXTS: Matthew 6:33; Romans 14:17; 2 Corinthians 5:21

## Memory Verse:

*“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

**Matthew 6:33 (NIV)**



At the very core of God's Kingdom is righteousness. It is not merely a moral code or a list of rules; it is the very nature and standard of God's reign. In Matthew 6:33, Jesus urged His followers to “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,” revealing that righteousness is not optional in the Kingdom—it is essential. It is the atmosphere in which the Kingdom thrives and the defining characteristic of its citizens.

Righteousness means being in right standing with God, which begins with receiving the righteousness of Christ by faith. As 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” This divine exchange changes our identity and gives us access to the Kingdom. However, righteousness is not just a gift—it is also a calling to live rightly before God and others.

Romans 14:17 describes the Kingdom of God as “not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.” Righteousness brings order, peace, and clarity in a world that celebrates chaos and compromise. It affects how we make decisions, treat others, handle money, use our time, and pursue justice. It shapes our desires and disciplines us toward holiness.

To live righteously is to prioritize what pleases God, even when it is unpopular or inconvenient. Proverbs 21:3 says, “To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice.” Kingdom righteousness is not performative—it is relational. It is born out of love and reverence for God, not duty or fear. It is the fruit of walking closely with Him, being transformed by His Spirit daily.

In a world that normalizes compromise and glorifies self, Kingdom citizens are called to reflect the purity, justice, and truth of the King. Righteousness is our testimony—it reveals to the world the heart of God and the standards of His Kingdom. When we pursue righteousness, we become beacons of light in the darkness, drawing others to the heart of the Father.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What areas of my life need to come under the rule of God's righteousness?
2. Am I pursuing what is "acceptable" to culture or what is "pleasing" to God?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for clothing me in the righteousness of Christ. Teach me to love what You love and to walk in Your truth. Help me to live with integrity and courage, choosing what is right over what is easy. Let my life be a reflection of Your holiness and a witness of Your Kingdom on earth. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Take time today to evaluate one area of your life—your words, habits, or decisions—and intentionally align it with God's standard of righteousness. Let the Holy Spirit guide you into truth as you walk in obedience.



# THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION

**TEXTS: 2 Corinthians 5:18–20; Colossians 1:19–22; Ephesians 2:14–18**

MAY

20

## Memory Verse:

*“All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.”* **2 Corinthians 5:18 (NIV)**



Reconciliation is at the heart of the gospel message. Through Jesus Christ, God restored the broken relationship between Himself and humanity, bringing peace where there was once separation due to sin. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 5:18–20 that not only have we been reconciled to God, but we have also been entrusted with the ministry of reconciliation—a divine assignment to bring others into restored fellowship with God and with one another. We have been restored so that we can bring others into the same restored relationship with God.

This ministry isn't reserved for pastors or missionaries alone. Every believer is called to be a peacemaker and bridge-builder, proclaiming the message of grace and forgiveness. We represent Christ on earth as His ambassadors, and through us, God makes His appeal to a lost world: “Be reconciled to God” (2 Corinthians 5:20). Reconciliation becomes both our testimony and our mission.

In Colossians 1:19–22, we see the depth of Christ’s work—through His death, He made peace by the blood of His cross, reconciling all things to Himself. The cross not only restored vertical peace between God and humanity but also laid the foundation for horizontal peace among people. Thus, the ministry of reconciliation is not only about evangelism but also about healing relationships, breaking down walls of division, and embodying Christ’s love.

Ephesians 2:14–18 shows how Jesus destroyed the dividing wall of hostility between Jews and Gentiles, creating one new humanity. As Kingdom citizens, we are called to carry this spirit of unity and peace wherever we go—in our families, churches, workplaces, and communities. We are agents of healing in a world fractured by bitterness, offense, and division.

To live out this ministry means forgiving those who wrong us, pursuing peace even when it is uncomfortable, and sharing the gospel boldly with those who are far from God. Reconciliation is not passive; it's a call to active engagement with people and situations where the Kingdom of God can bring restoration. Just as Christ came near to us, we now go near to others with the same heart and message.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Who in my life do I need to pursue reconciliation with — either through forgiveness, humility, or a gospel conversation?
2. How am I intentionally living as an ambassador of reconciliation in my daily environment?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for reconciling me to Yourself through Jesus Christ. Help me to embrace my calling as a minister of reconciliation. Fill me with Your love, courage, and wisdom to pursue peace and restoration in every area of my life. Use me to bring others into relationship with You and to promote unity in my world. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify one person or relationship in need of reconciliation in your life. Take a step today — whether it's a call, a message, or a prayer — to move toward healing. Also, be intentional about sharing the message of God's love and reconciliation with someone who needs to hear it.



