

Kingdom Engagement

“Stewardship Living and Giving



**1 Corinthians 4:1-2, Acts 20:35
Luke 6:38, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

- **This weekend, we are celebrating 35 years of Ministry.**
- **God has been so good to us throughout this entire journey. (Psalms 124:1-2, 8)**
- **We thank God for faithfully fulfilling every promise given to us through His Word.**
- **We thank God for our Founder and Bishop, Michael Thomas, and His family. God gave him the vision of Love and Faith in 1981 in San Antonio, Texas.**
- **There's just one Vision for the house of Love and Faith – "To equip the people of God for the work of ministry."**
- **We are One Church in Two locations. Not two separate churches with two separate visions.**
- **When you join in Greensboro – "You are joining Love and Faith."**
- **When you join in Kernersville – "You are joining Love and Faith."**
- **I have a mandate from God – "To build the lives of His people and prepare them for what He's going to entrust to us in the future."**
- **We are Building toward the Future – Where we are now is not where we are going to end up. "What you see now is not what you're going to see in the future."**
- **We are building a community of Believers both from within and outside these four walls. (Hebrews 10:23-25)**
- **By encouraging believers to hold fast and stand firm in their confession of hope without wavering for He who promised is faithful. (vs. 23)**
- **By considering (giving attention to or continuous care) toward one another as believers. (vs 24-25)**
- **By exhorting one another to keep fighting the good fight of faith. (vs. 25)**
- **We are Love and Faith and not Hate and Doubt. (Hebrews 11:6)**
- **We are to love people and not use and abuse them. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8)**
- **We are to believe in people and never give up on them. (Galatians 6:1-3)**
- **We are to make disciples of Jesus Christ and not disciples of men. (Matthew 28:19-20)**
- **We are to always be a blessing and not a burden. (Acts 20:35)**
- **We are to always walk in humility, not with pride or arrogance. (Matthew 23:11-12, James 4:10, 1 Peter 5:5-6)**
- **This is God's House and you are the sheep of His pasture.**
- **Purpose: To teach us the importance of being a good steward and an active participant in the Kingdom of God.**

- Goal: To encourage us to engage and embrace our role and responsibility in order to advance the Kingdom of God in the earth.
- Spiritual Principles: Stewardship, Sowing and Reaping, Authority, Obedience, Agreement, Faith, Grace
- Objective: 1) The Principle of Giving 2) The Priority of Giving 3) The Promise and Provision that comes with Giving
 - The Theme for 2026 is “Kingdom Engagement.”
 - I believe that 2026 is going to be exciting for those who faithfully embrace and engage in the Kingdom of God.
 - We have “crossed over” into another year. (Joshua 1:1-17, 3:1-17)
- 1. The word “cross over or crossing over” means a significant shift or transition.
 - It has a greater significance for every true believer and their relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - It means leaving the past behind and moving forward toward a great future in Jesus Christ.
 - It means embracing our new identity and destiny in Jesus Christ.
 - It means walking in a greater awareness of God through faith in Jesus Christ.
 - It can also mean moving beyond our limitations, mediocrity, complacency, procrastination, excuses, unbelief, insecurities, and stepping into your God-given call and purpose in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.
 - It means shifting your focus from your priority to prioritizing Jesus Christ and God’s will for your life.
- 2. The “transition” is birthed out of a process of submission and surrendering to God through faith in Jesus Christ. (John 11:21-26, Romans 10:9-10, 13, 1 John 5:11-13)
 - The “transformation” is birthed out of “transition.” (John 1:1-4, 11-14, 6:38-40, Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 5:8-10, Colossians 1:13-14, Philippians 3:20-21, 1 Peter 2:9-10)
 - Another word for “transformation” is the word “metamorphosis” which means passing, variance, growth, progress, reshaping, turning or conversion.
- 3. Jesus Christ has changed and transformed our lives for His purposes and for God’s glory.

- We can no longer be satisfied with just knowing about Jesus (practicing being religious) and not have a personal relationship with Him.
- We can no longer be satisfied with just coming to the “church building” and not being “The Church” (The Bride and Body of Christ), that Jesus Christ died for and is coming back for.
- We can no longer be satisfied with just knowing the Word and not becoming the Word.
- What does the word “Kingdom” mean and how does it apply to our life?

1. The word “Kingdom” means rule, dominion, authority, realm, reign and sovereignty.
- The “Kingdom” is the rule, reign, realm, dominion and sovereignty of God.
- The realm of God’s Kingdom rule, reign, authority, dominion, and complete sovereignty, covers all that exists in both the heavens and the earth.
 - There are Four Key components of every Kingdom.
1. It has a king – Jesus Christ is the King of kings and Lord of lords.
(Revelation 19:16, Luke 1:33, Daniel 2:44, 7:14)
2. There is territory that exists and belongs to the king. (Psalm 24:1-2, Revelation 11:15)
3. It has citizens that are subject to the king’s rule and authority. (Ephesians 2:19-22, Philippians 3:20-21, 2 Corinthians 5:20)
4. It has laws, systems, and principles that govern the lives of every citizen.
(Matthew 4:4, John 1:1-4, 14, Romans 10:17)

- What does “Engagement” mean both practically and spiritually?

