

Kingdom Work

If I were to preach today saying, “We need to be about the work of the kingdom,” we would say “Amen” to that statement. It is true! I’d say “Amen” to it. But have we defined what “kingdom work” is? When I say “work of the kingdom,” what comes to mind?

Reaching the lost in the community is kingdom work. Holding Bible studies with non-Christians or with Christians is kingdom work. Those are vital to the kingdom’s growth. But today, I want to talk about other things that are just as vital in the work of the kingdom. I want you to see that you are probably doing more kingdom work than you think you are.

#1 – Kingdom Work is living a holy, godly, quiet life.

- **Titus 2 – Look at what is said about “sound doctrine” (Titus 2:1-8).** Here is what sound doctrine involves:
 - **Living that life is kingdom work.** We are preaching the sound doctrine of Jesus Christ by how we live every day. By how we talk. By our choices. By how we treat each other. By how we live in the world.
 - Older men (vs. 1-2)
 - Older women (vs. 3)
 - Younger women (vs. 4-5)
 - Younger men (vs. 6)
 - Even Titus the preacher (vs. 7-8) – **Titus’ holy life was kingdom work, just as much as his preaching was kingdom work!**
 - Being “self-controlled” is kingdom work and is sound doctrine!
- Here are other passages that state clearly that our duty as kingdom citizens is to live like our king, Jesus Christ.
 - **Romans 12:1-2** – Living a holy life, being a living sacrifice everyday is our “spiritual worship.”
 - **Matthew 5:14-16** – Light of the world, city set on a hill that CANNOT be hidden. Salt of the earth. People see your good works and do what? They will glorify the Father in heaven! That is kingdom work!
- We are to pray to God for world leaders so that we can live a peaceful life, which is connected to kingdom work and saving souls. But we need to think about this quiet life and what it means.
 - **1 Thessalonians 4:11** – Living a quiet and peaceful life and avoiding being a meddler is part of kingdom work. This is a command from the Holy Spirit through Paul.
 - **1 Peter 4:15** – Don’t suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.
 - Living a quiet life does not mean living a solitary life where we seclude ourselves from others.
 - Living a quiet life is in connection to how we interact with others.
 - Think of this passage – If I am a murderer, I have not lived a quiet life. I have invaded your life and crossed your boundaries and have taken your life. If I am a thief, I am not living a quiet life, I have invaded your life and crossed your boundaries and have taken what belongs to you. If I am a meddler (a busy body), I have invaded your life and have crossed your boundaries and am trying to control your life with my arrogant opinions and judgments.
 - **Proverbs 26:17** – Whoever meddles in a quarrel not his own, is like taking a dog by the ears.
 - **James 1:26** – If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, **this person’s religion is worthless.**
 - How effective will I be in teaching the gospel to the world when I am always loud, proud, walking around sticking my nose in places it doesn’t belong? Who will want to listen to you about the gospel?
 - **Proverbs 18:2** – A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but **only in expressing his opinion.**
 - The whole world is not obligated to hear everything I think about something.
- Here are examples of where we can live as lights in the community everyday (driving, kids on sports teams, how we talk to people who are serving us at a restaurant, those who helped neighbors during Harvey, etc.).
- Think of the power of a holy life, a quiet life, and how effective that is in kingdom work and in reaching the lost.

#2 – Kingdom Work is at home. Why? So that the word of God will not be reviled.

- **Titus 2:3-5** – When the home life is chaos, what happens to the word of God? It is reviled!
- **Colossians 3:18-21** – Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.
- **Ephesians 6:4** – Fathers bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.
- **1 Timothy 2:15** – She shall be saved through childbearing. It seems like the women of Ephesus were parading around and trying to show their significance through showing how smart they were, how rich they were, how beautiful their exteriors were. But God wants them to reset their minds to God’s original design. And God wants women to see that a mother who raises godly children is truly blessed by God. She is living out God’s purpose. She might be convinced that fulfillment and significance are somewhere out there, when God is saying, “raise godly children who love Me!” That is kingdom work!
- **Malachi 2:15** – God wants godly offspring! That’s one main reason He designed marriage!
- **Genesis 18:19** – God called Abraham to command his children and grandchildren to follow God.
- **Psalms 127:3-5** – Children are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. They are arrows in the hands of a mighty warrior. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them.
- Marriage is a reflection of the relationship between Jesus and His church. If we want to preach about Jesus and His church, we’d better start with our marriages (Ephesians 5:21-33). That is kingdom work.
- We have older godly men and women here who have demonstrated that through their marriages. They are showing the beauty of marriage and by doing so they are showing the beauty of Jesus and His church. They have been doing kingdom work! Younger men and women, reach out to these older men and women, take them to dinner or coffee. Learn from the kingdom work they did in their marriage.
- Kingdom work is a mom or dad wrestling toddlers, giving them baths, praying with them and reading the Bible with them. Remember what Paul said, “She shall be saved through childbearing” (1 Timothy 2). Kingdom work is parents bringing a special needs child to services when they hardly get anything out of the service at times. Kingdom work is a loving brother or sister who sees those struggling parents and lends a hand. Kingdom work is being kind to your husband or wife or kids when all you want to do is scream.

#3 – Kingdom Work is how you are at your job. This “adorns” the doctrine of God!

- **Titus 2:9-10** – How we behave at work will, “**adorn the doctrine of God our Savior.**”
- **Colossians 3:22-4:1** – When you work, “**You are serving the Lord Christ.**”
- And that happens here at Dowlen. People are doing kingdom work everyday when they go to work, when they put on that hardhat, or go to the office, or work at the hospital. You are doing kingdom work. We will say things like this, “The preacher has a spiritual job, and we have secular jobs.” That statement is not accurate. We have again put things in wrong boxes. By you living a godly life, going to work every day and showing the spirit of Christ, you are doing kingdom work.