



“The gospel is the good news concerning the kingdom, and the kingdom is God’s rule over the totality of life.”

– René Padilla (*Mission Between the Times*, 198)

“The church is the Kingdom people of God formed by the Gospel of God for the purposes of God.”

– *Me again*

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The Church ≠ the Kingdom, but...

It’s a PREVIEW; it’s an OUTPOST; it’s an INSTRUMENT

Some things get in the way...



individualism

isolation

*from busyness
or lifestyle*

consumerism

nationalism

worship
community
calling
energies
love

Christ the King is establishing his Kingdom rule through his Kingdom people.



What on earth are we doing here?

(Lots of) Peter’s First Letter: **COMMUNITY**

1 Peter, Gospel & Kingdom People

- **1:21-25** The Gospel (= Word of God) formed you, set you apart, and cleansed you. So love one another deeply.
- **2:1-3** Get every hindrance to the Word out of the way, be nourished.
- **2:4-10** You are God's temple, you are temple priests. Offer "sacrifices" of worship and conduct. Mediate God's presence to others.
- **2:11-12 (and 2:13-3:7)** You are foreigners and exiles. Live accordingly so that others will see God through your lives.
- **3:8-12** Be of one mind. As God's priests, love and bless one another.
- **(3:13-22)** As you suffer, set apart Christ as Lord and be ready to talk to really confused people about your love and lack of fear.
- **4:1-11** As you suffer, be done with sin(ful ways). Love and serve one another. Commit to prayer, commit to building one another up.

AS WE **GATHER** (TOGETHER) | AS WE **SCATTER** (TOGETHER)

Love one another deeply
Be nourished by God's Word
Rid yourselves of all evil behavior
Live as **Temple and priests**
Mediate God's presence & blessings
Live as **foreigners and exiles**
Live properly & honorably among outsiders
Be united (of one mind)
As you suffer, set Christ apart as Lord
Commit to prayer & love
Commit to hospitality
Commit to serving one another
Commit to bringing God glory through Jesus



Worship is the right reaction and response to God's person and work.

It is a fundamental activity of Kingdom people.

The church is the Kingdom people of God formed by the Gospel of God for the purposes of God.

Commit to being God's Kingdom people.

This is a HUGE part of "seeking first the Kingdom."

***worship
community
calling
energies
love***

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