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KINGDOM VALUES

MICHAEL W. MCLEMORE

he values of the Kingdom of God are opposite the values of the world. Most tend toward following worldly values. The problem is that when God's people begin to follow worldly values, it robs us of blessing and brings judgement into our lives. Luke takes his readers through a composite of Jesus' disciples following worldly values and failing multiple times. We can learn from Jesus' training of His disciples how to avoid their mistakes and enjoy God's blessing and power.

KINGDOM POWER

Luke records the sad case of a young demon oppressed boy, whose father begged Jesus for help, *Luke 9:38-39*. The evil spirit causes the boy to scream and convulse; the father knew that it was not disease, but a demon. He came to Jesus' disciples to cast out the demon, but they could not free his son, *Luke 9:40-41*. He came then to Jesus. Note Jesus' response, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here."

Why does Jesus' answer begin "O faithless and twisted generation"? His answer actually requires a second more important question, "Who is Jesus addressing as faithless and twisted?" He is not addressing the father or the son. Jesus addresses His disciples, who failed to heal the boy and whom Jesus had earlier empowered over the demons, Luke 9:1-2. Jesus healed the boy immediately, Luke 9:42-43.

Jesus' disciples failed because of lacking faith and selfreliance. The failure was not God's. Believers must trust in God's power to accomplish their God given duty. Those who live by kingdom values trust in God's power to bring about His will, earnestly praying and relying on Him for it.

KINGDOM HUMILITY

The disciples marveled at Jesus' work. But Jesus changed the narrative - "The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men.' But they did not understand this saying, and it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying," Luke 9:44-45. Jesus was informing them of the future. He is going to be arrested and be crucified. Death didn't fit into their notion of His or their future. They began to do what people do. They wrestled with their own future, "An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest," Luke 9:46. He turned the tables on believers seeking position and "took a child and put him by his side and said to them, Whoever receives this child in my name receives me... For he who is least among you all is the one who is great," Luke 9:47-48. A true disciple is humble, seeing God at work and welcoming those who are

the least. Kingdom values require kingdom humility.

KINGDOM COOPERATION

John noticed that others were beginning to do the works of disciples, casting out demons. One was casting demons out in Jesus' name, but was not one of the twelve, Luke 9:49-50. Jesus' disciples erroneously believed they alone were responsible for such work – "We tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us." Jesus' response is both striking and telling – "But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you," Luke 9:50. Kingdom disciples seek to defeat a common enemy and heal a common community. Kingdom values accept kingdom cooperation.

KINGDOM TASK

"When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem," Luke 9:51. Jesus pressed toward that end for which He came to earth, the sacrifice for human redemption. On His way to Jerusalem, He sent messengers to a Samaritan village to make preparations for Him, but the people refused. He passed them by, but the sons of Thunder, "James and John," asked, "Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them? But he turned and rebuked them. And they went on to another village," Luke 9:54-56. Judgment of their neighbors was not their task. This was not what they should do, nor be motivated by such an attitude. Jesus had previously instructed them what they were to do when not received in a town: "shake the dust off their feet and leave the place that did not receive them and go on to another place." Leave judgment to God; pray that hearts will be changed. Kingdom values stay on their kingdom task.

KINGDOM FOCUS

"As they were going along the road, someone said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go," Luke 9:57. One after another Jesus reminded His followers of the cost of discipleship. It often means not having a comfortable place to sleep. It means leaving important "life duties" to others. It means leaving family and those you love – "Jesus said to him, 'No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God," Luke 9:62. Kingdom values means maintaining kingdom focus.

Jesus needs His followers to accep His example and training. We are not perfect, but in His will, we are "being perfected." The Lord didn't give up on His disciples and He won't give up on you. May God help us to continue learning and practicing these extraordinary kingdom values.



FAMILY MATTERS



News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

Tribute to Marty from Hill

"Tis a fearful thing
to love what death can touch.
A fearful thing
to love, to hope, to dream, to be –
to be, and oh, to lose. A thing for fools, this, And a holy thing. a holy thing

For your life has lived in me, our laugh once lifted me.

our word was gift to me.

I'is a human thing, love, hat death has touched

Rabbi Chaim Stern, 1930-2001, NY

Family Updates

Prayers:

Martha "Marty" Roberts Haselden (78), daughter of Lane & the late Don Roberts, passed away peacefully Sunday, September 18th in Nashville. Our prayers and loving condolences remain for and with her family. We were happy to include this sweet tribute contributed to Marty's memory by her brother and ours in the Lord, Hill Roberts.

