
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	
4	Kingdom Priorities	
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 2 — Kingdom Identity

Phil 3:20
"[20] But our homeland is in heaven, where our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, is; and we are looking forward to his return from there.*." (Living Bible)*

Background of Philippians 3
Philippians 3 is part of a letter written by Paul the Apostle to the church in Philippi around A.D. 60–62 while he was imprisoned, likely in Rome. The Philippian believers were dear friends and supporters of Paul's ministry, and this letter is filled with encouragement, joy, and spiritual instruction.

What Was Happening?
A major concern in Philippians 3 was the influence of false teachers, often called **Judaizers**. These teachers claimed that faith in Christ alone was not enough for salvation. They taught that Gentile believers also needed to follow Jewish laws, especially circumcision, to be fully accepted by God.

Because of this, Paul begins the chapter with a strong warning:
"Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision" (Phil. 3:2 KJV).

Paul was warning the church not to place their confidence in religious rituals, traditions, or human achievements.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Phil 3:20
"[20] But our homeland is in heaven, where our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, is; and we are looking forward to his return from there..*" (Living Bible)*

Paul's Personal Testimony (Philippians 3:4–11)
To make his point, Paul lists his impressive religious credentials:

- Circumcised on the eighth day
- An Israelite from the tribe of Benjamin
- A Hebrew of Hebrews
- A Pharisee
- Zealous enough to persecute the church
- Blameless according to the law

Yet Paul says all of these accomplishments are "loss" compared to knowing Christ.

His message is simple:
Salvation and righteousness come through faith in Christ, not through human performance.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Phil 3:20

"[20] But our homeland is in heaven, where our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, is; and we are looking forward to his return from there..*" (Living Bible)*

Paul's greatest desire became:

- To know Christ
- To experience the power of His resurrection
- To share in His sufferings
- To become more like Him

Pressing Toward the Goal (Philippians 3:12–16)

Paul then uses the imagery of a runner in a race:
"Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark..." (Phil. 3:13–14 KJV)
Although Paul had accomplished much, he did not view himself as having "arrived." Instead, he continued pursuing spiritual maturity.

This section teaches believers to:

- Learn from the past but not live in it.
- Keep moving forward spiritually.
- Focus on God's calling rather than past successes or failures.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Citizens of Heaven (Philippians 3:17–21)

Paul closes the chapter by contrasting two groups:

1. Those whose minds are focused on earthly things.
2. Believers whose citizenship is in heaven.

Philippi was a Roman colony, and its citizens took great pride in their Roman citizenship.
Paul uses that cultural background to remind Christians that their ultimate citizenship is not earthly but heavenly.

"For our conversation [citizenship] is in heaven..." (Phil. 3:20 KJV)
Believers are to live according to the values of God's Kingdom while eagerly awaiting Christ's return.

The word conversation is translated from the Greek word politeuma :

I. the administration of civil affairs or of a commonwealth
II. the constitution of a commonwealth, form of government and the laws by which it is administered
III. a state, commonwealth
    i. the commonwealth of citizens

His emphasis was that Christians are not merely church members trying to get to heaven someday; they are **citizens of Heaven's Kingdom living on earth.**

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Key Points Myles Munroe Taught About Citizenship

1. Citizenship Determines Identity

Myles taught that your citizenship determines:

- Your rights
- Your privileges
- Your protection
- Your culture
- Your laws

Just as American citizen carries the **rights and privileges** of the United States wherever they travel, believers carry the rights and privileges of Heaven wherever they go.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Key Points Myles Munroe Taught About Citizenship

2. Heaven Is the Home Country
According to Munroe, Heaven is not merely a destination after death. It is the home country of the Kingdom of God.
Believers are citizens of Heaven who have been assigned to earth.

He often said:
"A king never abandons his territory. God created earth to be an extension of Heaven's influence."

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Key Points Myles Munroe Taught About Citizenship

3. We Are Ambassadors

Myles connected Philippians 3:20 with 2 Corinthians 5:20:
"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ.“

An ambassador:

- Does not represent himself.
- Represents the government that sent him.
- Speaks on behalf of the king.
- Lives according to the laws of his home country.
- Therefore, Christians are Heaven's representatives on earth.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Key Points Myles Munroe Taught About Citizenship

4. Citizens Live by Kingdom Culture
Munroe taught that believers should think differently from the world because they belong to another Kingdom.

