

## The Kingdom Parable - Notes

### Goals for this class:

To grow in the understanding of whom God created us to be, our identity.

To have a growing awareness that God really is with us and wants to participate in our daily life.

To come to believe God is for us and wants to talk with us and have conversations every day.

### To grow in the idea: We Belong to God and God belongs to us:

- 1) We want to become free from bad definitions.
- 2) We want to be free of a poor self-image.
- 3) We want to become free from obstacles keeping us trapped in the lies we believe.

### 2 Corinthians 3:17, 18

*Now the Lord is Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*

Most of us define freedom as the absence of something not the presence of someone.

Such as bars, restrictions, addictions, relationships, responsibilities, etc.

What we seek first organizes every aspect of our daily life. What do you give your time and attention to?

How has your focus on these things organized your life?

Truth is more than just a set of facts. We have truth established by what we know as facts. We also have truth by faith. A belief not backed up as a fact or our own experiences in our life.

How do we know what truth is when we can believe a lie is true and believe truth is a lie?

Knowing truth by faith is growing deeper in the understanding from God's point of view not man's interpretation of what he thinks it means. Do we put on the mind of Christ or do we have the mind of Bob or David?

### Defining Moments:

- 1) Do you remember some of the moments when your heart turned and you made a vow or a promise to yourself? I will never.... I will do....
- 2) Do you recognize the lie(s) you believed? A lie that was conformed as true for you.

3) How did the promise or vow you made to yourself shape your choices? Then and now.

**Jesus is the Son of God, fully man and fully God.**

Jesus did not come to correct us, condemn us, show us how to live right and motivate us to do so. Although He does do all these things this is not why He came. He came to take back all that was lost beginning with mankind, you and I.

Jesus came to exchange the death in us for life enabling us to experience life fully with joy, life abundantly.

**Open Forum:**

After trying to step into a dream or your heart's passion have you ever wanted to turn back to what you know and what is familiar?

Do you have some moments where you have heard something good spoken of you and you could not accept it because it doesn't line up with how you see yourself?

What are some new to you things you have tried that revealed a hidden strength, a talent or gift you were unaware of?

**Dig Deeper:**

Lord, what dreams have you given me that I've put aside?

Lord, show me who you have made me to be.

Lord, show me the times I was so badly broken I began to walk with a limp. Where were you? What lies did I believe in that moment?

What relationships pressed me down and led me through a slow death? Where were you then? What lies did I believe about myself in those moments?

Lord, would you speak into those moments in my life when the life you made for me was being stolen from me? Would you begin to speak your truth to me, in me and through me?

Father God, show me who you have made me to be. Help me to recognize the moments that convinced me to believe a lie about who I am. Give me the courage to think differently, see myself and others differently. Help me let go of who I think I am and trust You as my Source for life. Help me to enjoy all of You and accept the adventure You have created for me. Amen