# LOVE: THE KINGDOM WAY

TEXTS: John 13:34–35; 1 Corinthians 13:1–7; Romans 12:9–10

MAY

21

## Memory Verse:

*“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

**John 13:35 (NIV)**



In the Kingdom of God, love is not optional — it is foundational. Jesus declared that love would be the primary identifier of His followers. This love is not sentimental or superficial; it is a selfless, sacrificial, and enduring commitment to seek the good of others, just as Christ loved us (John 13:34–35). In a world driven by selfish ambition and fleeting emotions, Kingdom love stands out as radically different.

1 Corinthians 13 provides a sobering reminder that without love, our actions — no matter how impressive — are empty and meaningless. We can speak in tongues, prophesy, give to the poor, and even suffer for our faith, but if we lack love, we have gained nothing. Kingdom love is patient, kind, not easily angered, and keeps no record of wrongs. It rejoices with truth and always protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres (1 Corinthians 13:4–7).

Romans 12:9–10 encourages believers to love sincerely and honor one another above themselves. This kind of love isn't passive or merely emotional — it's active and intentional. It calls us to prefer others, show empathy, forgive offenses, and build up one another, especially within the Body of Christ. True Kingdom love is deeply relational — it values unity and works to maintain it.

The source of this love is God Himself. 1 John 4:7–12 tells us that love comes from God and that anyone who truly knows Him will love others. Because God first loved us — even when we were undeserving — we are empowered to love others, not based on how they treat us, but based on how we have been treated by God. Kingdom love imitates Christ's love — costly, unconditional, and redemptive.

To walk in love is to walk in the nature of our King. Love is the essence of God's character and the currency of His Kingdom. When we love God and love people well, we advance the Kingdom on earth. Every act of love — seen or unseen — is a testimony that God is real, His Kingdom is here, and His rule is righteous. This is the Kingdom way.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Is my life marked by the kind of love that reflects the heart of Christ?
2. Who do I find it hard to love, and how can I reflect Kingdom love toward them today?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for loving me with an everlasting love. Help me to love others as You have loved me — sacrificially, sincerely, and unconditionally. Let my life reflect the love of Christ in every word, action, and attitude. Teach me to walk in love daily, even when it's difficult. May my life be a testimony of Your Kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Perform a deliberate act of love today — reach out to someone who is hurting, forgive someone who has wronged you, or serve someone without expecting anything in return. Let your love point them to Christ.



# HUMILITY: THE KINGDOM POSTURE

TEXTS: Philippians 2:3–11; James 4:6–10; 1 Peter 5:5–6

MAY

22

## Memory Verse:

*“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.”*

**Philippians 2:3 (NIV)**



In the Kingdom of God, greatness is not measured by how high we rise, but by how low we’re willing to stoop in service to others. Humility is not weakness — it is strength under submission. It is the posture of those who truly understand their dependence on God and the value of others. Jesus, our King, modeled humility by laying aside His divine privileges and becoming a servant (Philippians 2:5–8). Humility is our acknowledgement that all that we are and have is by the grace and mercies of God, therefore, is no cause to think ourselves better than others.

The world exalts pride and self-promotion, but the Kingdom calls us to a different standard. James 4:6 reminds us that “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Humility positions us to receive grace. It enables us to be teachable, to grow spiritually, and to build strong, godly relationships. A humble heart draws near to God because it acknowledges the need for His presence, wisdom, and help.

Humility is also the foundation of unity in the Body of Christ. Philippians 2:3–4 challenges us to reject selfish ambition and look out for the interests of others. When we see others as more important than ourselves, we build a culture of honor, love, and mutual support. This kind of humility protects us from comparison, competition, and division.

