
St. Stephen
AME ZION CHURCH
7-WEEK VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY
KINGDOM MINDSET:
THINKING LIKE Heaven
WHILE LIVING ON Earth
Join Us!
EVERY WEDNESDAY | 7PM
zoom
LIVE
ID: 538 095 5668 Passcode: 1001
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Matthew 6:33 — “Seek ye first the kingdom of God...”

Kingdom Mindset

Kingdom Mindset: Thinking Like Heaven While Living on Earth

Inspired by the Biblical Kingdom Teachings of Dr. Myles Munroe

Syllabus

Week	Lesson	Scriptures
1	Rediscovering the Kingdom	Matthew 6:33,Matthew 4:17, Luke 4:43, Genesis 1:26–28, Psalm 8:4–6, Colossians 1:13, Luke 19:10, John 18:36
2	Kingdom Identity	Phil 3:20, Rom 8:14-17
3	Renewing the Mind	Romans 12:2
4	Kingdom Priorities	Matthew 6:33
5	Kingdom Character & Culture	
6	Kingdom Purpose & Assignment	
7	Kingdom Power & Influence	

Study Resources

- The Holy Bible
- Books (Myles Munroe)
  - Rediscovering the Kingdom (Expanded Edition)
  - Understanding Your Place in God's Kingdom
  - Understanding The Kingdom, Preparing for Kingdom Experience and Expansion
  - Understanding Your Potential (Discovering the Hidden You)
- Youtube Resources

The Holy Spirit's Purpose, Power, And Person: Insights By Dr. Myles Munroe | MunroeGlobal.com

How Are Christ Believers Viewed in the Kingdom of God?

- According to the Kingdom teachings of Myles Munroe, believers are more than merely subjects of a king. He emphasized that through Christ, believers become **citizens of God's Kingdom and members of God's royal family**.

Munroe often distinguished between earthly kingdoms and God's Kingdom:

- In many earthly kingdoms, subjects serve the king but have little access to him.
- In God's Kingdom, believers are not only citizens under the King's authority but are also adopted into His family through Christ.

He would point to passages such as:

- The Epistle to the Ephesians — "You are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household."
- The Epistle to the Romans — Believers receive the Spirit of adoption and become heirs of God.
- The First Epistle of Peter — Believers are called a "royal priesthood."
- The Gospel of John — Those who receive Christ are given the right to become children of God.

How Are Christ Believers Viewed in the Kingdom of God?

From Munroe's perspective:

1. Citizens

- Citizenship speaks of **legal standing** in the Kingdom.
- We belong to God's Kingdom.
- We have rights, privileges, and responsibilities.
- Our allegiance is to the King and His government.

2. Children of the King

- Family speaks of **relationship**.
- God is not merely our ruler; He is our Father.
- We have direct access to Him.
- We are heirs of the Kingdom.

3. Royal Family

- Munroe frequently taught that believers are part of a royal family because they are children of the King of Kings.
- We are not spiritual beggars trying to earn God's favor.
- We are heirs who represent the Kingdom on earth.
- Our purpose is to reflect the nature, culture, and values of the Kingdom.

How Are Christ Believers Viewed in the Kingdom of God?

One of Myles' recurring themes was:

- Religion teaches people how to reach God. The Kingdom message teaches people who they are in relation to the King.
- So, in Myles Munroe's Kingdom framework, Christians are **citizens of heaven, children of the King, heirs of the Kingdom, and members of God's royal family—not merely subjects living under a ruler.**
- This is why he often described believers as **ambassadors** representing heaven on earth, drawing from The Second Epistle to the Corinthians. An ambassador is not just a subject; an ambassador is an authorized representative of the King and His Kingdom

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

Matthew 6:33
(King James Version)
33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

(The Message Bible)
30-33 "If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers—most of which are never even seen—don't you think he'll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you? What I'm trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with *getting*, so \you can respond to God's *giving*. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. (The Message Bible)

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

Matthew 6:33 Background

Understanding the background of **Matthew 6** is essential. It explains *why* Jesus said, **"Seek first the Kingdom of God..." (Matthew 6:33)**. The verse isn't an isolated promise—it is the climax of Jesus' teaching about the priorities of Kingdom citizens.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

Background of Matthew 6
Historical Setting
Matthew was written primarily to a Jewish audience to demonstrate that Jesus is the promised Messiah and King. Throughout the Gospel, Matthew emphasizes the phrase **"Kingdom of Heaven"**, a reverent Jewish expression that refers to God's reign.

