

The Podcast Focused on Revitalizing Conventional Christianity —One Person at a Time

Inside Jimbo's Head™

Series 1, Cultural Christianity Versus Kingdom Christianity

Episode 4, What Is Cultural Christianity? Part 3, Some Key Premises of Americanism Absorbed into American Chrisiantiy©

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Introduction

Ok now. I'm so glad you have hung in there with us for this very important episode of Inside Jimbo's Head. I know just how hard it is to wrap your head around the things I am sharing about how modernistic American culture has influenced conventional Christianity in a very negative way. It really shook my world as I began to understand these things. After all, the American way of thinking and our culture has served many of us very well. As I have said before, when I point out how these same ways of thinking and cultural patterns of behavior have declawed conventional Christianity causing the problems we spoke about in episode one, I am not speaking against America. It is the best country and culture around . . . Except for one. God's Kingdom may not be physically present, but it is spiritually present. We have to understand how that makes it as real as it will be physically present when Jesus returns. It is just as real and just as powerful as if it was physically established. And guess what? We have been translated out of the kingdoms of this world into the kingdom of God . . . But more on that in next week's episode.

Because America's ideals and basic beliefs have little to do with nor were they founded upon authentic Christianity, they have blinded us to the point we have no idea what true Kingdom Christianity and God's kingdom culture is all about. Yet, when I look at all the humanly developed governmental systems and cultures, I take my hat off to America. Once again, as I have stated before, I am not against America's basic principles and culture. It is just that they have very little to do with the authenticity of God's kingdom. This is the kingdom and culture everyone, who is in Christ, has been transferred to and has become the new kingdom and culture in which and by which Father expects us to live our redeemed lives. Unless we become captivated by this thought, the American culture gets in the way of our living our lives as God intended them to be lived so we truly honor and glorify Father, His Son Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Most of us have started our journey with God by asking Jesus to come into our hearts or lives so that we can be forgiven and go to heaven when we die. Some have prayed that prayer to get a better life. Frankly, that is not biblical. Without anyone asking some counting the cost questions to us as we expressed a desire for a right relationship with God, many, if not most of us have ended up in the trap of easy believism and the "I'll fly away mentality" that is destroying our spiritual lives, our witness, and the power Father has provided for us to live lives which honor and glorify Him. Remember when you heard me mention that in the last "Story From the Frontlines of Ministry" and many others as well.

Often we are like the guy in the Lifeline Production's skit you just heard who has an arrow in his side and will not let it be taken out. We walk around with our native cultural ideas and behavior patterns because we have become comfortable with the arrow, and the arrow has given us many benefits.

So let's talk about some of the specific ideas and behaviors that grow out of our native culture, the American culture, which are arrows in the side of each of us and conventional American cultural Christianity.

1. Interpreting Scriptures According to What They Obviously Say

Ok. In the last episode, I introduced you to just four of the ideals or basic beliefs that have produced the American cultural, behavioral patterns. While these ideals and basic beliefs and their outcomes have been very beneficial, from a humanistic standpoint to most people living in America, they are devastating to authentic kingdom Christianity and those of us who are in Christ. Why? In many cases, they work against the teachings of Jesus and His early disciples, thus causing us to either ignore these teachings or redefine them through the rational process of systematic theology. This has happened down through Church history whenever the Church absorbs the culture where it exists rather than following God's kingdom cultural ideals and basic beliefs as well as living out His kingdom's behavioral patterns through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Now don't get me wrong. I do not believe there is anything wrong with looking at all the scriptures on a particular subject to enhance your understanding of a particular scripture. But when one passage dealing with that subject is down-played while another is emphasized

because the first does not fit into our culture, including our Western mindset, or our predetermined theological concepts . . . Well, that leads to error, an unconscious repudiation of what most Evangelicals believe about the inspiration of scripture, and often the defanging of our lives both as individuals and our lives in community with others in Christ. In other words, it often takes away the power of our expression of life "in Christ." This emphasizing of one passage over another does not happen every time through the processes of systematizing theology, but it does happen far too often.