Peter also exhorts believers to “clothe yourselves with humility toward one another” (1 Peter 5:5). Just like clothing, humility is a daily choice. It shapes how we speak, how we lead, how we respond to correction, and how we serve. It keeps us grounded and helps us carry authority with grace. Jesus said, “The greatest among you will be your servant” (Matthew 23:11). Kingdom leadership begins at the feet of others.

Ultimately, humility is a reflection of Christ. The path to exaltation in the Kingdom is the downward path of surrender. God lifts those who bow low. Humility opens doors that pride keeps shut. If we want to walk in step with the heart of the King, we must first embrace His posture—one of lowliness, gentleness, and total dependence on the Father.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Are there areas in my life where pride is getting in the way of my growth or relationships?
2. How can I intentionally practice humility in my interactions with others today?

### **Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, thank You for humbling Yourself so that I could be saved. Help me to walk in Your example — to think less of myself and more of others. Deliver me from pride, and clothe me with humility. Teach me to serve, to listen, and to lead with a heart like Yours. May I live every day dependent on You and surrendered to Your will. In Your name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Choose one area today where you can serve someone else without recognition — help a colleague, apologize first, ask for feedback, or pray for someone quietly. Let humility guide your posture and actions.



**OBEDIENCE: THE KINGDOM KEY**

**TEXTS:** John 14:15–24; 1 Samuel 15:22–23; Deuteronomy 28:1–2; James 1:22–25; Matthew 7:21–27

MAY

23

**Memory Verse:**

*“If you love me, keep my commands.”*  
**John 14:15 (NIV)**



God is a loving father to us and calls us into a loving relationship. However, beyond being our father, He is the Supreme King and the monarch of the universe. In the Kingdom of God, obedience is not just a religious duty; it is a love response to a loving King. Jesus made it clear that obedience is the proof of our love for Him: “If you love me, keep my commands” (John 14:15). Obedience is the key that unlocks intimacy with God, the flow of divine blessings, and our authority as Kingdom citizens.

Throughout Scripture, we see that God values obedience more than sacrifice (1 Samuel 15:22). Saul lost his throne not because he refused to worship but because he disobeyed God's clear instruction. God values a heart that is submitted to total submission over sacrifices of appeasement, no matter how grand. Kingdom living is not about partial compliance or delayed action—it's about full and prompt surrender to the will of God. Obedience reveals our trust in God's wisdom above our own.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus compared two men—one who built on the rock by doing what He said, and one who built on sand by merely hearing but not obeying (Matthew 7:24–27). Both heard the Word, but only the obedient life stood firm when the storms came. Obedience gives our spiritual lives stability, strength, and legacy. It is not just hearing God's Word that changes us, but doing it (James 1:22–25).

Obedience is not always easy. It often calls us to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and choose the narrow path. Yet, it is always rewarding. Deuteronomy 28 outlines the blessings that follow a life of obedience—provision, protection, promotion, and peace. These are not earned by performance, but accessed through alignment. When we obey, we position ourselves under God's covering and within His plans.

As Kingdom people, our obedience sets the tone for our witness. It is a testimony to the world that our allegiance is not to the flesh, culture, or convenience, but to the King. Jesus obeyed even unto death, and because of His obedience, we have life. Likewise, our obedience becomes a channel for the advancement of God's Kingdom on earth.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Is there any area of my life where I'm resisting God's instructions or delaying obedience?
2. How can I grow in joyful, prompt, and complete obedience to God's Word?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for loving me enough to guide me through Your Word. Forgive me for the times I have delayed or ignored Your instructions. Give me a heart that delights in obedience and a spirit that responds promptly to Your voice. Help me to trust You more deeply and follow You more closely, knowing that Your ways lead to life. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify one instruction from God's Word you've been delaying or struggling to obey – whether it's forgiving someone, starting something, or letting go of a habit. Take one concrete step today in obedience to that instruction.



# INFLUENCING SYSTEMS & SPHERES

**TEXTS:** Matthew 5:13–16; Daniel 6:1–5; Genesis 41:38–41; Acts 17:6; Proverbs 11:10–11

MAY

24

## Memory Verse:

*“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.”*  
**Matthew 5:14 (NIV)**



God’s plan has always included positioning His people in places of influence — not for status or applause, but for Kingdom impact. From the days of Joseph in Egypt to Daniel in Babylon and Esther in Persia, we see a pattern: God strategically places His children within systems and spheres of society to bring transformation, preserve godly values, and display His glory.

