

WELCOME

Our Mission is to . . .

- Connect you to Jesus
- Connect you to His community for discipleship
- Connect you to your mission and purpose in life

We are not here to tell you what to wear, eat, listen to, vote for, or even believe. These are things you must determine for yourself if you want to have real faith.

Life is too short to be shallow. In fact, you can't really do life without developing a strong foundation and becoming a person of substance. This is your journey, your discovery, and you will reap the benefit of the work you do.

FHNew - Our mission as a church is to do everything we can to help you grow your faith. If you would like to get to know us a little better, or begin or continue your journey of faith, text **FHNew** to **53123** and we will send you a link to a few short videos about Foothills Church, or stop by the Connection booth.

FHBaptism - One important step in your faith journey is being baptized. To learn more about baptism, text **FHBaptism** to **53123** and we will send you the teaching on Believers' Baptism.

INTRODUCTION

Foothills is here to coach you up in your faith because....

- Strong people are happier people
- Strong people are more successful people
- Strong people hold things together when everything else is falling apart

If you have dreams, goals and desires in life, in today's world you will need more strength, more courage, more grit than ever before to experience these things. **The way of Jesus is a way of living life.** It is a path that is meant to grow you **strong** as a person. **It is the way of the King!**

We are celebrating the birth of Jesus with our final series: King of Kings.

Christmas Eve celebration:

- We want to grow -- please invite friends and family (Principle of 5)
- Register for a service [HERE](#)
- Christmas Caroling in the parking lot -- sign up for a service and arrive 20 minutes early to sing Christmas carols
- Christ Birthday Offering

Bible Study (NASB)

There are two kingdoms in this world, and the birth of Jesus tells about one of them.

1. Kingdom of Jesus -- where He is King

Isaiah 9:2-7 *The people who walk in darkness*

Will see a great light;

Those who live in a dark land,

The light will shine on them.

3 You will multiply the nation,

You will increase their joy;

They will rejoice in Your presence

As with the joy of harvest,

As people rejoice when they divide the spoils.

4 For You will break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders,

The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.

5 For every boot of the marching warrior in the roar of battle,

And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.

6 For a Child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us;

And the government will rest on His shoulders;

And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace

On the throne of David and over his kingdom,

To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness

From then on and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of armies will accomplish this.

- A kingdom of Light
- A kingdom of Joy
- A kingdom of Harvest/Plenty
- A kingdom of Freedom from Oppression or Burdens
- A kingdom of Wonderful Counsel
- A kingdom of Might and Power
- A kingdom that is Eternal Family
- A kingdom that is Peace
- A kingdom of Justice and Righteousness

2. Kingdom of Self where Satan is King

- The ultimate deception in life is that when I am living for myself, I am actually living for myself
- Joy and light is difficult to experience
- Life is filled with oppression and burdens
- Life is filled with darkness, a lack of direction or clarity
- Life is unfair to the people around you and even to yourself

We choose our King.

Joshua 24: 14-15 *Now, therefore, fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and do away with the gods which your fathers served beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. 15 But if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served, which were beyond the Euphrates River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*

Luke 14: 25-27 Now large crowds were going along with Him, and He turned and said to them, 26 *"If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. 27 Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.*

Why does Luke record the statements of Jesus in this manner?

- Key word in this text is δύναται, pronounced "dooname" which means 'power' or 'absolute certain affinity'. We get the word 'dynamite' from this word
- Jesus is not advocating hate -- He is using a Hebrew idiom to express absolute loyalty
- If you want to walk in the way of Jesus, He must be first place; only He can be the King
- We have all the reasons why He isn't -- we say we are fully loyal to Jesus
 - Except when it comes to our family
 - Our love relationships
 - Our kids
 - Our marriage
 - Our possessions
 - Even our own selfish desires
- **v28** *For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, to see if he has enough to complete it? 29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who are watching it will begin to ridicule him, 30 saying, 'This person began to build, and was not able to finish!' 31 Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to face the one coming against him with twenty thousand? 32 Otherwise, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and requests terms of peace. 33 So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.*

Really think this thru -- consider every angle, every option, every possibility

- What exactly does the Kingdom of Jesus require of me? What will my life look like when I really follow him?
- He mentions parents, wife, and children. If you live in the kingdom of Jesus, how do these relationships turn out? Better or worse?
 - What does the data say about marriage? Parenting? Family? Relationships between the Kingdom of Jesus and the kingdom of this world?
- He mentions "your own life." What happens to your own life when you surrender it to Jesus? Does it get better or worse?
 - How does your life turn out?
 - What does the research show about people who live for themselves and those who live for something greater?

The Birth of Jesus is a celebration of His Kingdom coming to earth.

- It is a celebration of new freedom
- It is a celebration of healing and wholeness
- It is a celebration of new life

Video: Dr. S. M. Lockridge's "That's My King"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it so hard to see that there are only 2 kingdoms in this world?
2. Why do you think Jesus wants to give us a choice when choosing a King?
3. Why are we resistant to the new Kingdom, even though we know it is a better place to live?