



“Comparing Kingdoms”

Greg Wendschlag February 25, 2024

“But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you as well.” Mt. 6:33

“Two cities have been formed by two loves: the earthly by the love of the self even to the contempt of God; the heavenly by the love of God, even to the contempt of self.”
Saint Augustine of Hippo “The City of God”

1. Power Over vs Power Under

“Whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many.” Mt. 20:26-28

- Do you find it hard to humble yourself and serve others? Could you gladly serve an enemy?
- Do you feel resentful because you’re constantly giving and getting nothing in return?
- Do you get joy out of helping others?

2. Self-Interest vs God-Interest

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished and asked, “Who then can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”” Mt. 19:23-26

- Do you worry about money a great deal?
- Do you fear what will happen to you in the future?
- Are you generally a content person?

3. Self-Protection vs Self-Offering

“But when Jesus turned and looked at His disciples, He rebuked Peter. “Get behind Me, Satan!” He said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”” Mk. 8:33

- Are you a defensive person or are you easily offended?
- Do you exaggerate your successes or diminish your faults to come out “smelling like a rose”?
- Do you find it fulfilling to be generous with your time and possessions?

4. Beware of People vs Beware of Principalities and Powers

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” Eph. 6:12

“Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.” Mt. 10:28

- Are there people or people groups that you hate?
- Do you ever feel if this person or this group of people were gone, the world would be a better place?
- Do you seek to understand others by putting yourself in their shoes? Are you a compassionate person?