Matthew 5–7 is known as the **Sermon on the Mount**, Jesus' first major recorded teaching. It describes what life looks like under God's rule.

The Sermon on the Mount can be summarized this way:

Matthew 5 — The Character of Kingdom Citizens
Matthew 6 — The Priorities of Kingdom Citizens
Matthew 7 — The Wisdom and Discernment of Kingdom Citizens
Matthew 6 focuses on the heart. Jesus repeatedly contrasts outward religious performance with inward devotion to God.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

The Context of Matthew 6
Jesus addresses three major areas.

1. Kingdom Righteousness (Matthew 6:1–18)
Jesus teaches about:

- Giving
- Prayer
- Fasting

Notice His repeated warning:

"**Do not be like the hypocrites**..."
Hypocrite comes from the Greek work hypodkrites (referring to an actor in a Greek theater)

The religious leaders often practiced these acts publicly to receive praise. Jesus teaches that Kingdom citizens seek God's approval rather than human recognition.

- Giving: Kingdom citizens give because they love God and others, not because they want applause.
- Praying: Hypocrites prayed so people would admire them. Kingdom citizens pray to commune with their Heavenly Father.
- **Fasting: With fasting,** The hypocrites intentionally looked miserable. Let your fasting be between you and God.

Kingdom Principle
The Kingdom changes our motives, not just our behavior.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

What Does This Mean for Us Today?
Being a hypocrite doesn't necessarily mean being imperfect.
Every Christian struggles and falls short at times.

Hypocrisy is **knowingly presenting a false spiritual image while refusing to deal honestly with the condition of the heart**.

For example:

- Posting Bible verses online while intentionally mistreating people.
- Serving in ministry to gain status rather than to glorify God.
- Pretending to trust God publicly while secretly seeking people's approval above His.

Jesus' invitation is not to pretend, but to pursue integrity—allowing our private devotion and public witness to be consistent.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

A Kingdom Mindset Application
If your Bible study is called **Kingdom Mindset**, you might summarize it this way:

Religion asks, "How do I look before people?"
The Kingdom asks, "How does my heart look before the King?"

Or even more simply:
Hypocrisy is wearing a spiritual mask. Kingdom living is allowing God to transform the heart.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

2. Kingdom Treasure (Matthew 6:19–24)

Jesus then shifts to possessions.
"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth..."

He contrasts:

Then Jesus says:
"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

The issue is not wealth itself but what rules the heart.

He contrasts:

Earthly Treasure	Heavenly Treasure
Temporary	Eternal
Can be lost	Cannot be stolen
Self-centered	God-centered

Kingdom Principle

Your priorities reveal your allegiance.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

3. Kingdom Trust (Matthew 6:25–34)

This section culminates in Matthew 6:33.

Jesus addresses anxiety over:

- Food
- Clothing
- Daily needs
- The future

He points to God's care for:

- Birds
- Lilies
- Grass

If God faithfully provides for His creation, how much more will He care for His children?

Jesus is not discouraging work or wise planning. Rather, He is teaching that worry should not govern the lives of those who trust the King.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

Why Matthew 6:33 Is the Climax

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Notice the word **"But."**

It contrasts the worries of the nations with the priorities of God's people.

Jesus says:

"The world chases necessities. Kingdom citizens chase the King."

Everything in Matthew 6 builds to this one command.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

What Does "Seek" Mean?

The Greek verb *zēteō* means:

- to pursue
- to desire earnestly
- to strive after
- to make something your highest priority

Seeking is not passive.

It is an intentional lifestyle.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

What Is "The Kingdom"?
The Kingdom is not merely Heaven after death.

It is God's:

- reign
- authority
- government
- will
- rule

operating in the lives of His people.

When we seek the Kingdom, we seek to live under the King's authority.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

What Is "His Righteousness"?

Righteousness means living in right relationship with God and allowing His character to shape our lives.
Kingdom citizens do not merely seek blessings.

