

Life Group Notes

Sunday 17th September 2023

Speaker: Sean Green

Title: Kingdom Come: First Thing First

Passage: Matt 6:33

Read: But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matt 6v33
ESV

Seek: to seek means to make a search for, to try to find or try to obtain. Implies two things: time (a lifetime) and effort (Mr Sheen).

First: It's the priority, it is to take precedence. It is not just one of many things of equal importance on our To-Do list.

The Kingdom of God: The Jews were living with promises for this but their thinking / expectation was too small (like a decaf skinny latte). The kingdom of God is not a matter of talk, but of God's power coming forth (1Cor4v20). We all started in the Dominion of Darkness, but when we heard and responded to the Goodnews, we were transferred into the kingdom of God (Col 1v13). However, we are NOT given dual nationality, we need to turn away from old allegiances and old ways of thinking (rugby shirt).

And his righteousness: There's at least two ways the bible talks about righteousness, one being the quality of having a right standing before God. We don't need to keep seeking after that righteousness, that is credited to us the moment we trust in Jesus' death. The other way the bible talks about righteousness is by keeping God's commands, living in such a way that pleases God and reflects our new family likeness.

And all these things will be added to you. This is a conditional promise. This is what comes to you IF you seek the God's kingdom and righteousness first. We don't have to worry about food, housing or clothing, these are God's problems. What we should concern ourselves with whether our priority in life is knowing God better. That said, if you try this for a day, a week or a month, just to see if it works, you disqualify yourself. Why, because it betrays that your heart is not bent on seeking God face but His hand (i.e. what he can do for you).

Suggested questions:

1. Over the past two Sundays messages, what has God been saying to you?
2. Are you taking advantage of this conditional promise?