1. The word “Engagement” is synonymous with the word’s commitment, appointed time, participation, involvement, interaction, taking part in, battle, fight and betrothal (commitment to marry).
2. The word “Engagement” is commonly associated with a couple (man and woman), which involves a public announcement and a time period when the couple makes future plans to get married.
3. The word “Engagement” has a biblical and spiritual significance as it relates to Jesus Christ and His Church (The Bride and the Body of Christ).

- **There are Six Important components of a Divine Engagement:**
- 1. **It has been divinely established upon Jesus Christ and His future return, that has been set by God Almighty. (John 1:1-4, 14, Matthew 16:18-20, Mark 13:32-37, Hebrews 12:1-2)**
- 2. **It requires faith in Jesus Christ and being attached to the Body of Christ in order to produce divine fruit. (John 15:1-8)**
- 3. **The Holy Spirit is the power source that enables and empowers the believer's life. Without Him, every spiritual battle will end in defeat. (2 Corinthians 4:7, Ephesians 6:10-18)**
- 4. **The Word of God is one the most powerful weapons when nurtured and cultivated in a believer's life. (Matthew 4:4, 2 Timothy 2:15, Hebrews 4:12-13)**
- 5. **Prayer is one of the greatest weapons given to every believer and the power behind our spiritual armor. (Matthew 6:5-6, Ephesians 6:13-18, James 5:13-18, 1 John 5:14-15)**
- 6. **Praise and worship from the heart welcomes God's dwelling presence and strength in their lives and brings victory over our enemies. (Psalms 22:3, 28:7, 18:3)**

- **Kingdom Engagement through stewardship living and giving. (Psalm 35:27-28, John 10:10, Matthew 6:31-33, Acts 20:35)**
- **Some of you here and those who are watching, "You are still standing at this cross road in your life." The question for you for the Year of 2026, is simply this?**
- **Will you continue living life as an observer (spectator) of the Kingdom of God?**
- **Will you continue living life as an active participant (engaging and embracing) life in the Kingdom of God?**

- **It is the difference between a "settler and a meddler" in the Kingdom of God.**
- 1. **A "settler" refers to a believer who is rooted and grounded in the faith in Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 3:14-19, Colossians 2:6-7)**
- **They are actively engaged and embrace their role and responsibility in the Kingdom of God.**
- **They are actively fulfilling God's Kingdom purposes in the earth.**
- **Their life reflects the life and character of Jesus Christ.**

2. A “meddler” refers to a carnal Christian who seek to uproot and discourage those who desire to live and please God.

(1 Thessalonians 4:9-12, 1 Peter 4:12-16)

- They are unstable and cannot be trusted by God.
- They’re busy meddling in everyone business in order to create gossip, division, anger, envy, strife, and bitterness among the saints.
- They choose to remain inactive and unwilling to commit to do anything for the Kingdom of God.

○ The believer must embrace their role and responsibility as a steward citizen of the Kingdom of God. (Genesis 1:26-28)

1. The stewardship means the right to care for the property of someone else.

- Another word for “dominion” is stewardship, manager, administrator over. (Psalm 8:4-9, 24:1-2)
- God is the Owner, “I’m just the manager.” God owns everything and his stewards must manage His property wisely and responsibly.

2. Stewardship deals with every area of our lives.

- Every citizen of the Kingdom of God must wisely and responsibly manage their life, gifts, talents (abilities), finances, time and possessions.
- If you are not enjoying your life or a certain area in your life, then check how you are stewarding your life in that area.
- Stewardship is a lifelong process that no believer can afford to ignore. The Spiritual Principle of Stewardship – “God’s plan to fulfill our lives.”

3. When the Kingdom citizens live and give according to the rules and regulations of the King – “Jesus Christ.”

- The believer will never reap the benefits of the Kingdom of God by being unfaithful, irresponsible, and disobedient steward. (1 Corinthians 4:1-2, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8)

4. God has given us His Kingdom system called tithes and offering.

- It applies to everyone who is under His Sovereign rule, reign, and authority.

5. The benefits of the Kingdom are reserved for His citizens that abide by His rules and regulations that are governed by His Word.

- The Kingdom citizen can enjoy a life of abundance and protection when their lives as a steward is in proper alignment with the authority of God’s Divine Word.

