

Beyond Sunday with Scripture References

Kingdom Culture

This guide is designed to offer a simple tool for those wanting to take the next step with Sunday's message. You can print this guide to study on your own, or use it in a group and experience transformation together.

Message Theme & Prayer Focus

What Is Christianity?

"Father, give me ears to hear the truth that you have for me in this message. Help me to let this truth sink deep into my heart and change the way I think, believe, and act. Thank you for your Word, your grace, and the life that I have through Jesus' sacrifice. I love you Lord. May your Kingdom come and your will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven, in Jesus' name. Amen!"

Key Concepts/Truths

When it comes to our relationship with God, everything else needs to be secondary. With Jesus, it is all or nothing.

Christianity is not limited to the realm of ideas and thoughts like philosophy. It is based on real actions taken by Jesus. Our Christian worldview should influence the world around us through our actions.

Unless you're born again you won't understand the Kingdom of God and will only see it as a religion or set of rules and regulations.

To be "saved" is to accept citizenship of God's Kingdom and to change the Lord, or king, of your life.

Christianity changes who you are, who you belong to, and what you live for. It is a Kingdom, and Jesus taught us to pray for it to be established on Earth as it is in Heaven.

God's Kingdom is not about dying and going somewhere else, it is about living now with Jesus as the Lord of our lives.

Jesus preached repentance--that we would change the way we think, which changes the way we live--because the Kingdom of God is here.

The Kingdom is here, and the Kingdom is coming. It is within us as we go to our schools, our jobs, and go through our daily routine. We are ambassadors for it, and should live as such.

The devil is the god of this world and he is the reason there is war, prejudice, sickness, and suffering because it is his temporary domain.

God is not trying to get you into Heaven, He is trying to get Heaven into you now.

Enthusiasm for the Kingdom is good, but it isn't a guarantee for lasting change.

We can receive the Word of God and be offended by it, or tempted away from it by the devil, preventing it from growing in our lives. We should give special attention to our hearts to make sure we can receive God's truth as fertile soil receives seeds and produces great things.

The Kingdom is not simply about you, Jesus, and half a dozen butler angels to get you everything you need. The Kingdom is about every one of us that makes Jesus the Lord of our lives.

Key Verses:

Luke 14:26 • Acts 2:37 • Mark 1:15 • Luke 1:32-33 • Matthew 4:17 • Luke 22:29 • John 3:3
• Psalm 110:5-6 • Romans 10:9 • Colossians 1:13 • Matthew 13:19 • Matthew 24:14

Which one truth do you already have evidence of in your life today? Ask the Lord for new ways to see even more of it for you and others around you. Write your answers out.

Which one truth is the most challenging or least existing in your life today? Why do you think this is? Ask the Lord if there are any beliefs or barriers that are keeping you from believing that particular truth. Write it out.

Daily Application

Anytime we lose God's Kingdom-perspective of this world we can get caught up in a worldly perspective and be swept away, or seduced, by worldly things and the business and distractions of life. Matthew says that the deceitfulness of riches and the cares of this world can choke the effectiveness of the Word of God in our lives. Keeping a right perspective of the world, God's perspective, is paramount to living in His Kingdom and receiving everything that comes along with it. Living in complete restoration and salvation of Jesus is a beautiful thing, but it requires living in His Kingdom and having Him be the Lord of our lives to experience all that He has for us. When we fully experience Jesus' salvation and restoration for us, we can express it to others through our testimony. We get to share that Kingdom with others so that they can experience His life also.

Many times people fall short of understanding the Kingdom because they are focusing on the wrong things.

The blessings of God can be chased as the reason to follow Him, or a "rules and regulations" mindset can take hold, keeping us from having a true understanding of the Kingdom. While it's true that God blesses us richly and He wants us to enjoy that blessing, His desire isn't for us to pursue the blessing, rather He wants us to pursue the blesser--Himself. When we focus on His Kingdom and His righteousness, as Matthew 6:33 says, all of the other things in our life will be orchestrated around that focus. That is when we can say that we are truly living in His Kingdom and that He is the Lord of our lives. That is when we will be living a testimony filled life and be able to help others experience that life in Jesus as well.

This Week's Declarations

In Christ, I am a citizen of Heaven, and I receive all the benefits of being a part of that Kingdom.

I know there is healing, restoration, grace, and authority as a member of God's Kingdom. It is His Word that I stand on to receive those promises in my life.

I adopt a Kingdom mindset and perspective of the world and those around me. I look through the eyes of Christ and see what He would have me see so that I can walk in the Spirit and follow His lead. In doing so, I will show God's love to the world and bring others into an encounter of His Kingdom.

What's Next?

Now it's time to write down anything that the Lord has spoken to you. Praise Him, Thank Him and ask the Holy Spirit to help you walk this out.

Scripture References **Kingdom Culture**

Luke 14:26 NKJV

"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

Matthew 16:24 NLT

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.

Acts 17:6 NKJV

But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.

Mark 1:15 NKJV

and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Mark 1:15 MSG

After John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee preaching the Message of God: "Time's up! God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the Message."

Luke 1:32-33 NKJV

... the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

Luke 22:29 NKJV

And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me,

Acts 1:3 NKJV

to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

John 3:3 NKJV

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Psalms 110:5-6 NKJV

The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries.

2 Corinthians 5:20 NKJV

Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

Luke 4:19 AMPC

To proclaim the accepted and acceptable year of the Lord [the day when salvation and the free favors of God profusely abound].

Romans 10:9 NKJV

that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Colossians 1:13 ASV

who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love;

Philippians 2:10-11 NKJV

that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Matthew 13:19 NKJV

When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

Matthew 13:19 NKJV

When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside.

2 Corinthians 4:4 KJV

...the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

1 John 5:19 AMPC

We know [positively] that we are of God, and the whole world [around us] is under the power of the evil one.

John 14:30 NKJV

I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.

Acts 2:40 NKJV

And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation."

Romans 14:17 NKJV

for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Mark 4:19 NKJV

and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Matthew 13:22 NKJV

Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

1 Timothy 6:17 NKJV

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.

Matthew 6:33 ESV

seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Matthew 13:23 NKJV

But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."