

UPSIDE DOWN THE WAY OF THE KINGDOM
PART 6 - "MUCH IS GIVEN"
SCRIPTURE: LUKE 19; MATTHEW 25
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INTRODUCTION

- We are called to have faith like Jesus, not just in Him.
- The Kingdom grows in us through patience, bears fruit through surrender and redeems what others would uproot.

I. THE KING WE DON'T WANT

- Luke 19:11-14, "...¹²He said, 'A nobleman was called away to...be crowned king...¹³ Before he left, he called... his servants and divided among them ten pounds of silver, saying, 'Invest this for me while I am gone.' ¹⁴ But his people hated him and sent a delegation...to say, 'We do not want him to be our king.'"
- Jesus is the king in this story...the King no one wanted because they didn't see Him correctly.
- How we view God:
 - We view Him as harsh, unkind, and **punitive**.
 - We view Him as a **friend**, not a King.
 - Or we ignore that we have a **Creator** and live as our own king.
- The invitation of God is to bring our kingdom in alignment with His.

II. KNOWING THE KING

- Luke 19:17, "'Well done!' the king exclaimed...'You have been faithful with the little I entrusted to you...'"

- When we know our heavenly Father, we realize that all of life is a **gift**, and we have an opportunity to live well now.
- Knowing the Father starts with knowing the Spirit - His presence in and with us.

III. NOT KNOWING THE KING

- Luke 19:20-24 NLT
- It all comes from Him, belongs to Him and will be returned to Him.
- Why we don't know the King:
 - We ignore that He is real.
 - We only allow Him to be partially King.
 - We get too busy, and He is replaced by what we do, not who we are and who He is.
- This man didn't take himself as serious as the king did.
- We must take ourselves as serious as **God** does.
- There's a difference between rulership and responsibility.
 - **Rulership** - "It's all mine to do as I please."
 - **Responsibility** - "I have been entrusted with these things by someone, and my job is to manage them well."
- Practical To Do's
 - Radically deal with **busyness**.
 - Identify **distractions**.
 - Identify the **big things**.
 - Take a **risk**.

CLOSE

- Our **stewardship** has a shelf life.
- Luke 19:25-26, "...²⁶ 'Yes,' the king replied, 'and to those who use well what they are given, even more will be given...'"
- Surrender toward the King and His Spirit.