Jesus declared in Matthew 5:13–16 that we are salt and light in the world. Salt preserves, purifies, and enhances. Light exposes darkness and provides guidance. In the same way, believers are called to influence systems — be it in government, education, media, family, business, or entertainment — not by conforming to the patterns of the world, but by living out Kingdom principles within them.

In Daniel 6, we see Daniel distinguish himself in the realm of politics through excellent character, faithfulness, and wisdom. He wasn’t just a believer in exile; he was a Kingdom representative who shifted the culture and influenced leadership at the highest level. Likewise, Joseph influenced economic and political systems in Egypt by applying godly wisdom to national problems (Genesis 41). God still seeks such individuals who will influence culture without being corrupted by it.

Acts 17:6 refers to the early disciples as those who “turned the world upside down.” They were ordinary men and women whose devotion to Christ influenced the religious, political, and cultural systems of their time. They didn’t stay within the four walls of the synagogue — they went into cities, markets, homes, and institutions, declaring and demonstrating the Kingdom of God.

Influencing systems and spheres is not reserved for a few elite believers — it is the calling of every Kingdom citizen. Whether you're a teacher, entrepreneur, artist, public servant, or student, you are positioned on purpose. The goal is not just personal success, but societal transformation. Let your values, voice, and vocation reflect God's Kingdom wherever you are planted.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What sphere or system has God placed me in, and how can I be more intentional about representing Him there?
2. Are there areas in my life where I've chosen comfort over courage in influencing culture?

### **Prayer:**

Father, thank You for the privilege of representing You in the world. Help me to see my current position as a divine assignment. Strengthen me to stand for righteousness, walk in wisdom, and lead with love. May my life influence systems and touch lives for Your glory. Teach me how to be both bold and wise, salt and light, in every sphere You have placed me. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Identify one area of influence (your workplace, school, industry, or community) and prayerfully choose one specific way to bring Kingdom values into that space this week — through your words, actions, or an initiative that meets a need or upholds righteousness.



REFLECTIONS

# RESIDENT PASTOR'S TOPIC

TEXTS:

MAY

25

# CONTENTMENT WITH FINANCE

TEXTS: 1 Timothy 6:6–10; Philippians 4:11–12; Hebrews 13:5

MAY

26

## Memory Verse:

*“Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, ‘Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.’”*

**Hebrews 13:5 (NIV)**



Contentment is not complacency or indifference; it is the deep, abiding peace and satisfaction found in God, regardless of material circumstances. In 1 Timothy 6:6–10, Paul reminds Timothy that godliness with contentment is great gain. He warns of the dangers of loving money, which can lead to ruin and destruction. Contentment becomes a safeguard—it keeps our hearts grounded in God’s provision and shields us from the destructive snares of greed.

In Philippians 4:11–12, Paul speaks of learning to be content in whatever state he found himself. Whether in abundance or in lack, his peace did not fluctuate with his bank balance. This level of spiritual maturity calls us higher—to focus not on what we lack but on the sufficiency of what God has already provided. True contentment shifts our gaze from earthly gain to eternal treasures.

The world glorifies self-made wealth, accumulation, and consumerism, but the Kingdom of God calls us to a better way. As Kingdom citizens, we are not called to chase status through possessions, but to steward resources under the lordship of Jesus. Contentment does not mean rejecting wealth, but ensuring that wealth does not rule our hearts. It’s not about being rich or poor — it’s about who truly reigns in our financial decisions.

When we embrace contentment, we are freed from comparison and materialism. We no longer measure success by what we own but by how faithfully we serve. Our finances become a tool for worship, generosity, and advancing God’s mission on earth. As Jesus said in Matthew 6:21, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Choosing contentment is choosing to treasure the Kingdom above all else.

Living free from the love of money is a powerful testimony in a world driven by material pursuit. Each time we choose to trust rather than worry, to give rather than hoard, to be grateful rather than envious—we reflect the heart of the Kingdom. Contentment is not the absence of ambition; it is the presence of trust in the One who never leaves or forsakes us.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Do I compare my financial situation with others? How does that affect my peace and gratitude?
2. In what areas is God inviting me to trust Him more deeply with my financial decisions?

