

“Let The Chains Fall Away”

When you and I are living chained up, we can live in our “little kingdom” which can become a need based dynamic.

I. Little kingdom living. (Acts 9:1-3)

- A. DNA = “I want my own way in my own time!”
- B. Self-centered = My needs become priority.
- C. Earth-bound treasures = chained-up

II. The Lord interrupts our little kingdom because He wants to bless us with a BIG KINGDOM! (Acts 9:3-9)

III. BIG KINGDOM living. (Acts 9:10-16)

- A. Christ-centered.
- B. Can only fit in the little one, if the little one is destroyed.
- C. Room for Christ and others.

Let the chains fall away—we need to surrender!

7. Read I Samuel 15:10-26. How did King Saul react when Samuel confronted him about his disobedience toward God? Did King Saul try to counsel Samuel, God’s prophet? Do we try to do the same? Do you get frustrated with the Lord when He doesn’t allow circumstances to turn out the way you want them? Discuss and explain.

8. Saul was called (elected) by God to fulfill a “distinctive role” in this BIG KINGDOM. What was his role? As the people of God, individually and corporately, what is our role? What does the word “must” mean? It is used 22 times in the book of Acts referring to “divine necessity”. Discuss and explain.

9. **Are you living “CHAINED-UP” in your “little kingdom” or do you want to “let the chains fall away” and be “BIG KINGDOM-MINDED”?** Take time this week and into the following weeks to let chains fall away from your “little kingdom”.

Podcasts are available each week on www.kcfonline.org under Resources.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For the week of February 21, 2010

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Looking into Acts 9:1, unfortunately, we view Saul, prior to his conversion to Paul, with a 21st century Christian "lens". We quickly forget that Saul was persecuting 1st century Christians in order to remove them as a threat to his "little kingdom". Did Saul believe this was the will of God? Was he zealous? Could you and I, as 21st century Christians, be zealous for what we believe is the will of God? Is it possible we may be zealous for the wrong things? Look at Philippians 3:4-7 and discuss.

2. What does it mean to have a DNA of self? Does it mean that self becomes the primary focus? Is there room for only one in your "little kingdom"? This week, I challenge you to examine your life and find out how often you revolve things around self. Explain and discuss. Look at Ephesians 2:1-3.

3. Why did Saul ask for letters to the synagogues in Damascus? How long was he willing to travel to Damascus to put Christians in jail? How far will you go to establish your "little kingdom"? How many people are you willing to "push aside" in order to establish your "little kingdom"? Discuss and explain.

4. When the Holy Spirit interrupts our lives with "conviction of sin", be honest, what is the first thing that enters your mind? Do you really think He is doing it for your good? What about Saul? Can you imagine what Saul was thinking when the Lord Jesus interrupted? Discuss, Acts 9:3-7.

5. When the Lord interrupts your "little kingdom" do you really believe that the Lord has a "BIG KINGDOM" for you? Do you expect it from the Lord? Do you think you still owe Him more than what He already has for you? Explain.

6. How did Ananias respond to God's call for him in this situation? Do you respond to the Lord when He calls you to do something for His Kingdom? Do you try to counsel the Lord regarding His will for your life? How about counseling the Lord how He should "run" His Kingdom? Acts 9:10-14.