

# FINDING THE CAR

## (The Life You're Really Looking For)

*Matthew 6:19-33*

### I. Everybody Is Looking for Something--Personal Testimony:

*Some years back, Elizabeth and I got home from a ministry trip late on a Sunday night. I left her to get the baggage together while I caught the shuttle to long-term parking. My plan was to get the car, pull through baggage claim and load up, and go home.*

*I arrived in the huge parking lot and walked to the area where I just knew I'd left my car. But it wasn't there!!! I walked all around, covering several long rows of cars, finally looking in places where I didn't even think it was. Now here I am: tired, hungry, lost and confused. And all the while I was thinking about what Elizabeth must be doing standing back at the terminal with all the luggage! There was a growing fear my car had been STOLEN! I tell you I just KNEW I was in the right area. (She didn't have her cell phone).*

*Finally, I called Airport Security. I told them my story. They said they'd send a car out to get me and I could file a stolen car report. I was totally freaked out.*

*Then, it hit me. Somehow (I think the Lord helped me) I realized that I was looking for the WRONG CAR. We'd decided to take HER car to the airport, not mine. Within moments, I found her SUV (I drive a sedan) and was merrily on my way to her and on to home!*

I want to take some lessons from this today and talk about...

### Finding the Car--The Life You're Looking For

### II. What's On Your Mind?

#### A. What's Dominating Your Mind These Days? What Do You Worry About?

- Money: material needs, the economy, paying taxes, gas prices
- Your children
- Your future

#### B. Jesus on Worry: Matthew 6:19-33

1. Jesus Christ had a lot to say about what's on our minds, about what dominates (takes first place) in our thinking and living.
2. He spoke of the MIND as the "EYE" of the body...whatever DOMINATES THE MIND CONTROLS EVERYTHING ELSE!
3. He said, IF YOU GET YOUR 'EYE' RIGHT, YOUR WHOLE BODY WILL BE FULL OF LIGHT... (v. 22-23)

- If you get your thoughts dominated by the right thinking
  - If you are looking for the right thing...
  - EVERYTHING else lines up.
4. FIVE TIMES in 14 verses He says: “Don’t worry...take no thought...”
- v. 25-“Don’t worry about everyday life....”
  - About what you EAT, DRINK, or WEAR...

*“Don’t worry about these things...these things dominate the minds of unbelievers.”  
Matthew 6:31-32 NLT*

### **C. But He Doesn’t Stop There.**

1. He goes on to make one of the most astounding statements in scripture!!!
2. So important that our church is going to take the next year and DO what Jesus said and EXPERIENCE what He promised!

*“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else...  
and (God) will give you everything you need.”  
Matthew 6:33 NLT*

3. We’re going to be SEEKING the Kingdom...focus on it, find out what it is, how it works and what it means.

*The life you’re looking for is a “Kingdom-Driven Life”,  
a life radically re-ordered around Christ and His Kingdom!*

**DON’T MISS IT! MANY DO! YOU MIGHT!**

### **III. Three Lessons from the Parking Lot and Finding the Car**

- **If you’re looking for the WRONG thing, you’ll never find the RIGHT thing, even if it’s sitting right in front of you.**
- **If you find the WRONG thing, thinking it’s the RIGHT thing, you’re worse off than if you have NO thing!**
- **The RIGHT thing is what will get you where you want to go, and God supplies the gas!**

#### **A. If you’re looking for the WRONG thing, you won’t recognize the RIGHT thing, even if it’s right in front of you!**

1. This was true with Jesus Christ Himself!

I baptize with water, but *right here in the crowd is someone you do not recognize.*  
John 1:26-27 (NLT)

I was looking for a SEDAN...so I didn't see the SUV that would take us home!

2. Young people paint an image in their minds of what they want, and sometimes don't see what God wants for them right in front of them!

3. The Jews were looking for the LION of Judah, and the LAMB of God was standing right in front of them!!!

4. Martin Luther wrote eloquently about the "hidden revelation" of the Cross

"Hidden" + "Revelation" seems to contradict. God never displayed His love to mankind more fully than at the Cross...but *most never saw it!!!*

**B. If you find the WRONG thing, believing it's the RIGHT thing, you're worse off than if you had NO thing!**

1. No one is harder to help than the one who thinks they don't need it!

2. Satan is a "master of illusion". He creates worlds in the imagination pursued by fools thinking that's what they're looking for!

3. Sin a sin. How do you like the result?

4. Satisfied sinners never become satisfied saints until they become sincere seekers.

5. The beginning of the right road begins with the RIGHT QUESTION: What am I really looking for?

a. It usually begin with DISILLUSIONMENT in what you believe in now!!

b. Hedonism? Drugs? Money? Wicca? Scientology? Try it! You won't like it.

**C. The RIGHT thing is what will get you where you want to go and God supplies the gas!**

**The RIGHT thing to for first place in our minds is the Kingdom of God.**

1. Jesus gave us the RIGHT thing to the exclusion of all the WRONG things.

2. Jesus told us what ought to dominate our thinking, what ought to motivate us, what we ought to be looking for--The Kingdom of God.

3. This is Christ's cure for worry.

4. Here's the bonus: God will give you everything you need!

***The Kingdom of God  
is  
God's Total Answer For Man's Total Need!***

**IV. Conclusion: Thy Kingdom Come**

## **A. The Reduction of the Gospel**

1. The problem is not that we've *REJECTED* the Gospel, just *REDUCED* it!
2. The Gospel of the Kingdom has been reduced to "the Gospel" (of salvation).
3. But just being "saved" is not the "car"! Just the "keys" to the car!

***Unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.  
John 3:3 NLT***

## **B. Re-Alignment of Life**

1. So what is the Kingdom? What does it look like? How will I know it when I see it?
2. What is the Kingdom-Driven Life? What does that look like?
3. We'll take the next year to find out. But it all begins with repentance!

### ***FIVE TIMES THE GOSPELS LINK THE KINGDOM WITH REPENTANCE!***

***Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News. "The time promised by God has come at last!" He announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"  
Mark 1:14-15 NLT***

4. We must be willing to "change our minds", to live differently, to re-order everything around this King and His Kingdom! Are you ready?