### **Prayer:**

Lord Jesus, help me to find true contentment in You — not in what I possess or pursue. Free me from anxiety, comparison, and greed. Teach me to live simply, not out of lack but out of freedom, so I may be more available to give, serve, and honor You with all I have. Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Take time today to review your financial habits. Identify one area where discontent or excess is limiting your generosity or trust, and take a step to surrender it to God — either through giving, simplifying, or choosing gratitude.



# LET GO, LET THE KING REIGN

TEXTS: Psalm 55:22; Matthew 6:33–34; 1 Peter 5:7; Luke 11:2

MAY

27

## Memory Verse:

*“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”*

**Matthew 6:33 (NIV)**



One of the greatest hindrances to fully walking in the Kingdom agenda is our desire for control. As humans, we often want to direct our own lives, fix every problem, and determine every outcome. But in Matthew 6:31–34, Jesus challenges this tendency. Instead of being anxious about what we will eat, drink, or wear, He commands us to “seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.” This isn’t a call to irresponsibility — it’s a call to surrender.

To “let go” is not weakness; it is divine alignment. In the Hebrew, the concept of stillness in surrender (as seen in Psalm 46:10) carries the idea of ceasing to strive — of letting your hands fall. This is the Kingdom posture: we drop the burdens we were never meant to carry and acknowledge that the King reigns, not us. Letting go is not about giving up; it’s about giving way to the King’s rule. It’s about fully surrendering to the ways, strategies, counsel, and purposes of God for our lives and trusting Him to guide our every step and lead us in every way.

1 Peter 5:7 reminds us to cast all our cares on Him because He cares for us. The Kingdom of God is not built on self-reliance but on trusting dependence. We were never designed to carry the weight of our lives alone. When we cling to our needs and anxieties, we step outside the safety of God’s reign. But when we surrender, we invite His peace and power to flow through our lives.

In the Lord’s Prayer (Luke 11:2), Jesus teaches us to say, “Your Kingdom come.” This is not a passive statement — it is a declaration of allegiance. It is a daily confession that we prefer God’s will over our own and His way over our limited understanding. The Kingdom of God is about divine rule: God reigning over our minds, decisions, resources, and relationships.

The Kingdom agenda is about trust-driven surrender. True peace is not found in controlling outcomes but in yielding to the reign of a good, faithful King. When we say “Let Your Kingdom come,” we are not just releasing control — we are stepping into alignment with Heaven’s plan. And in that place of surrender, the King reigns, and His peace rules.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Do I prioritize seeking the King and His will above my own plans, anxieties, or desires?
2. What area of my life do I need to surrender to the reign of the King today?

### **Prayer:**

My King, today and every day, I choose surrender. I choose to seek first Your Kingdom and Your righteousness. Reign over my thoughts, my decisions, and my worries. Help me to trust You with today and to leave tomorrow in Your hands. Let Your Kingdom come in my life, my home, and my heart. Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Take a moment of intentional stillness today. Identify one area in your life where you’ve been holding tightly in fear or control. Write it down, then prayerfully surrender it to God, declaring, “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done.”



# SPEAKING THE KINGDOM WAY

**TEXTS:** Ephesians 4:29; Colossians 3:8; Proverbs 18:21; James 3:9–10

MAY

28

## Memory Verse:

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”* **Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)**



Words are powerful tools in the hands of believers. In the Kingdom of God, speech is not neutral—it either builds up or tears down. Paul’s instruction in Ephesians 4:29 reminds us that our words should serve a Kingdom purpose: to edify, strengthen, and encourage others in the body of Christ. We are called to speak in ways that reflect the character of our King and advance His Kingdom among His people. We must carry the consciousness that our words carry a life force that is able to create an effect in the lives and world around us. As believers, that effect is expected to create life.

The Apostle Paul consistently modeled this in his letters. Even when addressing difficult issues within the church, he did so with grace, love, and a goal to unify and restore. His speech was seasoned with encouragement, rooted in truth, and guided by the desire to see believers grow. As Kingdom citizens, we are to let the same grace shape our conversations—using our words as instruments of healing and hope, not weapons of harm.

Colossians 3:8 places harmful speech—like slander, malice, and filthy language—alongside other destructive behaviors we are to put off as part of our “old self.” In God’s Kingdom, language is not just about etiquette but about spiritual formation. The way we speak is a reflection of the posture of our hearts. If Christ is reigning in us, our speech should mirror His love, truth, and patience.

