

THE KINGDOM OF GOD #6 THE KINGDOM MINDSET

Matthew 6 ...Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. ¹⁰ Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.
KJV

When God created man he gave him a soul. Part of the soul is our will. It is the will of man that sets him apart from all of God's creation. The Kingdom of God is never more powerful than when the human will has been captured.

I. The will of man is tempted of the devil.

We live in a sin cursed world because a man put his will above the will of God. God told **Adam** not to eat of the tree yet he chose to do so anyway.

The devil tempted **Eve** with these words...Genesis 3:5
"...you will be like God..." She placed her will above God's will.

She was **rebellious and stubborn.**

Saul is rejected as being the king of Israel because of his stubbornness.

1Samuel 15 ²³ For rebellion *is* as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is* as iniquity and idolatry.

What is an idol? A God. **When we are stubborn we are self-willed. We become our own God.** Is that unlike Eve in the garden?

If a self-willed person prays the Lord's prayer it would sound something like, "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. **MY** kingdom come. **My will** be done in earth....

The key to major victory is submitting my will to the Father.

II. Jesus is our example of the Kingdom mindset.

Luke 22 ⁴² Saying, Father, **if thou be willing**, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.
KJV

- A. He had a will. He was fully man. - "Not my will"
- B. He surrendered his will - "But thine be done"

III. How our will is conquered

Romans 6 ¹⁶ Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. ¹⁸ You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness. NIV

A. Our will is changed when we are broken.

Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus is broken. Now he will not fight against the church but will fight for the Kingdom of God.

B. Our will is changed when we yield to one we

respect.

“Our Father which art in heaven hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done.

Saul of Tarsus when he was broken called the one who smote him with blindness “**Lord...**”

Jesus makes is clear for us in **Luke 6**⁴⁶ “Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say?
NIV

Yield yourself or offer yourself is an act of the will.
You are the servant to the one you **obey**.

C. Our will is changed by the object of our affections.

Paul urged us to watch our affections in **Colossians 3**¹ If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.² Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. KJV

Our heart (soul, mind, will and emotions) follows our affections.

Jesus reveals this in **Matthew 6**²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The level of our love determines the level of our obedience.

John 14¹⁵ “If you love me, you will obey what I command.
NIV

John 15 ¹⁰ **If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love**, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. NIV

Our will is yielded to the degree of our love relationship with the Father.

The more we love him the more we want to obey Him.

The disciples followed Him for 3 1/2 years amazed at His teaching and miracles. They forsook him at the crucifixion but when He was resurrected all he had taught them came alive. Now they understood how much he loved them. They would do more than follow him.

When He gave them the command to "go into all the world" they did. They would now die for him! They were slaves to righteousness. They were now willing to obey His commands because they loved him.

1. My love for God compels me to give. - release, and to sacrifice

"I give you.....my heart, soul, body mind and strength"

We are to have the love that Jesus has for his church. "He gave himself for it"

2. My love for self compels me to take, to keep and to receive.

"I want you to.....give me, give me, give me"

Self love is concerned only about me, what I get. Too many marriages are built around taking. It is using one another for selfish reasons.

Too many prayers are being offered to our Father that are centered around getting. "Lord give me, give me, help me, help me..."

Intimacy with God is not determined by the **RECEIVING OR TAKING** from Him but **when WE GIVE HIM WHAT HE ASK OF US**. It is both giving and receiving without expectation or demand connected to it.

Our will is changed by the focus of my affect and...

D. Our will is changed when we are apprehended by a greater power.

Saul of Tarsus when he was broken by a greater power asked "Lord what would you have me do?"

We must **know** that God is greater than our efforts and what we know or we will continue to live self willed and self destructive lives.

Our will is changed by the touch of His Spirit.

John 4 ²⁴ God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship *him* in spirit and in truth. KJV

My spirit is that part of me that is God conscious.

My spirit is King
My soul is his Servant
My body is his slave.

The order of controlling our will (the soul) is for my spirit to rule my will. For this to occur, my spirit must be touched by His Holy Spirit.

Romans 8 ¹³ For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. KJV

By the power of the Holy Spirit my spirit is renewed.

Ephesians 4 ²³ And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

Renewed implies “**a continuous act**”. The spirit of my mind is renewed because of the powerful truth, and affection that the Holy Spirit deposits in my mind.

If my spirit is not touched by His Holy Spirit my soul is ruling my spirit. I will live life based on my emotions and not my spirit.

How is the spirit of your mind?

How are you responding to the will of God for your life?

Is your love to please him more than to please yourself?

Are you yielding your will to His will?

Are you giving him your “**whole** heart, soul, body, mind and strength?

Our prayer is “thy kingdom come, thy will be done!”