

Empowering People to Change the World

The Magnificent Obsession

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The Magnificent Obsession!

God can move mountains in my life
I am building up my faith with God's Holy Word
I am coming alive in the power of the Holy Spirit
With Jesus, all things are possible

Jesus had a Magnificent Obsession: The Kingdom of God:

- Jesus came preaching the Kingdom of God.
- Jesus cast out demons and told His disciples that the Kingdom had come.
- Jesus taught His disciples to preach the Kingdom of God.
- Jesus talked about entering the Kingdom.
- He taught His disciples to pray for the Kingdom to come.
- He demonstrated the Kingdom coming in power through changed lives, healing and demonic deliverance.
- And He told all of us to seek FIRST the Kingdom of God!

As a college student I became obsessed with Jesus!
As a missionary in Japan I became obsessed with the Kingdom of God!
I am still obsessed with the King and His Kingdom!

- I discovered the reality that Jesus came not just to save sinners but to build His kingdom on earth.
- I discovered that this Kingdom was the New World Order He wanted to establish on the earth and I became and I still am a revolutionary of the Kingdom of God.
- I realized that Matthew wrote his gospel to guide us into an understanding of a New World Order, the Kingdom of God.
- The word "church" is only mentioned twice by Jesus, but the term "Kingdom of God" is mentioned hundreds of times.
- The Kingdom of God is not the church, the church is not the Kingdom of God.

At The Road we are Obsessed with the Kingdom of God.

- We passionately desire to see a Kingdom of God revolution in our city and in the Rocky Mountain region.
- Thus, we want such a magnificent revolution to begin in your life, in your marriage, in your home!
- Jesus wants that too!

I've entitled our study of Matthew, "A Kingdom of God Revolution!"

Let's quickly review the Kingdom of God.

A kingdom is not a democracy; it is not a religion; it is not a republic—there is no president—but it does have a King who rules unilaterally (who is not up for reelection) over the people who desire to live in His kingdom under His rulership.

A definition of the Kingdom of God: "King—Dom," <u>The King's Domain</u>. A kingdom is the governing influence of a king over His territory, impacting it with His mind, His will, His purpose, His intention; producing a citizenry of people who express His culture and reflect His nature.

- In our passage, Jesus is explaining how this Magnificent Obsession, the Kingdom of God, takes over your life, your priorities, your mission.
- If you get this, it will set you free and break the power of worry, misplaced priorities and give you a new master over your life!!

Matthew 6:19-34

Matthew 6: 19-21

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

1. The Magnificent Obsession changes your Priorities

- When you seek the Kingdom of God first, how you evaluate success and treasure changes.
- Because your heart changes your priorities and use of time change.
- Have you watched these young couples who are falling in love with each other? Their priorities change. Their heart changes.
- When you get obsessed with Jesus and His kingdom, your priorities change; your use of finances change; how you use your time changes.
- Finances drive our lives! They really do. I would say nothing so drives our lives like money does—we think about it day and night. Solomon understood this when he said, "money is the answer to everything" (Ecclesiastes 10:19)
 - The fastest growing radio and TV programs deal primarily with money.
 - Anyone with money is constantly checking the stock market.
 - o I have a stock market App on my phone.
 - When you become obsessed with the Kingdom of God, it changes how you view money.
 - o I want my money to line up with Kingdom Laws!
 - We are having a Financial Peace University coming up right after Easter.
 - Malachi Miracle Liz and I discovered. Liz and I are debt free because we always tithed, we made the Kingdom of God our magnificent obsession!

Matthew 6:22-23

²² "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³ But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

2. The Magnificent Obsession changes your Vision

- God's kingdom changes your life and mission.
- When you fall in love with the King, His Kingdom priorities change the vision of your life.
- Again you are lining up with the vision of God, you can see more clearly, you see differently.
- Get obsessed with the Kingdom and you see differently:
 - i. You can see Right from Wrong.
 - ii. You can see a New Path for your Life.
 - iii. You can see New Friendships you Need.
 - iv. You can see a New Future; you're not shackled to your past anymore.
 - v. You can see New Strength flowing through a partnership with the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 6:24-29

²⁴ "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.²⁵ "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?²⁸ "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹ and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

3. The Magnificent Obsession changes your Master

- How many of you are constantly worried over your life, your money, your relationships?
- Jesus says, seek My Kingdom first, make it your priority, make it your vision and quit worrying over everything!

• This is the point: when you get obsessed with King Jesus and His Kingdom, you place yourself under His care, His rulership, His priorities and plans and He promises to take care of you.

Matthew 6:30-34

³⁰ Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith. ³¹ "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.