Now, if I had the time, I would share many examples of how people have done such a thing when I make a statement about a particular passage. I have seen them totally ignore or come up with some excuse for why a specific word does not mean what its definition is in the original language or even in its Biblical usage. They often find either a more palatable definition of a word or change a well-settled construction of a verb found in the original language, including its aspect (the kind of behavior the verb indicates) and/or it's tense. One of the famous tricks of the trade is to say, "Well, there are a lot of different meanings to that word or interpretations of that verb form. You have to be careful because it is very tricky." I often hear this when the context of the passage yields only one simple way of understanding its meaning and that meaning flys in the face of the person's theological system or makes their normal life in the American culture something that does not fit the Biblical imperative. All this leads to the sacrificing of the original intent of the one through whom the scripture was inbreathed and the understanding of people to whom the scripture was written. We will look more at this in a future episode.

2. Outline of This Episode

So for now, let me introduce you to where we are going in this episode of "Inside Jimbo's Head," and then . . . Well, we will put on our waders and enter the water chest-deep.

The first thing I will do is give a short, and I mean short, summary of what's been said in previous episodes, which led up to and serves as the foundational underpinnings of this episode.

I will then remind you of only the four ideals or basic beliefs behind American culture, which we will look at today. These produced the American cultural behavior patterns, which, while beneficial to Americans, defang those who are in Christ and the modern American church. I think I said that before. Have I hammered it in enough?

I will then share a short summary of each of these and how they generally impact our lives and the church. This will be short, for we will have at least one future episode dedicated to each of the impacts, how they affect the church, and how they impact our individual lives. In those future episodes, I will also share the kingdom culture alternatives.

I hope to end this episode with some pertinent personal ponderings on the cause of cultural Christianity, and then layout where the next three or four episodes are going.

3. Review of Previous Episodes and Additional Comments

So, let's get into that short summary of where we have been.

If you are to understand any of what I am saying about cultural Christianity, you must always keep in mind our first episode entitled, "Houston, We Have a Problem." In fact, it would not hurt any of us to go back and relisten to that "Inside Jimbo's Head" segment of episode one. There I shared the picture of a modern church, yes the Evangelical Church as well, which is sputtering—declining numbers; bleeding—ineffectual discipleship, bankrupt—depleting dollars, and hated—an antagonistic host culture. / did not paint this picture, but the facts not only painted such a picture but also continually shine a bright spotlight on that picture. This picture, which depicts a sputtering, bleeding, bankrupt, and hated church, is an ugly, terrifying picture to anyone who is in Christ and walks in the Spirit. Hopefully, by now, your deep commitment to change is why you will never lose sight of the current condition of the Titanic . . . Oops, I mean the modern American church. Maybe you don't believe the modern American church is the Titanic, you know a ship so modern it will never sink. If that is you . . . Well, just look at the church in Europe.

I do not mean to be curt, but if Jesus returned this very moment, He would not return to a church victorious in our country. Actually, the facts say in our hemisphere. He would be returning to a church that is groveling, gasping for breath, and genuinely giving up the ghost yet continuing on totally unaware of its terminal condition. The modern American church may do a lot of activity, but so does a chicken when its head is cut off.

The saddest thing is that even though the picture has been painted many times and the huge spotlight continually shines illuminating this horrifying picture, most people blind themselves to this reality, continue in the same-old-same-old, and make excuses every time they see the picture painted not only by the facts but by the lives of most American Christian's as well. Why? It has everything to do with the culture we have established in the American church by infusing the kingdom culture with the American culture. Remember, our American church culture serves as that big comfortable, secure place of peace and tranquility we do not want to throw out so we can enter the true culture of the kingdom of God—the true comfortable, secure place of peace and tranquility.

If you lose sight of these problems, you will be asking me questions like, "Why are you so passionate about pushing for the revitalization of the conventional modern American church?" You also may just give up listening to these podcasts because you do not see any reason why a radical redirection of relational realities are required for the revitalization of conventional Christianity, its citizens, and communities—one person at a time. Remember that phrase? I'm sure glad Hershimer and his buddies didn't hear me repeat our purpose statement for both the Hello, Jimbo Speaking podcast, and the DLD University. You know how they go off on me when they think I'm getting too intellectual. Right?

You see, my friends without a firm fix on the problems, you may be having one other problem with everything I have been sharing. Some people have been anesthetized by the conventional church. This has been caused by the church's absorbing both the four ideals or basic beliefs of

the American culture, which we are about to discuss, and their results into both our Christian lives and our church lives. Why do we want to absorb American ideals and culture into our churches and our personal lives? The things of this world are very shinny, and we collect a lot of them. These distract us. Once again, these ideals or basic beliefs we are about to look at have made most of us who live in America wealthy by both the world's standard and the kingdom's cultural standard. This allows us to focus our lives more and more on the things of this world, which cause us to set our minds on the flesh rather than the Spirit. A mind set on the flesh cannot please God.

