

Stepping Into...

Kingdom Growth

1. Two Kingdoms

Colossians 1:13-14 NLT

¹³ For he has rescued us from the **kingdom of darkness** and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son,
¹⁴ who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.

Colossians 1:12 NIV

“...his holy people in the **kingdom of light.**”

2. God's Kingdom Naturally Expands

Mark 4:30-31 NLT

³⁰ Jesus said, "How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it?"

³¹ It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, ³² but it **becomes the largest** of all garden plants; **it grows long branches**, and birds can make nests in its shade."

“...the Kingdom of God is about God's rule and reign on earth -- in, around and through His people ...it is a divine activity which requires supernatural empowering. The Kingdom of God was and is about a totally new way to live.”

Dr. Kenneth Hemphill

4. What Could Grow in Me?

James 1:2-4 NLT

² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.

³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your **endurance has a chance to grow.** ⁴ So **let it grow,** for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

“You must follow Jesus for yourself,
but you can’t follow Him by yourself.”

Steven Furtick

5. What Could Grow in Our Church?

Do we carry a generous spirit? Ex 35:21

All whose hearts were **stirred**, and spirits **moved** *responded...*

Could we see more, by working together? 1Cor 3:6-7 NIV

⁶ I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but **God has been making it grow**. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

How do we use gifts already given? 1Cor 12:7 NLT

⁷ A spiritual gift is **given to each of us** so we can help each other.

6. What Could Grow Beyond our Profile?

Psalm 69:9 ESV “...**zeal for your house** has consumed me...”

Isaiah 9:7 ESV

⁷ Of **the increase of his government** and of peace **there will be no end**, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness **from this time forth and for evermore.**

The **zeal** of the Lord of hosts will do this.

7. God's Kingdom is Unstoppable...

Luke 23:38-43 NLT

³⁸ A sign was fastened above him with these words: "This is the King of the Jews." ³⁹ One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, "So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you're at it!"

⁴⁰ But the other criminal protested, "Don't you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die?" ⁴¹ We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn't done anything wrong."

⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." ⁴³ And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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