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# *Church in Campbell Weekly News*

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## **LIVING A LIFE OF GOD FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD**

We all need to see that God's eternal plan, which is His New Testament economy, is to dispense Himself as the Triune God into His chosen people. In order to accomplish His plan, He was incarnated, becoming a man named Jesus. When this man came out to preach, He began to sow Himself into God's chosen people. However, as the soil for the Lord's sowing, His chosen people had become fallen, damaged, and corrupt. Therefore, the Lord Jesus brought this soil to the cross and crucified it. Then He brought God's chosen people as the soil with Him into His resurrection. Through His death and resurrection, the Lord not only healed the soil, but also became the replacement for God's people. By replacing them with Himself, He made them His reproduction; that is, He made them the same as He.

When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He lived a life of God for the kingdom of God. He did not live a life of culture, religion, or ethics. Now His followers should live the same kind of life. This means that His followers should live a life of God for the development of God's kingdom.

It is crucial for us to see that as God's people, as those who have been replaced by Christ and with Christ, we need to live a life that is absolutely of God. We should not live a life that is of something other than the Triune God.

Day by day we need to put this vision into practice. This means that instead of living a life of culture, religion, ethics, morality, philosophy, improvement of character, and of trying to be spiritual, scriptural, holy, and victorious, we need to live a life that is absolutely of God and for the kingdom of God.

For example, a married brother should not try in himself to love his wife. Neither should he endeavor to be a pattern to others of what a good husband should be. To have this thought is to miss the mark of God's New Testament economy. Furthermore, it is to miss the vision of God's economy.

According to the vision of God's economy presented in the New Testament, as God's chosen people, those who have been replaced by and with Christ, we should live only a life of God. This means that if a married brother has the thought of trying to be a good husband, he should drop that thought and simply live a life of God. Such a brother needs to realize that he has been chosen by God and replaced by Christ, not that he should try in himself to be a good husband, but that he should live a life of God. He has not been destined to live a life of loving his wife; rather, he has been destined to live a life of God. Therefore, he should not live a life of culture, religion, or ethics. Instead of seeing these things, he should see Jesus only. Eventually, he will live in a way that is much

higher than culture, religion, ethics, or morality. He will have a love for his wife that is much higher than his natural human love.

We should not be occupied even with good things such as ethics and improvement of character or be frustrated by these things. Instead, we should be occupied, thoroughly filled, with the Triune God. The One who lived a life fully according to and for God's New Testament economy, the One who has replaced us with Himself, is now the Spirit living through us. We should not allow anything other than this One to fill us and occupy us.

## **RICH IN THINGS OTHER THAN THE TRIUNE GOD**

The incident concerning the rich man in Mark 10 is an illustration of our need to be free from being occupied by anything except God Himself. After the rich man went away sorrowing, the Lord said to His disciples, "With what difficulty shall those who hold on to riches enter into the kingdom of God!" (10:23). Some who read this may say, "God isn't fair. Why can a poor man enter the kingdom of God, but not a rich man?"

We need to see why the rich man in Mark 10 could not enter into the kingdom of God. He could not enter because his being was occupied by things other than God. There was no room in him for Christ to grow into a kingdom. Once again we need to see that the kingdom of God is not a material realm. The kingdom of God is the Lord Jesus growing and developing within us.

When some read about the rich man in Mark 10, they may rejoice over the fact that they are poor and not at all like the rich man. However, you may be quite rich in things other than material wealth. Even the young ones among us may be rich in the ten matters that are replacements for Christ, rich in culture, religion, ethics, morality, philosophy, improvement of character, and the effort to be spiritual, scriptural, holy, and victorious.

Do you know what it means to be rich? To be rich means to be occupied by something other than the Triune God. In my years of serving the Lord, I have met hundreds of Christians who were rich in things other than the Triune God. They were rich in such things as Bible knowledge, traditional theology, and the effort to be spiritual. Because they were rich in this way, there was no room for the Lord Jesus to grow within them.

I am not giving a word in this message that I have not first applied to myself. Before giving this message, I asked myself, "Are you occupied by anything other than Christ? Perhaps you are occupied by some concept you have concerning the

Bible." I am deeply concerned that I may still be occupied by certain good things that are not Christ Himself.

## OUR NEED TO EMPTY OURSELVES TO ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD THROUGH THE GROWTH OF CHRIST WITHIN US

We all need to be emptied of anything other than Christ that occupies us. Our being needs to be unloaded for the Lord Jesus. We need to empty ourselves. According to the Bible, to humble ourselves is to empty ourselves. We need to empty ourselves so that all of the space within us will be available for the growth of the Lord Jesus in us.