The American ideals have oozed into the church with their natural results and serve as the chloroform used by our enemy to anesthetize us with human-created comfort, entertainment, adornment, and security. Because of this, many in the modern American church either could care less or are unwilling to make the hard decisions required for change. It is from these sleeping saints that I often hear statements like, "As long as I know I am going to heaven when I die," or "What more could you expect in a sin-filled world!" If that is you . . . Well . . . You more than likely have not gotten this far in the "Inside Jimbo's Head" segments of this podcast. If you are still here, you may be feeling the convicting work of the Spirit and have been drawn along by Him while kicking and screaming. That's ok. As long as you allow Him to draw you along and continue to seek His truth and begin to take your rightful place in His kingdom culture.

The other thing you really need to remember as we wade deeper into the waters of this subject is what I alluded to above. Culture is that big comfortable chair in which we feel at home, safe and secure while enjoying a false sense of peace and tranquility. Most of my American friends who give themselves the label "Christian" have become so comfortable living in the American culture, with all its perks and benefits, they really do not want to be pushed out or even coxed from their big comfortable cultural chair. Frequently our culture, often because of the misnomer that the American culture was founded on Christian principles, has become synonymous with Christianity. Oh, we are quick to point out the BIG SINS of others within our culture, and the horrible people who are leading us into a post-modern era. We becry the fact, or so we think, that America has moved away from its Christian roots. However, we are blinded to the fact that as we build a financial security system based upon the American economy while using our money for things beyond our necessities as soldiers in God's kingdom, (you know things that bring comfort, entertainment, and adornment) we are living against the teachings of Jesus and His early followers. This is true concerning the teachings in the written record as well as the history of the first-century church. All of this makes us blind, and we do a bang-up job of not putting the ointment of the Spirit on our eyes so we can clearly see the huge problem staring us in the face. What problem? The lack of spirituality and inner transforming power of the Holy Spirit we have given up for the comforts, entertainment, adornments, and securities of an American lifestyle.

Once again, if you stick with me through these podcasts, all this will become clear, hopefully producing a deep, dedicated desire for change which starts with you . . . And with me.

So with the backdrop of the present failure of the modern American church and our focus on living an American lifestyle because of the comfort and security factors of our native culture, let me remind you of the four ideals or basic beliefs of the American culture, which we will discuss today. Remember, I briefly shared these with you at the end of the last episode. Oh, and yes, this is not an exhaustive list, there are others, but these will give you a good handle on the question, "What is Cultural Christianity?" for those of us in the American church. Yes, even the American Evangelical church.

- The first ideal or basic belief, which produces the American behavioral patterns is "rationalism," which is promoted at the expense of spirituality.
- Next, there is "individualism," which gives birth to self-reliance and self-sufficiency, as well as many activities that fill up the hearts and minds of those attached to the American culture.
- Then there is "pragmatism," which feeds off all the advancements of a society based on rationalism and scientific process. This often leads to people trusting more in modern methodologies than in the spiritual, Biblical principles of Christ and His early followers.
- Finally, we have "independence," which in turn feeds individuality over community, competition over cooperation, and trust in oneself over trust in God and our fellow Christfollowers.

Remember, for those of us living in America, these things have paid out many diverse desireable dividends. Yet, these same things that have given us a false sense of safety, security, and comfort in the American culture are deadly to those in Christ who have been translated out of our native culture and into the culture of God's kingdom. Oh, and by the way, there is no dual citizenship in God's kingdom, which we will begin to look at when we answer the question, "What is kingdom Christianity?" hopefully in the next episode.

4. Four of the Ideals or Basic Beliefs Absorbed into American Christianity— Rationalism

Ok, here we go. Got your waders on? Let's step out into the deep water. I assure you, you will not drown but maybe . . . Just maybe, you will awaken and look past the <u>idea</u> of your new life in Christ to the practicality of living your new life in Christ.

The first ideal or basic belief on which the American culture is based, which has permeated our modern church, is rationalism promoted at the expense of spirituality. There is much I could say about this ideal and its effects. However, today, because this is a simple review of these issues, I will try to contain myself to three or four points. Ok, you can stop laughing. I know that is impossible for me, but I will try.