6. The Believer (Kingdom citizen) should never allow the outside voices from those who operate from the kingdoms of this world to influence their view, attitude and behavior toward Jesus Christ and His Kingdom.
 - There is a lot of voices in the world (Satan is the god of this world). He has ministers on every platform in the church, social media, television and radio.
 - The most important person in your life is He the Holy Spirit. And the most important voice that you must hear and obey is He the Holy Spirit.

- Where did the word “Tithe” first originate from and why it matters in the Kingdom of God? (Genesis 2:15-17)
 1. The “tithe” means an accursed thing. It belongs to God.
 2. Tithing originated first in the Garden of Eden. It started 400 years before the law was given. (Genesis 2:15-17)
 3. It matters because the Kingdom of God is supported through tithes and offering. Malachi 3:8-12)

- God makes it clear how we rob Him, “In tithes and offering.” (vs. 8)
- God didn’t say we robbed Him, “In Church dues and first fruit offering.”
- God declares that you are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation.” (vs. 9)

4. There are (3) three types of giving. (Matthew 23:23)
 - Tithes.
 - Offering.
 - Alms (giving to the poor).
5. Tithe is 10% of your finances. When God blesses you financially, you should give God 10% of that income. (Proverbs 3:9-10)
 - Tithing is not equal giving but equal sacrifice.
 - Tithing was never given by God as a mean to manipulate, deceive and guilt people into giving.
 - Tithing was given to teach us responsibility and accountability as stewards of God.

- The 10-10-80 Plan is a simple but also effective and rewarding.
 1. 10% - Tithe (I give and honor God).
 2. 10% - Pay yourself (Put in saving to establish an emergency fund).
 3. 80% - Live out of a Budget (Pay your bills and Give your offering out of).

- **What is an Offering and how God expect us to give? (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)**
 1. **It is a gift offered in love and worship to God.**
 2. **It is anything the Holy Spirit desires you to give. (You should pray over your offering and ask the Holy Spirit what you should give).**
 3. **It is anything that you purpose in your heart to give. (If the Holy Spirit don't speak anything to you, "Purpose in your heart what you desire to give)."**
 4. **God expects every believer as Kingdom citizens to give willingly, obediently and cheerfully. (Isaiah 1:19-20, 2 Corinthians 9:7)**
 - **We are to give according to the will of God and the Word of God.**
 - **We are to give out of obedience and a cheerful heart. (1 Samuel 15:22, 2 Corinthians 9:7, Acts 20:35)**
 - **Not out of emotions.**
 - **Not out of deception and manipulation.**
 - **Not out of a grudging spirit (resentfully, reluctantly, or deep regret)**
 - **Not out of necessity (being forced, pressure, or guilt).**
 - **We reap the blessing and benefits of Kingdom giving.**
 - **By sowing faithfully. (Give regularly and consistently)**
 - **By sowing responsibly. (Managing God's resources wisely and responsibly).**
 - **By sowing obediently. (Give out of obedience). (1 Samuel 15:21-22)**
 - **When we engage and embrace Kingdom giving as citizens of the Kingdom of God the blessings are undeniable. (vs. 10-12)**
 1. **The Gospel message of Jesus Christ continue to spread throughout our entire world. There are those who are hearing Jesus Christ gospel message because of the support of God's Kingdom citizens within that local church.**
 2. **The Mission work of Jesus Christ is supported locally, nationally, and internationally.**
 3. **The House of God becomes resourceful.**
 - **To take care of the house of God.**
 - **To help and support the people of God in need.**
 - **To help and support local outreaches and missions outside the church that assist those who are in need.**
 - **To equip and encourage the people of God in their faith in Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-16)**

- A safe place where people can be saved and discipled. (Matthew 28:19-20)
- A place of prayer and intercession. (Matthew 21:12-14)
- A place where Jesus Christ is exalted and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwells. (John 12:32, Zechariah 4:6, 2Corinthians 3:17)
- The Spiritual Principle of Sowing and reaping – “God’s plan to provide for our lives.”
- The word “sow” means to give the things of God according to the purpose and plan of God.
- The word “reap” means to receive the harvest of God that is provided to us through Jesus Christ.
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- This Spiritual Principle teaches that man will always be sowing and reaping. (Genesis 8:22)
- By sowing the “natural seed” we can expect to receive a spiritual harvest.
- The Statement is true: “Giving is never complete until receiving takes place.”
- The Life of those who refuse to govern their life according to the God’s Word. (Haggai 1:1-15) *Personal Priority versus Prioritizing God first in everything.
- The Israelites were focused on rebuilding their own homes while God’s house lay in ruins. God calls them out for it, “Consider your ways!” (vs. 5-7)
- If they obey and heed His word to rebuild His house, God would be glorified. (vs. 8)
- But if they chose not to obey and rebuild God’s house, they would experience a drought (lack, prosperity, blessings) and their work would be unfruitful. (vs. 9-11)