This doesn’t mean we ignore sin or avoid hard conversations; rather, it means we speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15), with humility and the aim of building up, not tearing down. Our words should reflect a transformed life under the Lordship of Christ, where the Holy Spirit governs not just what we say but how we say it.

Building the church is not just about structures or sermons; it's about every believer choosing to edify with their speech. Whether it's in a conversation with a discouraged friend, a greeting to a first-time visitor, or a post shared online, we are either advancing the Kingdom agenda or hindering it. Let our mouths become channels of grace, truth, and life that reflect our allegiance to the King.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. What kind of words most often come out of my mouth — are they uplifting, critical, or indifferent?
2. In what ways can I better reflect the love and unity of Christ in my conversations within the church?

### **Prayer:**

Lord, for every careless word I've spoken, I ask for Your mercy. Teach me to speak with wisdom, grace, and love. Let my words be healing, not harmful; encouraging, not discouraging. Use my mouth to build up Your church and reflect the beauty of Your Kingdom. Make me a voice of hope in Your house. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Be intentional with your words today. Speak life into your local church community — send a message of encouragement to a fellow member, affirm someone's gift, or pray with someone who is struggling.



# KINGDOM REWARDS AND ETERNAL PERSPECTIVES

MAY

29

**TEXTS:** Matthew 6:19–21; 2 Corinthians 4:17–18; Revelation 22:12; Matthew 10:42

## Memory Verse:

*“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”* **Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV)**



The Kingdom Agenda isn't just about living rightly here on earth—it's about preparing for eternity. Jesus repeatedly pointed His followers to a higher perspective: a life shaped by what is eternal, not what is temporary. While the world urges us to chase quick success, instant gratification, and material gain, the Kingdom calls us to store up treasures that never fade.

To “store up treasures in heaven” is to live in a way that pleases God and produces fruit with eternal impact. Every act of sacrificial love, cheerful generosity, faithful obedience, bold witness, and humble service counts in eternity. These aren't just nice Christian actions—they are investments that Heaven honors.

Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 4:17–18 that our “light and momentary troubles” are achieving for us an eternal glory. And in Revelation 22:12, Jesus says, “My reward is with me.” That means the King sees, remembers, and will one day reward those who live for Him.

Living with an eternal perspective changes everything. It helps us endure hardship with hope, prioritize Kingdom values over worldly ones, and live intentionally, knowing that everything done for Christ carries weight beyond this life.

## Why Kingdom Rewards Matter:

- **They Motivate Faithfulness:** Knowing that God sees even the smallest act of kindness (Matthew 10:42) fuels our endurance.

- **They Reorient Our Values:** We begin to measure success not by worldly standards, but by eternal significance.
- **They Anchor Our Hope:** When life feels unfair or unfruitful, the promise of eternal reward gives us strength to keep going.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Are my daily choices driven more by eternal purpose or short-term convenience and comfort?
2. What specific area of my life needs a shift in focus toward eternal impact?

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, help me to live with eternity in view. Align my desires with Your Kingdom, and teach me to value what matters most to You. May my choices reflect trust in Your promises, and may my life be a faithful testimony of Your truth. Strengthen me to seek eternal reward over temporary applause. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Pause today and evaluate your priorities. Identify one habit, relationship, or responsibility where you can intentionally shift your focus from earthly gain to eternal reward. Choose to act in a way that reflects Kingdom values — even when no one sees.



# LIVING FOR THE AUDIENCE OF ONE

TEXTS: Matthew 6:1-6; Colossians 3:23-24; Galatians 1:10

MAY

30

## Memory Verse:

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.”*

**Colossians 3:23 (NIV)**



In a world driven by likes, applause, and recognition, it is easy—even for believers—to seek validation from people rather than from God. Yet, Scripture repeatedly reminds us that the true measure of our lives is not found in the approval of others, but in the pleasure of God. Jesus warned in Matthew 6:1-6 against practicing righteousness to be seen by others, stating that when we do, we already have our reward. True kingdom living calls us to a higher motivation: living for the Audience of One.

To live for the Audience of One means we root our identity and motivation in God alone. We serve not for human praise, but because we love and revere the One who called us. Galatians 1:10 captures this tension: “Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God?” Paul’s question still confronts us today—who are we really trying to please? What is the motivation for our actions? And when there is no one else watching us, do our lives honor God, knowing that He sees us at all times and knows our deepest secrets?