First, if you followed my thinking in the last episode or have begun to read the book, "The Religious Beliefs of America's Founders: Reason, Revelation, and Revolution" by Gregg L. Frazer, you will not be surprised by this ideal, which influences and forms many of the behavioral patterns of American culture. The eight most influential Founding Fathers covered in Frazer's book were men whose primary, no, I must say sole, influence came from the Age of Enlightenment where reason, not revelation, and the scientific approach to life, not spirituality

reigned as king and queen. Now even if you don't believe that about these key Founding Fathers, you must admit that rationalism and the scientific approach to life rather than revelation and spirituality are key to understanding the American culture. The problem is that most people in the church, while theologically accepting revelation and believing they are spiritual, are not spiritual. On top of that, they use rationalism to interpret revelation and use a rationalistic process as the way of promoting spirituality. Look around you. That does not work! It has not worked! Remember, "Houston, We Have a Problem!"?

It is also vital that you realize that all of Western culture is based on reason at the expense of spirituality. The early Greek philosophers and their emphasis on reasoned arguments to explain all of life were actually the founders of Western culture and thinking. The importance of this becomes crystal clear when you face the fact that Christianity, in its origins, was, and thus is an Eastern religion. In an Eastern mindset, while not throwing out rationality, people do not focus on rational processes and simple cognitive understanding. Its focus is targeted on spiritual processes and spirituality.

Now, one key to understanding a culture is to realize that most people in that culture believe their culture, or at least their way of thinking, is the best and the way all others think. Thus, it is very hard for those steeped in Western culture and our reason-based philosophical mindset to realize that there are different cultural mindsets and that Christianity and Biblical revelation, at their basic level, are Eastern. Not only is it hard for Western people to realize that the people through whom the scriptures came and to whom they were written had an Eastern mindset, but it is like pulling teeth to get them to move in that direction. Why? Remember the big comfy chair?

Now, nowhere have I argued, nor at any time in the future will I ever argue that the Eastern mindset is better or worst than the Western mindset or vice-versa. My only point is that if we are to understand scripture if we are to live as we are commanded to live in scripture, we must seek to read scripture and comprehend it as it was intended to be comprehended from its original mindset, an Eastern mindset. In doing this, we need to understand the difference between the way we Western people deal with truth and the way those people in the Bible, Eastern people, deal with truth. This is something we will go deeper into in future episodes of Inside Jimbo's Head, but let me give you just a little tidbit of what you will be learning.

There are many differences between the Western and Eastern cultures, which, to their credit, many Western Bible scholars down through the ages have taken into consideration. However, most Western Bible scholars forget one highly critical facet of culture. As we have seen, culture is not simply or even primarily made up of how people live but also, and most importantly, the way they think. Why? As I shared in the last episode, how people think and the belief systems that form through their thinking, or in Christianity are given through revelation, are the basis of how people act.

How does all of this impact the modern American church? Frankly, it is one of the reasons, if not the main reason, why the Western church in general, and the American church specifically

has fallen flat on its face. To get a handle on this, we must look at the way the Western mindset approaches truth and the way the Eastern mindset (the Biblical mindset) approaches truth.

Because our foundation is built on reasoned thinking, Western people approach truth by defining it through reasoned intellectual processes, defending it through reasoned argument, and then trying to implement it based upon their rational comprehension of truth.

The Eastern mindset accepts truth in and of itself, internalizes truth through contemplative meditation, and thus holds on to it, allowing it to become a natural part of their way of life.

Now, please hear this with open ears. Christian meditation and normal religious Eastern meditation are quite different animals. Again at some point, and especially at DLD University, we will get deeper into that, but I must point out one thing before we move to the next premise or basic belief of American culture that has permeated the church. The key difference is that in Eastern meditation, people are seeking truth. In Christianity, we already have revealed truth. Yet, it goes far beyond that point.

While Eastern people hold on to truth once it is discovered, allowing it to become a natural part of their lives, Christians have a far more powerful reality energizing their lives. As we internalize the truth of each passage of scripture through contemplative meditation, it is the Holy Spirit who takes it and works it out in our everyday lives. This works because we have a new nature, God's very nature, and our old sinful natures have been put to death through Christ. However, because we are so focused on rationalistic processes in dealing with truth, we never know how to use a spiritual process to internalize God's revealed truth.

God's truth is not systemized truth per see, but is every word, phrase, sentence, and thought of scripture. Truth does not have to be discovered by systematizing scripture. It exists in every phrase, every sentence, and every paragraph. (Ok, I know Greek does not have sentences or paragraphs or punctuation for that matter.) No passage of scripture is higher or more important than the others, and none is lower or less important than others. Each stands alone as the inspired word of God—Truth. We may look for other passages on the same subject to further illuminate our understanding of a specific passage for internalization of truth, but this will never negate the exact thing each passage is communicating.