Kingdom citizens are to reflect:

- God's character
- God's values
- God's priorities
- God's righteousness

Rather than asking, "What does the world think?" a Kingdom citizen asks, "What does the King say?"

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Key Points Myles Munroe Taught About Citizenship

5. Jesus Came to Restore Citizenship
One of Myles's central themes was that humanity lost its Kingdom relationship through sin. Through Christ, believers are restored to God's Kingdom.

He often connected Philippians 3:20 with:

- Colossians 1:13 ("translated into the kingdom")
- Luke 19:10 ("seek and save that which was lost")
- Matthew 6:33 ("seek first the kingdom")

His view was that Jesus came not primarily to start a religion but to restore mankind's Kingdom citizenship and relationship with the King.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Key Points Myles Munroe Taught About Citizenship

A Simple Myles Munroe Summary
If Myles were summarizing Philippians 3:20, it would sound something like this:

"You are not just a church member. You are a citizen of Heaven, an ambassador of the King, carrying Heaven's culture, values, and authority into the earth. Your ultimate loyalty is to the Kingdom of God.“

This fits well with Philippians 3 because Paul is contrasting earthly-minded people with believers whose true citizenship is in Heaven. The message is not to escape earth, but to live on earth as representatives of God's Kingdom.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Main Theme of Philippians 3

If Philippians 3 could be summarized in one sentence, it would be:

"Count everything else as loss compared to knowing Christ, and keep pressing forward toward God's heavenly calling.“

From a Kingdom perspective such as Myles Munroe often emphasized, Philippians 3 highlights that our identity is not found in religion, status, achievements, or earthly citizenship, but in our relationship with Christ and our citizenship in God's Kingdom.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Rom 8:14-17

14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.
15 And so we should not be like cringing, fearful slaves, but we should behave like God's very own children, adopted into the bosom of his family, and calling to him, "Father, Father." **16** For his Holy Spirit speaks to us deep in our hearts and tells us that we really are God's children. **17** And since we are his children, we will share his treasures—for all God gives to his Son Jesus is now ours too. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering. *(Living Bible)*

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God... The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, **then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ**..." *(KJV)*

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Historical Significance of Romans 8

The believers in Rome lived under the shadow of the Roman Empire, where loyalty to Caesar was expected and persecution could arise at any time. Romans 8 assured them that:

- They belonged to God.
- The Holy Spirit lived within them.
- Their suffering had purpose.
- Their future was secure.
- Nothing could separate them from Christ.

Main Message of Romans 8

Because of Christ and the indwelling Holy Spirit, believers are free from condemnation, empowered for holy living, assured of their adoption as God's children, sustained through suffering, and secure in God's unfailing love.

From a Kingdom perspective often emphasized by Myles Munroe, Romans 8 highlights the restoration of humanity to sonship and the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit, enabling believers to live as God's children and representatives in the earth.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Romans 8:14–17 Through a Kingdom Lens

1. The Kingdom Is About Sonship, Not Mere Membership

One of Myles Munroe's most repeated teachings was:

"God never wanted servants first. He wanted sons.“

Religion often focuses on membership, rules, rituals, and attendance.
The Kingdom focuses on relationship with the King.
Paul does not say:
"As many as are led by the Spirit, they are church members.“

He says:
"They are the sons of God."

According to Munroe, God's original intention in Genesis was to create children who would reflect His nature and exercise His authority on earth.

Genesis 1:26
"Let us make man in our image... and let them have dominion."
Humans were created to be God's offspring and representatives.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Romans 8:14–17 Through a Kingdom Lens

2. Sons Are Led by the Spirit of the King

Romans 8:14 says:
"As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.“

Myles taught that a kingdom citizen must learn to follow the Governor.
In his book *Rediscovering the Kingdom*, he often referred to the Holy Spirit as Heaven's Governor.
Just as a governor represented the culture and policies of a king in a colony, the Holy Spirit brings Heaven's culture into the lives of believers.

Therefore:

- The Spirit teaches Kingdom values.
- The Spirit guides Kingdom decisions.
- The Spirit reveals the King's will.

A Kingdom citizen does not simply ask:
"What do I want to do?“

Instead he asks:
"What does the King desire?"

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Romans 8:14–17 Through a Kingdom Lens

3. Adoption Restores Lost Citizenship

Romans 8:15 says:
"Ye have received the Spirit of adoption.“

Myles frequently taught that Adam's rebellion caused humanity to lose its Kingdom connection.

