

A Statement of Confession & Repentance for a Lack of Kingdom Thinking & Living

2010 GDOP Pastor's Public Confession & Repentance

"I acknowledge that when Jesus Christ commanded his disciples to pray "Your kingdom come, "and to "seek first the Kingdom of God" in everyday matters, He expected it to have both a motivating influence in His followers and a profound influence in their society.

Therefore I confess and repent that.....

1. Through ignorance, laziness, and fear I have, in the past, ignored the complete message of the kingdom of God in Jesus' teaching.
2. I have limited the expression of Christ's Kingdom within society to the institutional church, and sometimes to the church I pastor, alone.
3. I have treated other churches, denominations and church leaders with common courtesy, but have often viewed them as the competition.
4. I have not sought to live nor direct my people by Jesus words in John 17 that "they may be one Father."
5. I have emphasized the individual and personal aspects of the Kingdom of God and tended to negate the corporate and communal aspects of His Kingdom.
6. I have neglected the physical and material implications of the Kingdom of God and often concentrated more on the moral and the spiritual implications.
7. I have tended, in more instances than I would like, to divide my life and activities into secular and sacred categories.
8. I have failed to follow Jesus Christ's agenda for bringing His Kingdom and have prayed "Your Kingdom come" and ignored His demand to always, "seek it first" in my personal, church, and lifestyle.
9. I confess my preoccupation with myself, my wants and my individual ministry and I confess I am shocked at how little I care about Christ's teaching on the Kingdom of God or unity in His Body."

PASTORS STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO BIBLICAL UNITY

"I have asked the Father for forgiveness for the sin of sectarianism and a diminishing of the Kingdom by my life and attitude, and forgiveness is mine because of Jesus. By His grace I commit myself to doing whatever it costs to bring the Kingdom of God to our region and seeing the death of sectarianism. It is my stated desire to live & work in such Biblical Unity that the non believing world of Manasota will be confronted with Jesus Christ. This is my solemn declaration before God and you my fellow pastors: I will not hold myself from you, nor retreat to isolation, but shall seek to pray & work together with you to see His Kingdom come. This is my pledge: One Lord-One Faith- One Baptism-One Church- One Mission."