

The Kingdom Puts No Pressure on You to Perform

I want to bring together a number of things I've been taught by Father over the last few years as these were 'cemented' together recently. The relevant Kingdom understandings I've been shown are these:

- Peace is paramount and must be maintained
- Trust Father and rest in that trust
- Relax as I rest
- The Kingdom resists force, so we must lean into what we want to enter and surrender to it
- Father isn't in a rush
- Drink of the Living Water every day to be sustained
- It's about being, not doing
- Doing comes out of being and relationship
- Life is not evil
- Enjoy life
- Love life in relationship with the Trinity
- Focus on the present
- Forget about the past
- Consciously interact with people
- Take time to relate to people
- Focus on the local community
- Impact people with the Kingdom
- Reconnect people with their creator

Add to that list these points which I have been instructed by Father in the past:

- Always be thankful
- No striving
- No performing
- No religion
- No legalism
- No regrets
- No disappointments

Now, can you see it? Can you see the points that lead to reducing stress and anxiousness? Can you see those that produce rest and peace?

You see, the Kingdom doesn't require us to perform in any way. Neither does it require us to strive in any way. Not doing these is actually illogical compared to what I was taught and had role-modelled to me in my church life.

Actually, the gospel of Jesus and the 1st century believers was simply about reconnecting with their creator and having a relationship with him. That was the basis of it.¹ The 1st century understanding of 'The Word' was the presence of God interacting with their lives and his Kingdom reign on Earth manifesting through them. After that, it was about being faithful and obedient to him.²

This genuine gospel was a very simple construct – it was purely relational. There was no striving to

1 – “The 1st Century Gospel of the Kingdom”

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-1st-Century-Gospel-of-the-Kingdom.pdf

2 – “The Concept of ‘The Word’ in the 1st Century”

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/The-Concept-of-The-Word-in-the-1st-Century.pdf

please him out of fear of offending him, just effort applied to live righteously to please him out of love for him.

Religion that developed from the 2nd century onwards put demands a believers (known as Christians) to perform. It included striving to live up to God's standard and striving to gain positions of importance and power. This is what we have inherited from the religious church systems (plural) today.

Think about all the pressure to fast and pray, to force things to change. What ever happened to "Seek the Kingdom and he'll supply all your needs"?

It's simple for me. Father orders my day so I get done what I need to get done. Then, I rest and relax in my trust that he'll do just that.

It should be simple for you too. Align yourself with the Trinity, listen to them, follow their directives and allow them to change you and direct you. Doing this allows you to become the person you were destined to be, so you can do the things you were put on Earth to do.

Yes, it's that simple. There's no performing or striving in that arrangement.

It's simple, just like John Eldredge wrote about in his book → → → → → →



This simplicity seems to explain why a dominant theme of the Gospel's record and the letters to the first believers is to go around doing good (i.e. "good works"). The works flow out of our relationship and are a definite indicators of our "faith". The original gospel of the God to the Hebrews included "doing good".

Simplicity, by the way, is how we are to live our lives. We complicate our lives, and our spirituality. This must stop. By allowing Father to oversee our lives and be in control of our circumstances, we can rest and relax in that and cease complicating things by our own efforts.

Simplicity includes not expecting large and deep spiritual experiences to happen all the time. Life must go on in simplicity, even while we desire spiritual growth, rather than pursuing it aggressively. Remember, a large percentage of our lives in the Kingdom is in wilderness testing and the processes of transformation ("Process, process, process"). That's taken up a huge number of my years on Earth.

So, pursue Kingdom peace and rest, rather than putting FOMO³ pressure on yourself. Also, discard the fear of disappointing Father. He's more interested in your relationship with him and having your character changed by him from the inside-out, and, training you to mature as a son.

I, Laurence Smart, renounce the religious activity of putting pressure on others to perform spiritually. I repent that I have put pressure on people to perform.

Laurence

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(Readers will need to look up for themselves any scriptures alluded to in this document)