

## **TOPIC: THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

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### **SUMMARY OF MESSAGE**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1) Over the past few months, we covered topics on financial freedom, on contentment and on dismantling the prosperity gospel, etc. We are not focusing solely on a particular theme but covering a wide area so as to have the full counsel of God.

2) Do not be a 'consumer' Christian. There are many consumer Christians, choosing which speakers to listen to and visiting churches according to who the speakers are. A disciple is one planted to the local church, working through thick and thin, ironing out the issues, journeying and maturing in Christ.

#### **1. The gospel of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.**

a. The Kingdom of God is where the presence and power of God resides. It is where the grace of God resides. The kingdom of heaven = the kingdom of God. Luke 17:21 says that the kingdom of God is within you.

b. On earth, the kingdom of God is about the reign and rule of God in the life of a person, marriage, family, community, local church, society, city and nation.

c. God will always back up His Word and values of His kingdom. Ps 138:2 says that He exalts His word above His name. The kingdom of God is also about values of His kingdom. There are three broad streams of His character: Jeremiah 9:24 – loving-kindness, justice and righteousness. But God is more than that. He is also a just and righteous God.

Why is Singapore so blessed? It's because of kingdom values. Prov 14:34 says that righteousness exalts a nation. The Minister Mentor is a man of integrity. He is God's man for the season. He is a man who loved his wife. Mrs Lee is an example of the woman of Prov 31. She was one who knew her place. Don't take Singapore for granted. Love your nation.

#### **2. We are to communicate the Gospel of the Kingdom of God in the world.**

The Greek word for 'world' is 'kosmos'. It means the pattern of thinking in the world.

Mark 16:15

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Matthew 28:19-20

19Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them (evangelism) in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; (discipleship) and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

2 components: a) Baptism and b)discipleship. Hence, our aim is to preach the full counsel of God.

a) The kosmos is the pattern of thinking of the world with its resultant behavior and values that are opposite to that of the Kingdom of God.

b) The world we are in are all the avenues and gates of life:

- \*Arts & Entertainment
- \*Business, Science and Technology
- \*Communications and Media
- \*Disadvantaged and Marginalized
- \*Education and School
- \*Family and Home
- \*Government and Leadership

### **3. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God is power which will result in salvation.**

Roman 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Salvation is the Greek word, 'sozo'. It includes eternal life, forgiveness, deliverance, healing, grace in various forms, transformation of life and values. Something happens in the life of a person who has encountered God. Something happens in a life where the gospel is preached.

Something to note about the messenger and the message: They are linked as one. However, sometimes, we hear of an evangelist or a preacher who falls into sin. When the messenger and the message are decoupled, the message of the gospel still has the power of itself to heal but the messenger will be judged. It does not mean that when the messenger has fallen, therefore the message is not to be received. Jesus declared his purpose when He read from Isaiah.

Isaiah 4:18

The Spirit of the LORD is upon me because He has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed.

We need to arise as a priest and king and take authority. Many are in captivity to the beliefs and philosophy of the world; in captivity to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life. Jesus came to give sight to the blind.

However, for many, there is no revelation. Many know the Word but many are not born again. Many can even dissect the Word but they know not the God of the Word. Jesus came to set those in bondage. Fear can lead one to bondage. The mother of fear is death. Many are constantly battling with stress, anxiety and fear. We have a solution in Jesus. See Isaiah 61:1-3

We mourned the loss of finances and sickness. He came to give beauty for ashes. We are told the ash can be converted to beauty. Where we lose hope and are discouraged, a spirit of suicide may come. The devil comes to steal, kill and destroy but Jesus comes that we may have life abundantly. Jesus came to teach, preach and heal all kinds of diseases and sicknesses. Matthew 4:23

Roman 15:19

In mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God so that from Jerusalem and round to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

The gospel of Christ includes the gospel of salvation but it also includes healing. He is our Saviour, Redeemer, Protector and Provider.

1 Thess 1:5

For our gospel did not come to you in word but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.

It is easy to just preach the word every Sunday but that's not what it is. There must be connect where heaven comes down to earth. There needs to be a release of the power and transference of it.

Heb 2:3-4

How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, God also

bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

It amazes me how we can deny the power of the gospel here and there as if God is dead, that He no longer works with signs and wonders.

#### **4. As we communicate the gospel, we must know the scriptures and power of God.**

Matthew 22:29

Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the scriptures nor the power of God."

If we only know the scriptures, it's not good enough. If we are filled with the word, we would be filled with the Spirit and the result follows. The power of God will be manifested as: Strength; energy; enablement and empowerment and resulting in: Salvation; life-change; deliverance; healing. It is about evangelism and then discipleship.

Acts 26:18

To open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.

I know of smokers who smoked for 35 years but later managed to break through the habit. Some got addicted to internet pornography. There is a chain and bondage. They cannot fight it. The law of sin and death is at work. They got to go with the law of the spirit of life. At one stage, we may be short-fused, easily prone to wrath. Now we see the person changed. In the past, we may be gossiping and complaining; now we are more tolerant and patient. When we are misbehaving and sinning, we are in darkness.

Acts 26:18 says we have an inheritance. What's this inheritance? It is the divine exchange. We know Him as Lord and we grow and mature in Him.