When sin entered the world:

- Humanity lost fellowship with God.
- Humanity lost Kingdom citizenship.
- Humanity lost the right to represent Heaven.

Through Christ, believers are adopted back into God's family.
This is not merely forgiveness.
It is restoration.
The King welcomes us back into His family and restores our position.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Romans 8:14–17 Through a Kingdom Lens

4. "Abba, Father" Reveals Intimacy with the King

Romans 8:15 says:
"Whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

Myles emphasized that God is not merely a distant ruler.

He is both:

- King
- Father

In earthly kingdoms, subjects often never met their king.
In God's Kingdom, citizens are also family.
This is what makes God's Kingdom unique.
We do not approach Him merely as servants fearing punishment.
We approach Him as beloved children who know their Father.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Romans 8:14–17 Through a Kingdom Lens

5. The Spirit Confirms Our Identity

Romans 8:16 says:
"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God."

Myles often said:
"The greatest tragedy in life is not death but life without purpose."

And purpose flows from identity.

The Holy Spirit continually reminds believers:

- Who they are.
- Whose they are.
- Why they are here.

The enemy attacks identity because identity determines behavior.
When you know you are a child of the King, you begin to live differently.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Romans 8:14–17 Through a Kingdom Lens

6. Heirs of God Means Access to Kingdom Resources
Romans 8:17 says:
"And if children, then heirs."

An heir is someone legally entitled to an inheritance.
From a Kingdom perspective, this means believers have access to the King's provisions.

Myles taught that Kingdom citizens possess:

- The King's promises
- The King's protection
- The King's wisdom
- The King's authority
- The King's resources

Not because they earned them, but because they belong to the royal family.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Romans 8:14–17 Through a Kingdom Lens

7. Joint-Heirs with Christ
This may be the most astonishing statement in the passage.

Paul says believers are:
"Joint-heirs with Christ."

Myles would often point out that Jesus came to restore what Adam lost.
Christ is the rightful Son, and through Him we are brought into the family.

As joint-heirs:

- We share His relationship with the Father.
- We share His mission.
- We share His Kingdom inheritance.
- We share in His future glory.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Lesson 2 Summary

Philippians 3:20 — Our Citizenship
"For our citizenship is in heaven..."

Kingdom Summary
Believers are citizens of God's Kingdom living on earth.

Myles taught that salvation is more than joining a religion; it is being restored to Kingdom citizenship. As citizens of Heaven, we are called to represent the culture, values, character, and priorities of the King wherever we live.

Key Thought:
"I am not just trying to get to Heaven someday; I am a citizen of Heaven today."
Teaching Point
Kingdom citizens:

- Represent the King.
- Live by Kingdom principles.
- Carry Heaven's culture into the earth.
- Serve as ambassadors of God's government.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Lesson 2 Summary

Romans 8:14–17 — Our Sonship
"As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Kingdom Summary
Believers are not merely citizens of the Kingdom; they are sons and daughters of the King.
Myles emphasized that God's goal was not simply to create subjects but to have a family. Through Christ, we have been adopted into God's royal family and restored to our original purpose as His representatives on earth.
Key Thought:
"I am not only a citizen of the Kingdom; I am a child of the King."

Teaching Point
Kingdom sons and daughters:
- Are led by the Holy Spirit.
- Have direct access to the Father.
- Carry the King's authority.
- Share in the King's inheritance.
- Reflect the King's nature and character.

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Lesson 2 Summary

Philippians 3:20 teaches us our citizenship, while Romans 8:14–17 teaches us our sonship. As believers, we are citizens of Heaven and children of the King, called to represent His Kingdom on earth through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Citizens of Heaven (Phil. 3:20)
- **Identity shapes behavior**

Sonship over slavery (Rom. 8:14–17)
- **Purpose and identity are connected**

Or even more simply:
In God's Kingdom, we have a citizenship that gives us identity and a sonship that gives us inheritance.

One-Sentence Myles Munroe Style Summary
"Jesus came to restore our citizenship in Heaven's Kingdom and our sonship in the Father's family so that we can represent God's rule on earth as His children and ambassadors."

Week 2 — Kingdom Identity

Lesson 2 Reflection

What stood out to you?
What is God asking you to change?
What will you apply this week?

Final Prayer

“Father, open our eyes to understand Your Kingdom and live under Your rule. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

2 Corinthians 13:14 — “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ...”