

Kingdom Perspective Sermon Guide

This sermon explores the powerful concept of perspective and how adopting a Kingdom perspective can transform our entire approach to life. Dorothy Abshire explains how our natural human perspective is shaped by various factors, but as believers, we have the privilege of seeing life through God's eyes. This discussion guide will help you reflect on how to develop and maintain a Kingdom perspective in your daily life.

This sermon emphasizes:

- Perspective is a powerful force that influences our daily interactions, decisions, emotions and behaviors
- Our human perspective is shaped by factors like personality, life experiences, family and cultural background
- When we are born again, we gain the ability to see from a Kingdom perspective — God's viewpoint, eternal outlook and biblical framework
- Kingdom perspective is based on God's character, His eternal purposes and the truth of Scripture
- This heavenly perspective affects how we view success and blessings, and trials and difficulties
- Developing Kingdom perspective comes through prayer, worship, Bible study and daily communion with God

Key scriptures:

- "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness." Matthew 6:22-23
- "Jesus answered Nicodemus, 'Truly I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'" John 3:3
- "'For My thoughts are not your thoughts neither are your ways My ways,' declares the LORD. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.'" Isaiah 55:8-9
- "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28
- "We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." 2 Corinthians 4:18
- "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things." Colossians 3:2

Lifegroup Questions:

- What is a something God is doing in your devotional life this week?
- Break up into 2s and 3s and ask each other:
 - How is your devotional life going?
 - Is it both the time and quality you want?

- How can we help each other?

Table Discussion Questions:

1. Dorothy defines perspective as "a particular attitude toward or way of regarding something, a point of view." In what ways have you noticed your perspective influencing your emotions and behaviors in daily life?
2. What factors have most significantly shaped your natural perspective? How has coming to Christ changed the way you see yourself, others and circumstances?
3. The sermon suggests that when we are born again, we are "introduced to a new vantage point based on a new kingdom." Can you share an example of when you've been able to see a situation from God's perspective rather than just your human viewpoint?
4. How does viewing success and blessings through a Kingdom perspective change the way you might use your resources — both material (money, possessions) and immaterial (time, talents, influence)?
5. Dorothy shares her son's response to losing his condo in a fire: "Whenever God has allowed something big like this in the past, it's because He wanted to teach me something or show me something or lead me to a new place." How might this kind of perspective transform how you face challenges?
6. The sermon states that "losses are temporary" and "every setback and defeat is put in its place because of eternity." How could this truth help someone who is currently walking through a difficult trial?
7. What specific practice from the sermon (prayer, worship, Bible study, communion with God) do you find most helpful in developing a Kingdom perspective? Why?
8. Dorothy gives several examples of how Jesus demonstrated Kingdom perspective (the widow's mite, Lazarus' death, Jairus' daughter). Which of these examples resonates with you most and why?
9. Hebrews 11 describes people of faith as those who "considered themselves foreigners and strangers on Earth and were longing for a better country." In what practical ways can we live as citizens of Heaven while still being present on Earth?
10. What is one area in your life right now where you need to intentionally shift from a human perspective to a Kingdom perspective? What might that shift look like?