Now from time to time, we hear about internalizing God's word. However, rarely are we told how to do it other than using the rationalistic process of memorization. The good news is if we memorize scripture, we do have to meditate on it, in a less effective form of meditation, in order to memorize it. Thus to some extent, it becomes internalized.

Why is all this so important? The only way we can live the life Christ has won for us and which the Holy Spirit instilled in us at our conversion, is to live/walk in the Spirit. Because this is a spiritual process not based on our rational Western processes, we very rarely hear anyone talking about living/walking in the Spirit. The only time I have heard or read about leaders talking about living/walking in the Spirit is in the context of how it will affect the individual, not the purposes of God.

The result of all of this is a modern American church which talks loud and clear about spirituality. However, it bases all it does, including how ministry is done, how people are trained or equipped for ministry, and the processes by which the church functions on a rationalistic intellectualism and rationalistic intellectual processes. This causes the ignoring, in most cases, of the reality of spirituality and the spiritual processes outlined in the New Covenant.

Don't believe me? Just go back and listen to episode one and the "Inside Jimbo's Head" segment entitled "Houston We Have A Problem!" Better yet, do the research yourself or pick up some of the books written by people in the last ten years or so, which bemoan the culturalization of the American church. Then look carefully at their solutions once they finish pointing out the problem. If you don't understand the difference between a life based on rationalistic intellectualism and a life based on spirituality, you will like much of what they say. Everyone I have read or reviewed points to a greater focus on understanding doctrine and the present processes we use for that to happen. If you have experienced a life based on spirituality, this will send shivers through you, for you can see the results of it all around you.

Here are the questions I have for those who promote rationalistic intellectualism and its rational processes rather than authentic spirituality. Where is the emphasis on internalizing the truths, scriptures? Where is the emphasis of living in community and communion with the persons of the Trinity? Where is the emphasis on the development of authentic communities of communion? Where is the emphasis on discipleship that mimics the lifestyle discipleship done by Jesus? These are nowhere to be found in actuality or as solutions to the culturalization of American Christianity. Why? Often this can be attributed to all four of the ideals or basic beliefs of the American culture we are discussing and their absorption into the culture of the modern American church.

5. Redirecting the Plan

Wow, wow! That took longer than I thought. I guess I went over my three or four points. (Ok, wipe that smile off your face.) So we need to make a change in our plans. I want to deal with the next premise or basic belief undergirding American culture, which permeates the modern American church. Yet, by doing that, we will run out of time. So I will pick up the other two at the beginning of next week's episode on "What is Kingdom Christianity?"

Remember, there is one more episode left in launch week that will drop tomorrow. You do not want to miss that one if you love my "Stories From the Frontlines of Ministry." Then our weekly episodes of the "Hello, Jimbo Speaking" podcast will normally drop on Thursdays. That will start next week.

6. Four of the Ideals or Basic Beliefs Absorbed into American Christianity— Individualism

Alright! With that all said, let's move on to the next premise or basic belief undergirding American culture called "individualism." Individualism gives birth to self-reliance and self-sufficiency. Now, once again, the focus on individualism as well as its children, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency

have been very beneficial, humanistically speaking, for the American culture and specifically to most of the people living in America. However, these benefits are what keep American Christians from the power of authentic spirituality for both living their lives and ministering to others. As in the case of rationalism, which subverts authentic spirituality, neither individualism not self-reliance and self-sufficiency are what the New Covenant scriptures speak of in any way. In fact, they are never seen in the Old Covenant scriptures as well. Self-reliance and self-sufficiency, the aspects birthed out of our hyper emphasis on individualism in American culture, are the antithesis or the opposite of what we find when we read the gospels and the truths inbreathed through Paul, Peter, Luke, James, John, and Jude. It is in these epistles and the book of Acts where we see how devastating individualism, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency are to everything that makes Christianity Christian.

So, let's begin by defining our terms, and then we will take one more small step.

The Merriam-Webster online dictionary gives three aspects of the term individualism.

- The first aspect is seen as a doctrine where the interests of the individual are or ought to be ethically paramount.
- Next, we see the aspect where individualism is the conception that all values, rights, and duties originate in individuals.
- Finally, Merriam-Webster sees individualism as a theory maintaining the political and economic independence of the individual and stressing individual initiative, action, and interest.