Becky Hill continues in the recovery phase between treatments. She has regained a bit of strength and has been able to venture out of the house which has been a very good thing. Remember her and the family, especially Tommy, to the Lord as you pray.

Wanda Castleman's surgery went very well. We are so thankful and are looking forward to her being better very soon. Pray for her.

Remember the Godette family as they

mourn the loss of Melvin's nehew, Aaron, just 23 years old. Remember Aaron's parent's Marion & Janice as they grieve this sudden loss.

Donna Rovere and Guy McDaniel, both with deep ties to Weatherly, remain in our prayers.

Silvia, Jason, Rosy & little Nathaniel Henderson all have COVID. Please keep them in your prayers. Silvia is a few days behind the rest.

Mechi Hunt's sister, Zoila Herring, is continuing her Chemo. Continued prayers please.

The Stark's granddaughter, Ciera Elledge, has been through a great deal already. We are thankful for her progress and are continuing to pray for her future needs.

Pray for these. Each has their own particular health challenge. — Peggy Monroe, Bill McCord, Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner, Melvin Godette, Charlotte Hagewood & Betty Dubose.

TODAY AT WEATHERLY

Sunday morning Bible class begins at 9:30. Mike is leading us in a study of "Lessons for Today from Exodus."

Sunday morning Worship begins at 10. Mike is continuing his series "Draw Near." His lesson this morning will be entitled "Let Us Go to Him" from Hebrews 13:13.

TONIGHT at 6 we will gather for Bible Skillz and then open forum class. Mike is leading the class is a study of Galatians. We are continuing Galatians 5 tonight. Come be a part.

Wednesday evening Bible study begins at 7 with our study of the Book of Exodus. This is a great study. We hope to see you all.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



LaNelle Patrick 9-28 **Dorris DeCelles** 9-25 **Henry Frazier** 10-6 10-10 Karen Thompson Caryl Ehl Janeth Hagewood 10-11 10-14

SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

A Better Country Leonard White

ll of our lives are invaded by misfortune and sorrow. Have you ever considered how the painful and disagreeable aspects of our temporal existence can help us set our minds on the things above? We should have the outlook of the Old Testament heroes of faith:

"All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own they desire a better country that is a heavenly one," Hebrews 11:13-16.

You have probably sung the song, Heaven Holds All To Me, written by Tillit S. Teddlie. I feel sure that in the hundred plus years of his life, Brother Teddlie experienced much that caused him to yearn for heaven. If your heart at times is heavy from dealing with the vexing problems in your life, can you sing these words? "Earth holds no treasures but perish with using, however precious they be; yet there's a country to which I am going — heaven holds all to me." □

Weatherly Weekly

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TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 am **Sunday AM Assembly** 10:00 am **Sunday PM Assembly** 6:00 pm **Wednesday Classes** 7:00 pm

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WATCH:



Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

Tommy Hill 256 883-0010 Will Starks 256 883-5273

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore 256 698-5941 Email: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough Kirk Hatcher Hill Roberts **Bobby Wright** Steve Hagewood **David Jacks** Collis Terry



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, October 2 Sunday, September 25

Will Starks Welcome: Tommy Hill **David Jacks David Jacks** Song Leader: **Opening Prayer:** W.D. Patrick Phil Furlough Lord's Table Lead: Steve Haaewood Bill Thompson **Hebrews 13:13** Colossians 2:1-7

> Mike McLemore Mike McLemore "Let Us Go to Him" **Living in Focus**

Riley Monroe **Closing Prayer:** Ron Harmon

> **Evening Worship Evening Worship**

Bible Skillz Mike McLemore Mike McLemore

Songs Leader: David Jacks David Jacks Opening Prayer: Tommy Hill Ed Dill **Closing Prayer:** Wes Caudle Kirk Hatcher

Wednesday, September 28 Wednesday, October 5

Songs Leader: Bill Thompson Hill Roberts Mike McLemore Mike McLemore Invitation: **Closing Prayer: Tommy Hill** Will Starks

2022 Lectures Cancelled

Quarterly Adult Classes June - September 2022

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Lessons for Today from the Exodus

Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Exodus

Mike McLemore

Serving in October

Serving on the Lord's

Sermon:

Table AM & PM

** Bill Thompson (10-2), Marty Hunt (10-9), Collis ** Overseer Terry (10-16), Phil Shaver (10-23), David Jacks (10-30)

Communion Prep Building Lockup