To empty ourselves and give the Lord Jesus all the room within us is to enter into the kingdom of God. We should not regard the kingdom as a material realm that we shall enter one day after certain terms have been fulfilled. That is a traditional concept of the kingdom of God, not the teaching concerning the kingdom in the New Testament.

We need to be impressed with the fact that to enter into the kingdom of God is to empty ourselves, to unload ourselves of everything other than Christ so that our entire being may be available for Him to grow in us in full. I have the full assurance that this is the proper understanding of what it means to enter into the kingdom of God. If you do not agree with this understanding today, eventually you will agree that it is according to the New Testament revelation.

To enter the kingdom of God is not a matter of entering a material realm outside of us. Rather, to enter the kingdom of God is to grow Christ inwardly. The developing of the kingdom within us is our entering into the kingdom.

How can the kingdom develop within us? If we would have the kingdom develop in us, we need to humble ourselves, empty ourselves, unload ourselves. We should not be occupied with culture, religion, ethics, morality, philosophy, improvement of character, or the effort to be spiritual, scriptural, holy, and victorious. We should care only for Christ and for the growth of Christ within us. All the ground within us should be made available for Him to grow in us.

I would encourage you to take this understanding of the kingdom and read Matthew 13 and Mark 4 in light of it. In these chapters we see the Lord Jesus as the Sower coming to sow Himself into us as the soil. He expects that we shall empty ourselves, unload ourselves, and give Him the ground to grow in us.

The growing of Christ within us is our entering into the kingdom. The reason the growth of Christ in us is our entrance into the kingdom is that this growing is the developing of the kingdom. Furthermore, as we develop the kingdom, we enter into it. Therefore, the kingdom is not a material realm. On the contrary, the kingdom is a matter of Christ growing in our being.

God has chosen us in Christ, and He has provided Christ as the universal replacement. Now we need to cooperate with the Lord by unloading ourselves so that He may grow freely in

our being. If we do this, we shall be in the kingdom. We shall be in the manifestation of the kingdom in the coming age, and we shall be in the reality of the kingdom today. This is a life that lives according to God's New Testament economy.

May we all see such a view of the New Testament economy of God. If we see the vision of a life fully according to and for God's New Testament economy, our entire Christian life will be revolutionized.

(Excerpts from Life- Studies of Mark Message 66)

### Burdens for Church Prayer

- Prayer for Labor Day Conference, for the saints' participation, for the Lord's speaking and for a receiving heart
- 2026 Targets, # of baptized:22; # of prayer meeting attendance:35; average Lord's Day and small group attendance:10% increase
- Spread the kingdom of God by preaching the gospel on the WVC campus and by Bible distribution in the community.
- Multiply the number of small groups for the increase and building up of the Body of Christ
- Perfect young working saints with shepherding families as containers for the next generation.
- Practice PSRP, BNPB, and vital small groups.
- Blending in the Body, by participating in conferences and trainings
- Establish and strengthen the church services, including children, YP, ushering, etc.
- Establish a prayer life individually and corporately
- Pursuing the truth and growth in life to live in the reality of the kingdom.

### Announcements

- Life-study of Mark MSG 65, 66
- HWMR for Labor Day Conference: Building up the house of God in the local churches, Week 5
- 9/1 (Tue) 7:45pm, Prayer meeting at meeting hall.
- 9/4-6 NorCal Labor Day Conference held at Burlingame Hyatt, <https://www.hyatt.com/events/en-US/group-booking/SFOBU/G-BLEN>

#### Labor Day Conference Schedule

| Labor Day Conference |                    | Time       |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Fri 9/4              | Message 1          | 7:30-9 pm  |
| Sat 9/5              | Message 2          | 10 am-noon |
|                      | Blending           | 12-3 pm    |
|                      | Special fellowship | 4-5 pm     |
|                      | Message 3          | 7-8:30 pm  |
| LD 9/6               | Lord's table/MSG 4 | 10 am-noon |

- 9/5 Nor Cal churches blending. Coyote Park/Burlingame meeting hall.
- 9/6 LD 1-3 pm Campbell meeting hall, Lunch blending with saints from Church in Fresno
- 2027 Gospel calendar.  
<https://www.livingstream.com/gospel-calendars/zh/gospel-calendars/99999558-2027-gospel-calendar.html>
- Financial Giving:  
PayPal/Zelle: churchincampbell@gmail.com  
Venmo @Churchin-Campbell
- Church in Campbell bookroom account (PayPal/Zelle)  
churchincampbellbooks@gmail.com