

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019

PULL UP A CHAIR SUCCESS

Scripture Reading Matthew 20:20–38

AFTER THE SERMON

God's Spiritual Economy

Last Sunday, Pastor Mike made the argument that we are first and foremost citizens of the Kingdom of God. And he argued that the Sermon on the Mount—Jesus' first major public teaching—is the constitution for those who are citizens of His Kingdom. Well, God's spiritual economy is also different than that of the world. His spiritual economy seems upside down to our society. And yet, the Kingdom is the true right-side up reality for those who profess to be citizens of the Kingdom.

Read the following truths slowly and fully, being attentive to the Spirit of God, and let His truths wash over you:

- The first shall be last. (Matt 20:16)
- Whatever you did to the least of these, you did for Me (Matt 25:31-46)
- The meek will inherit the earth (Matt 5:5)
- You have to be like a child to be great in the Kingdom. (Matt 18:1-5)
- If you want to save your life, you must lose it. (Matt 16:25)
- To be great in His Kingdom, you must be a servant. (Matt 20:26)
- What good is it to gain the whole world, but forfeit your soul? (Matt 16:26)

Our Identity in the Kingdom

If our identity is not truly found in our success and achievements, then where does it come from? The short answer is Jesus. If we are citizens of the Kingdom, and if Jesus truly is our King, then our identity is in Christ and Christ alone. Take some luxurious time to slowly read the following truths, and allow them to soak in and permeate deeply into you:

- You are a child of God, whom He dearly loves. (John 1:12)
- You are his son or daughter, and He is our Abba Father. (Gal 4:6)
- You are a people for God's own possession. (1 Peter 2:9-10)
- You are an heir of God and joint heir with Christ. (Rom 8:17)
- You are righteous and holy, in the likeness of God. (Eph 4:24)
- You are set apart for God's purposes and for his glory. (Col 3:4)
- You are an expression of the very life of Christ. (1 John 4:12)
- You are his workmanship. (Eph 2:10)
- You are chosen of God, holy and beloved. (Col 3:12)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR THIS SERIES

Earlier this year, Oak Hillian Michael Zacharia, Co-Director of Faith-Based Diplomacy Project and adjunct professor at Pepperdine University Law School, gave a talk on difficult conversations. This great resource has been made available. View his talk [here](#). Access the worksheets for the talk [here](#).

ADDITIONAL READING

[*A Fellowship of Differents*](#), Scot McKnight

Kingdom Conspiracy, Scot McKnight

The Church of Us Versus Them, David Fitch

Glittering Vices, Rebeccas Konyndyk DeYoung

Christians in the Age of Outrage, Ed Stetzer

Every Step An Arrival, Eugene Peterson

Uncommon Decency, Richard Mouw