



Sermon Series: Owning a Faith that Matters

To be used with Session 5: Confident Faith

Sermon Title Possibilities: Kingdom Faith

Scripture: Luke 12:22-34

Connection with Unit Theme: To complement the Bible study “Confident Faith” this sermon will explore the promises of God contained within his presence during times of stress and anxiety. Jesus introduces the disciples to the concept of the Kingdom. It is here in the Kingdom of God that Jesus will one day bring unity between the heavens and the earth. This is the pursuit of the Christian a life in the Kingdom of God. The intent and purpose of God’s will, as revealed in Scripture is the advancement of His kingdom, His glorification, and the salvation and sanctification of his children through His son Jesus Christ. This sermon is to bring confidence to the fact that Jesus has prepared a place where there will no longer be sin and sadness.

Introduction: Philippians 4:6-7 proclaims, “Don’t worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”¹ According to Jamie Aten, Ph.D., & Kent Annan, M.Div. in their article, The Church Can’t Ignore Mental Health Any Longer, “We are in the middle of a mental health crisis. Seventy percent of adults in the United States have experienced a traumatic event. Over two-thirds of children have experienced a traumatic event by age 16. And 54% of families have been affected by a severe natural disaster. Research shows one in five adults experience mental issues such as depression and anxiety every year.” Many people have been suffering in silence, but once we address these issues as a community, we can better understand how we should proceed. One of the consequences of the Fall of Man was separation from God. This study will examine our connecting with God and receiving the overflow of his peace, plan, and provision.

¹ [*Christian Standard Bible*](#) (Phil. 4:6–7). (2020). Holman Bible Publishers.

1. Kingdom Faith is cultivated in God's peace (Luke 12: 22-26).

Peace is the opposite of worry. Jesus begins to explain in these verses that life is more than food, possessions, and indulgences. God has made us for more and it's when we tap into the master's plan for our lives that we can experience more of his goodness. Jesus gives us examples of the ravens and how God provides for them. Humanity sits at the pinnacle of God's creation and surely, he cares for us more than ravens. Where does our propensity for anxiety and worry come from anyway? The root of worry is fear, after humanity sinned in the Garden of Eden, they hid themselves from God in fear. This was an uncommon emotion that shows up after the Fall of Man. According to several scholars, "Fear not," can be found 365 times in the bible. We could essentially have a fear not for every night of the week. When we embrace a Kingdom Faith, we embrace the peace that God supplies trusting in his sovereignty.

2. Kingdom Faith is committed to God's plan (Luke 12:27-30).

God's kingdom and His righteousness should be our primary focus. A deep trust and surrender to God's plans and purpose allows the Christian to experience a life that is meaningful, purposeful, and in harmony with the Son of God. Jesus talks about the beauty of wildflowers and the simplicity of grass, but humanity is adorned in the image of God. We hold a very special place in the heart of God if we would just only spend time in his word, serve in the local church and create an environment for worship. Jesus is speaking specifically to the Jewish community, but His words relate to us here today. God knows what we need, and he is willing to supply our needs. But we must surrender to His plans for our lives. Jeremiah 29:11 states, For I know the plans I have for you"—this is the LORD's declaration— "plans for your well-being, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." ²

3. Kingdom Faith is confident in God's provision (Luke 12:31-33).

Being confident in God's provision requires actively seeking God's Kingdom. Luke 12:31, "But seek his kingdom, and these things will be provided for you."³ The Kingdom of God is simply the place where God rules and reigns. Jesus often mentioned to the disciples that the Kingdom is near, because as the activity of God works within Christ, they became witnesses to the acts of the kingdom. Unlike a democracy, God rules in a theocracy and he provides all that we need within the Kingdom. Our creator/creation relationship can flourish naturally in His Kingdom. It's only when we try and impose our own rules within the framework of God's commands that we run into problems. Jesus fulfills the law through his sacrifice on the cross, and we are his instruments to proclaim that we have been released

² [*Christian Standard Bible*](#) (Je 29:11). (2020). Holman Bible Publishers.

³ [*Christian Standard Bible*](#) (Lk 12:31). (2020). Holman Bible Publishers.

from the penalty of sin. It is important that we choose to continue to walk with Christ, because the world is invested in Kingdom distortion.

Conclusion: Renowned Pastor and Author Tony Evans speaks a lot on the Kingdom of God. In one of his sermons he states, “In America, ultimately, the Supreme Court makes the final decision as it relates to laws for this country. When the Supreme Court speaks, all other courts must adjust. At this point, it becomes irrelevant what the district court says or what the state court says. Once the Supreme Court speaks, the final authority of law in the land, all other decisions are canceled, reversed, or reinforced because the final authority has ruled. A Christian is truly a “kingdom person” when he is willing to adjust his decisions to God’s decisions even if God’s decision is not the one preferred.” Growing in Godly wisdom and knowledge is acknowledging His kingdom rule. May we so delight in our Savior, that we began to experience more of his kingdom.

Author Bio

Jason Thomas serves with International Mission Board (IMB) as African American Church Mobilization Strategist in Virginia. Previously, he served as the Ministry Director for college students with Louisiana Baptists. Jason has been married to his wife, Gaynel for 13 years and holds a Master of Divinity from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

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