Living a Resurrected Life: Kingdom Focused Living Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 24, 2015

John 18:33-37

33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?" 34 "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?" 35 "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?" 36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place." 37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

Kingdom Focused Living requires...

EMBRACING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE KINGDOM

Kingdom appears in the Bible over 300 times

God's Kingdom is referred to 156 times in the New Testament

Jesus Himself refers to the Kingdom of God (Heaven) 84 times

• He <u>taught us to pray</u> "Thy kingdom come" <u>Matt 6:10</u>

• "Seek first his kingdom and righteousness" Matt 6:33

• Spoke of it repeatedly through parables

• Sermon on the mount Matt 5:3

The <u>resurrected Jesus taught</u> about the Kingdom <u>Acts 1:3</u>

Kingdom Focused Living requires...

2. SURRENDERING TO THE KING

Before we can <u>advance the kingdom</u>, we must be <u>passionate</u> about the king!

John 18:37

Jesus answered, "You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born..."

John 3:3-6 (Jesus speaking to Nicodemus)

3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." 4 "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" 5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."

Matt 16:16-19

16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven..."

Kingdom Focused Living requires...

3. SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Jesus IS the Good News.

Jesus is the <u>earthly manifestation</u> of the <u>fullness</u> and <u>completeness</u> of the <u>Kingdom of God</u>.

Matthew 10:7

"As you go, <u>preach this message</u>: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.'"

Mark 16:15

[Jesus] said to them, "Go into all the world and <u>preach the good</u> news to all creation."

ARE YOU KINGDOM FOCUSED LIVING?