

The American Dream vs. The Kingdom Vision

Matthew 6:8-15

Get real about which Kingdom gets your life-investment!

Questions for a kingdom audit:

1. Will I be satisfied with my life _____?

Contrasting ROE's:

- The ROE for _____ treasures = _____

Do not store ... because:

- The ROE for _____ treasures = _____

Store up for yourselves ... because

2. Will I be gratified by my life _____?

Charting Points:

- My heart will follow my _____.

Where your treasure _____ there you heart _____ also!

- My focus will follow my _____.

If your eye is bad... your whole existence is "_____"

"misery, wretched, miserable, corrupt, injurious"

"An evil _____ leads to a destructive _____."

- My life will follow my _____.

3. Will I be surprised by my real life _____?

- There can be only one.

No one can serve two masters...

- "The One" is evident by...

... what I _____ *hate...love*

... what I _____ to *hold to... neglect*

... what I _____ *God ... stuff*

Challenge: Which King and kingdom?

- Do an honest _____.

- Celebrate your constant _____.

Discussion Guide: The Kingdom Vision

Opener: Choose a movie or song title to describe your relationship with money and explain the connection. If you can't think of one, choose from these: The Money Pit, The Big Short, Ocean's Eleven, Show Me the Money, Money, Money, Money; If I Had a Million Dollars; I Want to be Rich; Gold digger; Can't Buy Me Love; Rich Girl

1. One of our kingdom-auditing questions is: "Will I be satisfied with my **Return on Equity or Reward of Eternity.**"

Agree, Disagree, Discuss:

- As followers of Jesus, rewards should not be a major motivation for serving Christ.
- Every follower of Jesus should give at least 10% of their income to their church.
- Every follower of Jesus should sacrifice financially to invest in other people and God's work.
- It is legalistic to teach and expect Christians to give their money, time and gifts.
- You can keep nothing from this world – but you can invest everything.

Discuss your favorite ways to make eternally investing a part of your daily lifestyle. How do you do it? What are some specific ways that God has proven His ROE as you've practiced eternal investing?

2. The Charting Points that set our life-direction and eternal destiny are: "My heart will follow my treasure; my focus will follow my heart, and my life will follow my focus."

- Does any part of that make you uncomfortable or want to "push back?"
- Have you ever experienced an increased interest and commitment to something after (or only because) you had made a significant investment of your time, money or work there?
(Can you think of any "ordinary" examples from "nonspiritual" areas of life like you work, community, etc.?)
- Since that is true, what are the implications of the statistical fact that the average Evangelical gives less than 3% of their income to their church and God's work?
- Agree or Disagree: If you don't have an interest in the study of God's Word one possible cause may be too great of an emphasis or concern for money, pleasures and the cares of everyday life.

Read Luke 8:14 (context of 11-15) and discuss the statement above.

Do you think there is a correlation or association between our worship and our money? Explain.

3. How does what we love, what we cling to and what we serve give clear indication of our true kingdom and real God?

Prayer Target: Pray for kingdom hearts that are fully invested.

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Get real about which Kingdom gets your life-investment!

Questions for a kingdom audit:

1. Will I be satisfied with my life investment?

Contrasting ROE's:

- The ROE for earth treasures = 0
Do not store ... because:
- The ROE for heaven's treasures = ∞
Store up for yourselves ... because

2. Will I be gratified by my life direction?

Charting Points:

- My heart will follow my treasure.
Where your treasure is there your heart will be also!
- My focus will follow my heart.
If your eye is bad... your whole existence is "pitiable"
"misery, wretched, miserable, corrupt, injurious"
"An evil eye leads to a destructive lifestyle."
- My life will follow my focus.

3. Will I be surprised by my real life master?

- There can be only one.
No one can serve two masters...
- "The One" is evident by...
 - ... what I love *hate...love*
 - ... what I cling to *hold to... neglect*
 - ... what I serve *God ... stuff*

Challenge: Which King and kingdom?

- **Do an honest audit.**
- **Celebrate your constant service.**