



Seek First God's Kingdom
Safe Families for Children
People of his Kingdom
Family Service: Generosity

Matthew

Matthew's use of Kingdom of heaven, (32 times), but it is unique compared to the other Gospels, the rest of the new Testament and all literature preceding Matthew.

Matthew 4

Matthew 4:12-17

Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles
the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”

**From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”**

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Quoting Isaiah 9.

Beginning to make a contrast between the kingdom of the earth and the kingdom of God.

Jesus' Kingdom of Heaven
turns this world upside down.

There is what's happening here, and what's happening in heaven. One side stands for God, and one side stands for humanity. Singular vs Plural, Heaven and earth pairs, Father in heaven, kingdom of heaven.

Heaven-oriented identity for the disciples in the midst of a hostile earthly world. Jesus' disciples are the true people of God aligned with heaven, as opposed to the ruler on the earth.

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Jesus' disciples align themselves within the world with a different vision and set of values.

**Choose God's Kingdom,
His heavenly values, over the earth's values.**

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Choose the
Kingdom of Heaven

It's why when we start understanding between the earthly Kingdom and God's kingdom, we make that decision to follow Christ's leadership – it means turning away from ourselves, where we are king, where selfishness and selfish desires come first

It means seeing how we can increase in humility, and love.

Matthew 5-7

Beattitudes.

Salt and Light. Kingdom of Heaven,
means that we stand apart and stand
differently.

Children of Light

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Salt and Light. Kingdom of Heaven,
means that we stand apart and stand
differently.

That's what it means. To choose God.
To be a child of light.
To be salt to the earth.

**YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SHINE!!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SHINE THE
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

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Anger
Lust
Divorce

>21 “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement.’ 22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.

Be reconciled with your brother. In fact, reconciliation with one you’re angry with is more important than giving to the church. It’s not just about controlling anger, or not being angry — it’s about forgiveness, reconciliation. Not just about yourself... humility, grace, love. Reconciliation is at the heart of it.

####Lust.

>27 “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

Honouring love above sex. Honouring each other before sexual desires.

You want to search in the Bible for reasons why we shouldn’t have sex before marriage, or why we shouldn’t commit adultery? Stop looking for rules about what not to do, and start seeing what it means to live the Kingdom of Heaven. God’s glory above all else. Love God, love your neighbour. It’s why we don’t pursue promiscuous sex, just because everyone else does. It’s not about rules, it’s about which Kingdom have you chosen to be in.

####Divorce.

>31 “It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ 32 But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

It’s not about whether you’re allowed to divorce, it’s why did we let things get this way? A child of light, choosing the Kingdom of Heaven means you are a different husband or a wife than you are now. It’s not about you. It’s about God. It’s about choosing Him over the world.

AND KNOWING THAT HE’S RIGHT.

God’s kingdom, his standards pushes things further. Not out of superiority, but out of

GOD, I CHOOSE YOU
ABOVE ALL ELSE!

CHOOSE THE
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

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“Repent, for the kingdom
of heaven is at hand.”

Repent! Turn from the ways of this world.

Declare that you're sorry.

Turn back to Him.

And let the supernatural power of God turn you from self-absorbed

Christians, to Christ reflecting citizens of heaven.

God I desire your Kingdom. I submit to your authority. I choose you.

Because you have chosen me.

Because you have called me into your Kingdom. Because you have given me your power and authority in the Holy Spirit.

Not by our might, but by God's.

Our choice, God's power.