They seek:

- God's will
- God's character
- God's priorities

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

"All These Things"

Jesus is referring back to the concerns He just mentioned:

- food
- drink
- clothing
- daily necessities

He is promising that when God is our first priority, we can trust Him with our daily needs.

This is not a guarantee of luxury or wealth. It is an invitation to trust the Father's faithful care.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

Kingdom Connection (in the style of Dr. Myles Munroe)

One of Dr. Munroe's recurring emphases was that **the Kingdom was Jesus' central message**. Matthew 6:33 captures that emphasis well:

- The King comes before the gifts.
- The Kingdom comes before personal ambition.
- Relationship with the King shapes every other priority.

His teaching often summarized the verse like this:

> **"When the Kingdom becomes your priority, God assumes responsibility for your provision."**

That captures the thrust of the passage, while the biblical text itself grounds the promise in the Father's care for those who seek Him first.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

How do we apply Matt 6:33 in our daily lives?

This is one of the most practical questions you can ask in your **Kingdom Mindset** study. **Matthew 6:33** is not just a verse to memorize—it is a lifestyle to practice.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (KJV)

The question is not simply, *"What does it mean?"* but *"How do I live it?"*

What Does It Mean to "Seek First" the Kingdom?
To seek first the Kingdom means to make **God's rule, God's will, and God's priorities the highest priority in every area of life**. It means asking, "What would honor the King?" before asking, "What do I want?"

A Kingdom mindset doesn't separate Sunday from Monday. It recognizes that Jesus is Lord over every part of life.

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

Kingdom Principle	What It Means	Daily Application	Supporting Scriptures
1. Seek God First Every Day	Begin each day by placing God first in your heart, mind, and schedule.	Pray before checking your phone, read Scripture, worship, and ask God to direct your day.	Psalm 5:3; Proverbs 3:5–6; Psalm 119:105
2. Make Decisions Through a Kingdom Lens	Allow God's Word and His will—not emotions or culture—to guide your decisions.	Before making choices, ask, "Does this honor God?" and "Is this consistent with Scripture?"	James 1:5; Colossians 3:17
3. Trust God Instead of Living in Worry	Believe that your Heavenly Father knows your needs and will faithfully provide as you seek Him.	Replace anxiety with prayer, trust God's timing, and refuse to let fear control your life.	Matthew 6:25–34; Philippians 4:6–7; 1 Peter 5:7
4. Reflect Kingdom Character	Demonstrate the values of God's Kingdom through your attitudes and actions.	Practice forgiveness, kindness, humility, patience, honesty, and love in every relationship.	Galatians 5:22–23; Ephesians 4:32
5. Steward What God Has Entrusted to You	Faithfully manage your time, talents, finances, relationships, and opportunities for God's glory.	Serve others, use your gifts, be generous, and manage resources wisely.	Matthew 25:14–30; 1 Peter 4:10
6. Represent Christ Wherever You Are	Remember that you are Christ's ambassador in every environment.	Reflect Jesus at home, work, church, school, and in your community through your words and actions.	2 Corinthians 5:20; Matthew 5:13–16
7. Live with Eternal Priorities	Focus on what has lasting Kingdom value rather than temporary worldly success.		

Week 4 — Kingdom Priorities

Closing Summary

Matthew 6:33
"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." *(KJV)*

What We Learned Today
✓ Kingdom-minded believers **place God first**, not just when it's convenient, but in every area of life.
✓ Seeking God's Kingdom means pursuing **His will, His righteousness, and His purposes** above our own ambitions.
✓ Worry loses its power when we trust our Heavenly Father to provide for our needs.
✓ Our priorities reveal what truly reigns in our hearts.
✓ Kingdom citizens invest in **eternal treasures** rather than temporary possessions.

Week 3 — Renewing the Mind

Final Challenge Question

If someone looked at my calendar, my bank statement, my conversations, and my decisions this week...

Would they conclude that I am truly seeking first the Kingdom of God?

Final Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for reminding us that Your Kingdom must always come first. Forgive us for the times we have pursued our own ambitions above Your will. Help us to trust You more deeply, surrender our priorities to You, and live each day as faithful citizens of Your Kingdom. May our lives reflect Your righteousness and bring glory to Your name. In Jesus' name, Amen.