

**All quotes are from Michelle Myers unless otherwise noted.**

Let's take back ambition for the Kingdom.

Loving God and loving others requires ambition.

Scripture does warn us against selfish ambition, but it's self that takes us in the wrong direction. Not ambition.

Ambition is good, of God and needed to fulfill the Christian life.

AMBITION EVALUATION:

- Is it difficult for you to celebrate others?
- Is it tough for you to turn your brain off/rest/slow down?
- Do you struggle to listen to others?
- Do you try to do God's work without God?
- Do you frequently dream of getting your "big break?"
- Do you often pursue something new after watching someone have success?
- Do you equate your purpose in life with your achievements?

Count your # of yes's to figure out how much self is included in your ambition.

"It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation." – Romans 15:20

Kingdom ambition is about the gospel and creating new gospel wins where Christ is not known.

Kingdom ambition is marked by the potential for the gospel, not the potential for self.

Paul worked hard + earned his own way.

2 Thessalonians 3:8

Paul understood his trade well + was a skilled tentmaker.

2 Corinthians 5

Paul forgot his "rights" to be an example.

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2 Thessalonians 3:9

1 Corinthians 9:12

Paul used his trade to connect with people.

Acts 18:1-3

Paul worked for his needs + the needs of those traveling with him. He did work for wants.

Acts 20:33-35

Paul was humble enough to accept help – again, for his needs.

Philippians 4:14-16

Everything points to the gospel being Paul's focus. His career was one of the vehicles that made sharing the gospel possible.

The gospel is our top priority, that is our job. Our career/current job is the side hustle.

Has my career become my source of identity?

Do I need my job more than I need my God?

Does my success define me more than God does in my mind?

Am I really living a Kingdom-centered life?

Are you doing what God wants you to do or someone else?

Am I going to a place where the gospel is not being preached?

The Myth of Waiting.

We glamorize waiting.

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We think we have to wait to do Kingdom work.

Matthew 9:35-38

The local church is God's plan A.

As followers of Jesus, we have to treat the Church the way Jesus did.

You do not have to wait to serve your local church.

Let the local church be your anchor and your home base.

Proclaiming the good news of the kingdom is always what needs to be heard even if it is not received.

The world is noisy, but God is also not being silent. But we will have to make the effort to listen to Him.

When He saw the crowds He had compassion because he saw them for who they were — like a sheep without a shepherd.

When it comes to believers, have grace upon grace.

We are having to fight living autonomously in a whole new way.

It is challenging for us to attempt to do life apart from one another.

For those who don't know Him — do not be fooled by the false confidence that non-believers often give off.

The absence of Christ is agony.

Saul + David — 1 Samuel 16

Matthew 9:37-38

Jesus put it plainly to the disciples: there's plenty of work to be done in the Kingdom. There's simply not enough workers who are willing to do it.

Doing God's work does not require waiting.

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Whenever we find ourselves looking for something to do, we're likely looking for the wrong work. We're in it for the wrong reasons. We're drifting toward selfish ambition.

Kingdom Ambition Check:

- How am I prioritizing gospel wins?
- Where am I going where Christ is not known?
- When I look at my path, is it marked more by God or am I building on someone else's foundation?
- What is the potential for the gospel where I am? Is that determining the direction for my ambition?

You can't use business measurements to determine your commitment to the gospel.