- **Those who choose not to prioritize God and His Kingdom are:**
 - Always complaining about their life.
 - Always struggling.
 - Always unfruitful and barren.
 - Always ungrateful and never thankful for anything.
 - Always taking and never giving.
 - Always greedy and stingy.
- **The Israelites who did obey and rebuild the temple of God. (vs. 12-15)**
 1. **God and His Kingdom should always be top priority in every believer's life.**
 - It involves living a holy (set apart) and righteous life before God and others until Christ returns.
 - It is being active and not passive in fulfilling God's purposes in the earth.
 - It involves submission, commitment and dedication in order to build a strong and lasting relationship with Jesus Christ.
- **The Principles of Giving. (2 Corinthians 8:1-15, 9:10-15)**
 - Apostle Paul addresses the importance of giving and meeting the needs of the saints. He uses the churches of Macedonia, Philippi, Thessalonica and Berea as an example of generosity to encourage the believers in Corinth. (2 Corinthians 8-9)
 - The churches throughout Judea were suffering great poverty and needed help.
 - The Macedonian believers were also experiencing severe trials and suffering, yet they gave willingly and generously by the abundance of God's grace upon their lives.
 - The purpose of the believer's giving as a steward should be to worship and glorify God in everything.
 - A Principle is an eternal truth when followed will yield a desired result.
- 1. **Giving is a demonstration of God's grace. (2 Corinthians 8:1)**
- 2. **Giving expresses our joy and delight to please God and help those in need regardless of our own suffering and difficult situations of life.**
(2 Corinthians 8:2-4)
- 3. **Giving is a privilege and honor. (Acts 20:35)**
- 4. **Giving requires first trust and commitment to God and then toward leadership of the church. (2 Corinthians 8:5)**

5. Giving is the result of God's grace and maturity in the believer's life. (2 Corinthians 8:6-7)
6. Giving is a witness to the world that God is our source and provider. (Psalm 20:1-9)
7. Giving expresses our love for God and our genuine desire share Jesus Christ and His gospel message throughout the world. (2 Corinthians 8:8, Matthew 25:31-46)
8. Giving brings glory to God and causes other believers to rejoice and give thanks to God. (2 Corinthians 9:10-15)

- Kingdom giving is the result of our relationship with Jesus Christ and the confidence we have in the Kingdom of God.

1. Recognize God as your source. (Deuteronomy 8:18, Psalm 36:7-9, Acts 17:28, Philippians 4:13)
2. Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. (Deuteronomy 6:5, Mark 12:28-31)
3. Trust God and rest in His promises. (Numbers 23:19, Proverbs 3:5-6, 30:5-6, Psalm 37:1-8, 25, Isaiah 55:8-11, Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 1:20-22, Hebrews 13:8)
4. Seek God first in everything. (Matthew 6:31-33, Proverbs 3:5-7, Psalm 1:1-6, 105:1-6, Jeremiah 29:13, Deuteronomy 4:29, James 4:8, Matthew 7:7-8)
5. Live by faith. (Romans 1:17, 2 Corinthians 5:7, Galatians 2:20, Hebrews 10:38, 11:1, 6, 12:1-2)
6. Rely on the Holy Spirit leading and direction for your life. (John 14:15-17, 25-26, 16:13-15)
7. Trust the plan of God for your life and family. (Jeremiah 29:1, Proverbs 19:21, Psalm 37:23-24, 139:13-18, Proverbs 16:9, 1 Corinthians 2:9-12)
8. Don't walk in fear and doubt. (Psalms 23:1-6, 27:1-6, John 14:27, 2 Timothy 1:7, Philippians 4:6-7, Hebrews 13:5-6)
9. Daily ask God for wisdom. (James 1:5, 3:13-17, Job 12:13, Ephesians 5:15-16, Colossians 4:5-6)
10. Be a person of integrity. (Proverbs 13:11, 28:22, Jeremiah 17:11, 1 Timothy 6:9-10)

- 11. Expect God's abundant favor and blessing upon your life. (Psalm 5:11-12, 30:5, 36:27-28, 84:10-11, Proverbs 3:1-4, 10:22, Luke 6:38, 2 Corinthians 9:6-8)**
- 12. Have an attitude of gratitude toward God and others. (Colossians 3:12-17, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Psalm 95:1-7, 136:1)**
- 13. Be a faithful and responsible steward. (1 Corinthians 4:1-2, Matthew 25:14-30, Luke 16:10-13)**
- 14. Always give with a willing and obedient heart. (Exodus 35:20-29, Isaiah 1:19-20, Acts 20:35)**
- 15. Wait patiently upon God. (Psalm 27:13-14, 33:20-22, 62:1-8, Galatians 6:9-10, Hebrews 10:35-36)**