

[SERMON NOTES]

Building A Kingdom Forecast

Keeping the End in Mind

(2 Samuel 23:1-7)

[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

[MY STORY]

In life, we learn that we are all different - and that's a good thing! God has uniquely made each and every person to have their own combination of skills, passions, and gifts. **What are three words or phrases you would use to describe yourself to someone you met for the first time?**

[DIGGING DEEPER]

In this week's message, we talked about how keeping the end in mind is essential to maintaining the right perspective. Just like in building a puzzle or LEGO set, having a picture of what the end is supposed to look like aids us in knowing how to best use each piece we've been given. **In a few sentences, what do you desire the "end" of your life to look like? What do you want people to say about you?**

Living with the end in mind is something the Apostle Paul understood, especially as it came to his unique *calling* and *spiritual gifting* in life. **Read Ephesians 4:1-13. Then, list out some things that we are called to be as well as things we are called to do**

Called to be

Called to do

When you reflect on your own life, what would you say are some of the specific gifts, talents and passions God has given to you?

In Matthew 5:13-16, Jesus paints a picture not of the “end in mind,” but two illustrations of how disciples of Jesus are to function as we live life on earth. **Read Matthew 5:13-16. What are the two illustrations Jesus uses in this passage?**

When thinking about the metaphor(s) Jesus uses in Matthew 5, they can play out in many areas of our life: the *people* we are in relationship with, the *places* we go most frequently, and the *proximity* of circumstances we face in life. **Consider these three areas and write down either specific people or opportunities for you to use your gifts or passions to make a difference for the Kingdom of God.**

People

Places

Proximity

Most of us would probably say we have a tendency to keep our *light* hidden - probably because we are not being intentional on a daily basis. **From the list above, pick two people or opportunities and write out how you might be more intentional to live for the Kingdom.**

Person/Opportunity #1:

Person/Opportunity #2:

[WEEKLY READINGS]

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend’s message. We encourage you to take notes in your Bible, and ask yourself: *What does this teach me about God? Myself and others? And how do I follow Jesus better?*

2 Samuel 23

2 Samuel 24

Psalms 41

1 Corinthians 12