1 Cor 2:2

For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified.

1 Cor 1:24

But to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

What is Jesus and Him crucified? We take the Lord's supper. What is the meaning of doing it in remembrance of Christ? He came to give us eternal life. The Supper points to His death for salvation. There is life in the Blood and by it we also overcome the devil. Every aspect and promise of God is sealed and confirmed with the precious Blood of the Lamb. We need to stand upon the Word. The Supper is not a mental recollection of a past event. Jesus is still relevant today. This is Jesus crucified. The power of God must result in a change and transformation into what we should be.

1 Cor 2:4-5

And my speech and preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power that your faith should not be in the wisdom of man but in the power of God.

The speech is to be in demonstration of the power of God. It means testing the goodness of God. In every CG, we must have the life of God. We must experience God and our lives will be changed. We share in our CG how God came true for us. We have all kinds of fears and stress but the Bible calls us to the throne of grace. When we experience God, we know He is real. Then we worship Him. Don't worship him as a ritual. We come to worship and celebrate Him.

## **5. We must live and serve our calling as priests and kings of the Most High God.**

1 Pet 2:9

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a royal nation, His own special people that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light...

There is royal blood in our veins. The day we came to know God, we are infused with royal blood. As priests, we minister to God.

Rev 1:6

And has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

### **1. As priests, we minister to God.**

The Father seeks true worshippers.

Heb 5:1,2

For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sin. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness.

## **2. As priests, we minister to man.**

1 Peter 4:10

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

As in Eph 2:10, we do good works to bless others.

## **3. As kings, we have spiritual authority to speak to the mountain.**

Mark 11:23-24

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them and you will have them.

### **A. Know what is the mountain.**

i. The mountain is any obstacle that blocks salvation, deliverance, healing, the knowledge of God, etc. in your life or that of someone else that you are ministering to.

ii. Examples of mountain can be:

- a) Unclean and evil spirits
- b) Sickness and infirmities such as fever, pain, cancer, infections, any bodily ailment.
- c) A demonic stronghold that blocks the true knowledge of God
- d) etc.

### **B. Know you have authority and power over:**

i. every living thing in your earth. Gen 1:28, Matt 21:19

ii. demons – unclean spirits. Luke 10:19, Luke 9:1

Where someone has fear, we offer to pray, saying, "In the name of Jesus, you spirit of fear, get out of the person." We exercise using our mouth, by faith, relying on the Holy Spirit and we address the demons to go.

iii. sickness and diseases. Luke 9:1-2

How do we go about exercising authority?

### **C. We do so by speaking directly to the mountain.**

Matt 21:19 – Jesus spoke to the fig tree.

Mark 4:39 – Jesus spoke directly to the wind.

Luke 4:35 – Jesus rebuked the demon.

Luke 4:36 – He commands the unclean spirits and they come out.

The tables have turned. Remember Job? Can what happened to him happen to us today? The position of the devil and his hordes – they are under the feet of the church, you and I. Therefore we trample over serpents and snakes.

### **D. Speaking to the mountain is not speaking to God**

i. Speaking to God is prayer as a priest.

ii. Speaking to the mountain is your commanding and rebuking the mountain as a king.

### **E. As you speak to the mountain, you must not doubt in your heart.**

Doubting comes when a thought, idea, picture, belief comes into your heart in the opposite direction of our faith thus nullifying our authority.

The first time we speak to the mountain, the devil will mock at us. Nevertheless, start with something simple.

We need to grow our faith which comes by hearing by the word of God. (Rom 8:17)  
When we focus our attention on God through His promises, faith rises. And at the same time, starve our doubts. When we focus our attention on the negatives of this life, doubt and unbelief rises. To decrease our unbelief, we have to decrease the influence of the world on our thoughts.

### **Application 1: Healing Evangelism**

Luke 10:5-9

CG Bridging activities and Year-end outreach  
- Relational evangelism

### **Application 2: Healing for believers**

James 5:14-16

Healing for believers is different. My proposition is this: If all the root causes in the person's life are cleared, the person should be healed. The human being is a very unique creation. We are a spirit being with a soul residing in a body. If we have a cut, we deal with it and we are healed. Some sicknesses are to be dealt with at the realm of the soul. Some are psychosomatic. Some deal with the spirit realm. If we remove the spirits, we will be healed.

It is not faith alone that heals. 1 Cor 13. We can have all the faith to move mountains but if there is no love, we are like a sounding cymbal or a gong. Why do we have the Elijah Challenge? It is out of compassion for the lost and sick. We know it's terrible to be sick. Until our perspective is changed, we will not see it. Don't harden our hearts. Don't be cynical. We are His vessels and channels. We are not the healers.

### **Conclusion**

Let us arise as priests and kings. Believe and speak forth the word with authority!  
Will you commit to do so?

End

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### **QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

1) What do you understand by Luke 17:21, ie the Kingdom of God is within you.

2) What is associated with or included in the gospel of the kingdom and is the implication for us?



3) What do we do as royal priest?

4) What are some mountains you may be facing now and do you know how to do with them?

5) Share other things which you might have gleaned from the message.

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No condemnation, no comparison, no competition but only encouragement...