When we shift our focus from people to God, everything changes. Our work becomes worship, our sacrifices gain meaning, and our private obedience carries weight—even when no one is watching. This perspective fosters integrity and consistency because God sees both the stage and the secret place (Matthew 6:6). It guards our hearts from hypocrisy and anchors our actions in eternal significance.

Moreover, living for God’s pleasure frees us from the exhausting cycle of comparison and performance. When God becomes our standard and rewarder, we no longer need to measure our worth by how others perceive us. Instead, we pursue excellence because our lives are offerings to Him. This is the kind of life that shines for the Kingdom—quiet, faithful, and pleasing to the Father.

Living for the Audience of One is not about perfection, but about direction. It is the consistent posture of the heart that says, “Lord, I want to honor You above all.” Whether we are leading a crowd, serving in the background, or simply doing daily tasks, when we do them for God, we invite His Kingdom into every moment.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Whose approval do I secretly crave more — God’s or people’s?
2. How would my actions or choices shift today if I lived fully aware that God is watching and rewarding?

### **Prayer:**

Father, teach me to live for Your eyes alone. Deliver me from the need to impress others, and help me to seek Your approval above all. May everything I do today — seen or unseen — be pleasing in Your sight. Shape my heart to desire Your will and Your reward. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Take a moment today to identify an area of your life where you are tempted to seek human validation. Intentionally redirect that desire toward God by doing one act of service, obedience, or excellence in secret — just for Him.



# THY KINGDOM COME – A CALL TO FULL ALIGNMENT

**TEXTS:** Matthew 6:9–10; Romans 12:1–2; Matthew 26:39; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 12:28

MAY  
31

## Memory Verse:

*“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”*  
**Matthew 6:10 (NIV)**



The phrase “Thy Kingdom come” is not just a poetic line in the Lord’s Prayer — it is a radical call to surrender, allegiance, and participation in God’s divine order. When Jesus taught His disciples to pray this, He was introducing a mindset that requires believers to live in full alignment with Heaven’s will, purpose, and priorities. It is an invitation to live for more than ourselves; it is a cry for God’s rule to be established in and through us.

God’s Kingdom is His reign — His authority, values, justice, peace, and purpose. When we pray for His Kingdom to come, we are not only asking for His intervention in the world but also volunteering to be agents of that intervention. In Romans 12:1–2, Paul urges us to offer our bodies as living sacrifices and to resist the patterns of this world, so that we can discern and carry out God’s will — this is Kingdom alignment in action.

Jesus Himself modeled this alignment in the Garden of Gethsemane when He said, “Not as I will, but as You will” (Matthew 26:39). Full alignment with the Kingdom requires dying to self — our ambitions, timelines, and opinions — in favor of God’s higher ways. It’s not always comfortable, but it is always transformational. God’s Kingdom can only come where His will is done. That starts with us.

Colossians 1:13 says that we have been “transferred from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of His dear Son.” This spiritual shift demands a daily practical expression. Our speech, decisions, finances, relationships, and influence should reflect that we are under new management. When we align with the Kingdom, we become walking answers to the prayer “Thy Kingdom come.”

God is not looking for passive Christians but surrendered citizens who will embody His Kingdom in every sphere of life. Alignment is not just about compliance—it's about communion. The more intimately we walk with the King, the more naturally we live out His will. His Kingdom is coming through people who are fully yielded.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Are there areas of my life where I am still resisting God's will instead of fully aligning with His Kingdom?
2. What does living in full alignment with Heaven look like in my current season?

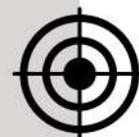
### **Prayer:**

Father, I surrender my will to Yours. Let Your Kingdom come in my heart, my home, my decisions, and my daily life. Teach me to desire what You desire and to obey without delay. Help me walk in full alignment with Your purposes and to be a vessel through which Your reign is established on earth. In Jesus' name, Amen.



### **Recommended Action:**

Spend intentional time in prayer today asking God to reveal any area of your life that is not in alignment with His will. Write it down, and take one bold step toward surrendering that area completely to Him.





*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,  
and a light unto my path*

**Psalm 119:105**

# **Reflections**

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