



BUILDING A KINGDOM CULTURE

Part 20

Building Blocks of a Kingdom Culture

A People who...

1. Build a Kingdom Culture
2. OBEY
3. COMMIT
4. ARE AUTHENTIC
5. BREAK BREAD TOGETHER
6. GIVE WORTHY SERVICE TO THEIR KING
7. OFFER THEIR LIVES
8. ARE COMMITTED
9. WORSHIP TOGETHER
10. BLESS
11. TESTIFY TO THE RESURRECTION
12. GIVE THANKS
13. PRAY
14. MEET TOGETHER
15. ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY
16. MAKE THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY
17. ARE READY TO TELL THEIR STORY
18. REPENT
19. LOVE THE HOUSE

Building a Kingdom Culture

‘Becoming a **people** whose **beliefs** and **behaviours** are increasingly **aligned** with the **heart** of **God**...

Revealing heaven to each other and **to our world.**

*'Our Father who dwells in
Heaven, May Your holy
Name be honoured. Let Your
Kingdom come, let Your will
be done here in Elim Church
Aberystwyth as it is in
Heaven. Amen.'*

**‘I never knew you
had so many
hidden talents’**

(Franklyn Emeseh The Wise 2017)



**A People Who INVEST WHAT
GOD HAS GIVEN THEM**

Building a Kingdom Culture 20

Matt 25

14 'Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. 17 So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. 18 But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

19 'After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. 20 The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. "Master," he said, "you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more."

21 'His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

22 'The man with two bags of gold also came. "Master," he said, "you entrusted me with two bags of gold: see, I have gained two more."

Matt 25

23 'His master replied, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

24 'Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. "Master," he said, "I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you."

26 'His master replied, "You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? 27 Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

28 "'So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. 29 For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."



Life is Not Fair

- God is always just, but life is not always fair
 - His principles are beyond our understanding
- To one he gave... 5, 2, 1
- **Less ‘whys?’, more ‘what nows?’**
 - It is natural and understandable to ask God **why** things might have happened or be the way they are
 - But a greater level of maturity and desire for obedience moves us to ask **‘what do I do now?’**
 - Can we become less fixated on how much we have and more focussed on what we do with it?

Talent (Vines Dictionary)

- Talent: Noun
- originally a balance," then, "a talent in weight," was hence "a sum of money" in gold or silver equivalent to a "talent." The Jewish "talent" contained 3,000 shekels of the sanctuary.
- Words change!
- Exodus 30:13 (about 114 lbs.). In NT times the "talent" was not a weight of silver, but the Roman-Attic "talent," comprising 6,000 denarii or drachmas
 - Note: That the "talent" denoted "something weighed" has provided the meaning of the Eng. word as "a gift or ability," especially under the influence of the parable of the talents (Mat. 25:14-30)

According to His Ability

- To whom much is given... (Lk 12)
- Let's not be a hard done-by people
- STOP looking at what you haven't got and focus on what you have
- I don't have the DIY maestroness of some of my predecessors, but...

















No detailed Instructions

- God paints us the big picture, but perhaps allows us to co-work / partner / create some of the whats and hows!
- Invest
 - Use, put into action, speculate with, utilise faith

Without Faith

- ...it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6)
- To invest is to act in faith
- Acts 2 '44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.'
- Faith-filled, love-driven investment

The Master is Coming Back

- We are to live ready for Christ to return
- Oil in our lamp!

Faithfulness Leads to Trust

- Matt 25:21 ‘His master replied, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!”
- Luke 16:10 ‘Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.
 - If you don’t give when you have little, you won’t give when you have much
 - Too many of us are waiting for the ‘when this or that...’

Kingdom Economy

- The Economy of God's kingdom can seem upside down to our world...
- The first shall be last... (Matt 20:16)
- He who wants to be greatest, must become least of all (Matt 20:26)

Kingdom Economy

- God is less interested in what we have in our hands and more interested with what we do with it
- Mark 12:41 And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. 43 And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. 44 For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”
- The ‘less’ she gave was ‘more’ in God’s economy

Hiding Your Talent is Wicked

- The consequences of failing to use what the Master had given, had very serious consequences.
- Good is looking for us to do good, not just avoid being bad
- His decision was based on fear – he had not understood his master
- ‘The fault of the third servant is that he did not recognise the master’s intention, and opted for safety instead of service’ (New Bible Commentary, IVP)
- Matt 25:29 “Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 30 And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

What Do You Have in Your Hand?

- Investments Are Intended to Grow
- Col 3:22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favour, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. 23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, 24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.
- You may feel you have little to invest...
- “Don’t despise small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin” (Zech. 4:10 NLT).

What Has God Given YOU?

- Financial and Material
- Gifting and Ability
- Relational and Personal
- Time and Availability
- And so on...

Are You Investing in the Kingdom

- Are you using and investing what God has given you?
- Are you prepared for the return of the master?
- Can God trust you with more today?