

MULTIPLICATION OF THE KINGDOM

1. MULTIPLICATION OF THE KINGDOM

- A. Jesus came with the Kingdom. He both taught and demonstrated the new reality of the kingdom.
 - I. The Kingdom of God had come to earth and it had a name and a face: Jesus.
 - II. The Kingdom now had one representative.
- B. After about 18 months of training, Jesus sent out His 12 disciples on their first mission. **Luke 9:1-6**
 - I. "Go and do what you've seen me do for the past 18 months."
 - II. When He sent them out, He gave them both power and authority to do the works of the kingdom.
 - III. Specifically He instructed them to proclaim the Kingdom and heal the sick.
 - IV. Now they had to make a choice, keep on doing what they had always done or take a risk and go.
 - V. **Mark 6:13**, "They cast out many demons, anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them."
 - VI. A few days later they returned. They made a remarkable discovery; they too could release the kingdom.
 - VII. Now the kingdom had thirteen representatives.
- C. The in Luke 10, Jesus sends out the 72 (or 70 depending on which translation you have.)
 - I. Let's look at His instructions to the 72 and their impact. **Luke 10:1-24**. He sent them out two by two.
 - II. And heal the sick there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."
 - III. The seventy returned with joy, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name." **Luke 10:17**
 - IV. Jesus rejoices and say something really interesting, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."
 - V. Why this comment? Because the Kingdom had just multiplied and there was no going back.
 - VI. The kingdom had gone from one representative to 85 representatives.
- D. We could look at His instructions to the early church and see the same results. **Mark 16:15-20**

2. FEEDING OF THE 5,000

- A. The feeding of the 5,000 is a perfect picture of the multiplication of the Kingdom. **Luke 9:10-17**
 - I. Like the healings, the miracle of feeding also demonstrated the presence of the kingdom of God.
 - II. John 6:14 "when they had seen the sign that Jesus did." What are signs for? They point to something.
 - III. From John 6, we know that a small boy offers five loaves and two small fish. Emphasizing the little.
- B. Luke is very specific with numbers here and if this is a sign, there is a deeper message than the miracle.
 - I. The number 5 is symbolic of grace. The kingdom comes with grace. Jesus is the bread of life.
 - II. The number 50 is symbolic of jubilee (freedom) and Pentecost.
 - III. The number 5,000 is symbolic of fruitfulness in the Holy Spirit. (50x100)
 - IV. I can't help but wonder if all the 5 symbolism is symbolic of the kingdom.
 - V. The number 2 is symbolic of witness. They collected twelve baskets from 5 loaves and 2 fish.
 - VI. Context: Jesus had just sent out the 12, two-by-two.
- C. What is it going to take to reach our city with the good news of Jesus? (200 denarii - \$20,000)
 - I. How many have had a healing, felt the tangible presence of God, a moving revelation of God's love?
 - II. But what are these among so many? How is Jesus (the kingdom) to be spread among so many?
 - III. Luke is speaking to the multiplication of the kingdom through the witness of the kingdom by giving away that which you have received. Even if seems completely insignificant!

2. WE ARE CURRENTLY IN ONE OF THE GREATEST HARVESTS THIS WORLD HAS EVER SEEN

- A. The move of God's Spirit right now in the earth is an unprecedented move.
 - I. 170,000 to 180,000 people become believers every day around the world.
 - II. Over 100 million Christians in the former Soviet Union. About 60 to 100 million Christians in China.
- B. More Muslims have been converted in the past 25 years than all the previous years put together.
 - I. Roughly 2 million Muslims are converting every year. Indonesia will be mostly Christian by 2035.
- C. Some of the places where the church is growing the fastest: Iran, Indonesia, Africa, China, and Nepal.
- D. More have come to know Christ in Iran since 1980 than the previous 1,000 years combined.
 - I. Before Khomeini's revolution in 1979 there were 2,000 Iranian believers.
 - II. Now at least 100,000 believers. Generally accepted 370,000 believers. As many as a million believers.
 - III. Operation World, estimate Christianity is growing at a rate of over 19% a year in Iran.
- E. In AD 100 there were 360 non-believers to every one Christian. Now the ratio is 1: 5.8.