Self-reliance is defined with only one aspect, "reliance on one's own efforts and abilities."

While being self-sufficient is given two aspects:

- These include being able to maintain oneself without outside aid. In other words, capable
 of providing for one's own needs
- and having extreme confidence in one's own ability or worth.

Here is the best way for me to deal with this subject in a short, concise manner. I am simply going to take each aspect of each word as defined above, and show how each aspect of God's kingdom culture is just the opposite. So, here we go!

Individualism says, the interest of the individual are or ought to be ethically paramount. In the New Covenant, we learn that the interests of God, His kingdom, and others who live in community with us ought to be ethically paramount.

Individualism says all values, rights, and duties originate in the individual. In the New Covenant, we learn that all values, rights, and duties are set by God for those in His kingdom. (In all actuality, this is true for all of human-kind.)

Individualism says the political and economic independence of the individual, as well as individual initiative, action, and interest, are central. In the New Covenant, we learn that God is the sole ruler of His kingdom (He is the king), and we are to be his people who choose

servanthood. The freedom which the New Covenant speaks of is not political but freedom from the guilt of sin, freedom from the power of sin, and freedom to pursue our purpose lost through sin. Our economic security is just one of many things we are to look to Him to produce and maintain. As a community of Jesus followers, we are also to financially as well as spiritually meet each other's needs. Likewise, a Christian's initiative comes from grace produced faith which is a gift from God. Our actions are to be empowered not by our flesh, but through the power of the Holy Spirit living in and through us. Finally, the personal interests of a disciple of Jesus are to be laid at His feet, and His interests, the interests of the kingdom, are to be paramount in our lives.

Then there is self-reliance. Self-reliance is based on one's own efforts and abilities. In the New Covenant as well as in the Old Covenant, we learn that we must trust in God's efforts, His power, and His abilities in all things, not our human efforts, power, and abilities.

Likewise, self-sufficiency tells us that we are to maintain ourselves and be able to provide our own needs. The teachings of the New Covenant here coincide with somethings we have just mentioned, showing the obviousness of our need to look to Father as our provider and His maintenance of not only our spiritual lives but our physical and economic lives as well.

Finally, self-sufficiency tells us that we are to be confident in our own abilities and our own sense of worth. Once again, the New Covenant tells us that our true identity is to be found only in Christ. We are also to look to the power of the new life we have received at conversion working in conjunction with the power of the Holy Spirit, not our own abilities, in living our lives.

Here is the final point I want to make concerning individualism and its children, self-reliance, and self-sufficiency. Individualism has become so deeply ingrained in the American culture, and in each American's psyche that its pull is extraordinarily powerful. I remember when my mother was thinking of changing churches. The problem was she was not only thinking of changing churches but was thinking about changing denominations. She had been taught from the time she was a tot that the denomination she belonged to was the only true expression of Christianity, and all others were denominations fraught with error and hypocrisy. She had come to intellectually understand that what she had been taught was false. She also had a deep desire to become a part of this new church and denomination. However, knowing this was the case, I watched her struggle day after day with the decision to leave her home church and denomination. She often told me she felt like she was leaving Jesus if she made such a move. Now intellectually, she knew that was not true, but the pull of the culture and teaching of her original church and denomination went well beyond intellectualism.

That my friend was the power of culture. It may be the power you are feeling if you are considering what I share here in these podcasts to be truth. It may very well be the power you feel if you are ready to take the steps necessary to make the changes that will set you free. My mom finally made the change, and the freedom and joy she felt, as well as her ability to glorify God and minister to others, grew exponentially.

7. Concluding Thoughts

Ok! I'm sure some of you may want to push me in a different direction and maybe even disagree with me. That's fine. Leave me a message and a way of contacting you. I want to hear what you have to say. I am still learning and growing. But please hang in there with me in these podcasts. We will discuss these things in a more thorough manner in some of the future episodes once we are done answering the question, "What is Kingdom Christianity?" and after we look at how a member of God's kingdom should relate to their native culture. Of course, I will go indepth on these issues in the DLD University course once it is finished and launched.

But for now, I need to sign off. I am already over my time limit. Of course, I set that time limit, so I guess I will have to answer to myself on that one.

So until tomorrow, as you live your life in Christ, go out there and by God's grace, make it a great day that will honor and glorify Him. See you tomorrow!