ROYAL PARTNERSHIP WITH GOD

Every follower of Christ is called to be God's royal partner in bringing down the kingdom of heaven on earth. God has given us a new identity so we can fulfill our divine destiny. We are no longer slaves but are royal heirs who are called to reign as "kings and priests" (**Rev. 5:9-10**). We're members of God's royal family now (**1 Pet. 2:9**). Yet, many of us still allow our "pauper" mentality to keep us from living our "royal" life.

LifeLine

Satan often tries to deceive us into thinking that we're still inferior, shameful, unwanted and insignificant. He causes believers to think that they are still paupers. Paupers use survival skills because they believe that life is one big "dog-eat-dog" world. This poverty mentality is the primary characteristic of a pauper. All paupers share the common belief that there's never going to be enough for them. So they live with this fear, not realizing that they have been sold a lie. Paupers also believe that when someone else receives something, it takes away some of the blessings that could be theirs. They think someone else's blessing subtracts from theirs. This pauper mentality can be found in every level of society and in all walks of life. Someone can have lots of money but still feel insecure, fearing something could happen to them and they'd lose it all.

When paupers acquire money or property, they tend to get their identity from these material things. The truth is a man's worth is not measured by what he owns, but by what owns him. Some people own houses, but oftentimes it seems that houses own people. Paupers often lose sight of their priorities when they get money. Royalty people are different though. Princes own things, but they never let things own them because they don't get their identity from what they have. They know that their identity is not based on their possessions but on their royal blood-line. So they are able to experience the worry-free life that Jesus promised and they are free to seek first the kingdom, knowing that all they need will be added to them.

Unfortunately, the pauper mentality is quite prevalent even in Christian circles. Most of us are still looking to our provision (or bank balance) to help us determine our vision. So we end up living within our means instead of moving in God's blessings. For example, most churches with the financial situation of Gospel Life would not attempt a new project that involves large sums of money and additional personnel. They would want to pay off the land purchase loan first and then build the needed buildings, before they plan on starting costly and time-consuming projects overseas.

Yet we know that Gospel Life has been called to live beyond reason and far beyond the borders of our own abilities and resources. That's why we are now here at Miracle Hill and from here we have reached out to various places in the Philippines. We obeyed God's vision for us and went far beyond our limited capacities. Why? Because we believe that God values us and He has called us to live as princes and princesses in His royal household.

The revelation of our true identity destroys the spirit of poverty in our lives. As we learn to believe in the truth of our identity in Christ – in the value that God has placed in us – we will begin the process of moving out of the prison of lies into the palace of truth.

The apostle Paul wrote, "This same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:19) Did you get that? God does <u>not</u> supply according to our <u>needs</u>. He provides according to His <u>riches</u>. Our Heavenly Father is not bothered by how much we need because He owns everything and has unlimited resources.

God has given His church a great commission and it will take a great people to accomplish it. We will only succeed in our mission if we don't fail to recognize our greatness. A pauper mentality can make us ineffective. It can diminish our vision of what we are meant to be in this world. If we can't do anymore than mere men, then let us not tell other people that we belong to the kingdom of the living God. We have to accomplish more than the Rotary Club or the Lions or the Elks, if we are going to call God our Dad and Partner.

We are God's royal partners in bringing heaven down to earth. We are called to develop a culture of royalty in our homes, churches, businesses, and ultimately in nations. We are meant to bring out the best in individuals, helping them fulfill their royal destinies. We are called to leave pauperhood behind and to learn to think, act, and walk in the authority and power of our royal identity. We are called to raise a new generation who will be certain and confident about their identity in Christ as princes and princesses.

Gospel Life has been called to restore the knowledge of the one true God. We have been gifted to restore the supernatural signs of God (John 14:12). We have been commissioned to restore relationships and families and to restore morality in governments. We have been blessed to restore financial prosperity. We have been commanded to disciple nations and we have been equipped with the wisdom, power, and authority of the Lord Himself.

We don't have to live with sickness, poverty, broken relationships, emotional pain or mental torment. All of that was covered and rendered powerless by the blood of Jesus. The world is waiting to see true spiritual power. And until God's royal partners rise up to demonstrate the power of His kingdom, they will be held under the power of darkness.