3. JESUS PROMISED GREATER WORKS

- A. Jesus Promised Power. You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you. **Acts 1:8.**
 - I. Because we have the same Spirit living inside us that anointed Jesus, we have the same mission.
- B. Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. **John 14:12.**
 - I. Why should we expect greater works? He promised, He is with us and the kingdom multiplies.
 - II. I am with you always, even to the end of the age. **Matthew 28:20**

4. THE MASTER PLAN OF EVANGELISM

- A. The Master Plan of Evangelism by Dr. Robert E. Coleman
 - I. People were Jesus' method of winning the world. People willing to be discipled and disciple others.
 - II. Jesus' commission in **Matthew 28:19** was to, "Go and make disciples." A commission given to all.
- B. Edward Kimball was a Sunday school teacher.
 - I. He not only prayed for the rowdy boys in his class but also sought to win each one to the Lord.
- C. One boy, in particular, didn't seem to understand the gospel. Kimball went to the shoe store where he worked.
 - I. He met with him in the stock room about the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus.
 - II. In the stockroom, Dwight L. Moody, received Jesus as his Savior.
 - III. In his lifetime, Moody would lead thousands to faith in Jesus Christ.
- D. You can count the apples on a tree, but only God knows how many apples are in a single seed.
- E. You might not relate to Dwight L. Moody's calling to evangelize. If you do great!
 - I. But, if it weren't for Edward Kimball, there may not have been a Moody. Could you be a Kimball?

5. KINGDOM MULTIPLICATION

- A. Kingdom economy is about multiplication and sometimes even exponential explosive growth.
 - I. Another example of multiplication besides feeding the 5,000 is Isaac sowing in **Genesis 26:12-13.**
- B. The Kingdom is an everlasting ever increasing unshakable Kingdom.
 - I. There will be no end to His kingdom. And no end to the increase of His government and peace
 - II. His is an everlasting Kingdom. No end to it. **Luke 1:33.** His throne is forever and ever. **Heb 1:8**
 - III. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end. **Isaiah 9:7**
 - IV. It will break in pieces and consume all other kingdoms. **Daniel 2:44**
 - V. His dominion is from generation to generation. **Daniel 4:3**
 - VI. We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken. **Hebrews 12:28**
- C. God's kingdom, unlike earthly kingdom, starts very small like a mustard seed. **Luke 13:18-19**
 - I. It is present. It may seem insignificant. But it increases. When it takes root, it grows and grows.
 - II. The seed contains the life in itself to grow and multiply.
- D. In about 640 BC, Habakkuk prophesied of this increase. **Habakkuk 2:14**
 - I. "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."
 - II. So how does this happen? Simple math: 27 years for 30,000 (1 house a day), 67 million (1 year).
 - III. This word will largely be fulfilled through the multiplication of disciples making disciples.
- E. Do you think you could in the next year teach one person how to give away the kingdom to one other person?

6. MINISTRY TIME

- A. Workshop, "Multiply." How long would it take me to pray over each person here? 2 hours vs. 15 min.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:1-6, 10 (NKJV) Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. 2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. 3 And He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece.

4 "Whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. 5 And whoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them."

6 So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere. 10 And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done.

Luke 9:10-17 (NKJV) *And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done. Then He took them and went aside privately into a deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. 11 But when the multitudes knew it, they followed Him; and He received them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing. 12 When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place here." 13 But He said to them, "You give them something to eat." And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people." 14 For there were about five thousand men. Then He said to His disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of fifty." 15 And they did so, and made them all sit down. 16 Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude. 17 So they all ate and were filled, and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments were taken up by them.*

Mark 16:15-20 (NKJV) *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." 19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.*

Genesis 26:12-13 (NKJV) *Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him. 13 The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous*