

Kingdom Values

Below are 30 examples from the book of Matthew on how to live towards heaven.

1. The sermon on the mount (Matthew 5:1-14) is about pursuing eternal rewards:
 - The poor are blessed in the spirit realm – they get the kingdom of heaven.
 - Those who mourn will be comforted.
 - The gentle will inherit the earth.
 - Those who hunger for righteousness and justice will be satisfied.
 - Those who give mercy will get it back.
 - The pure in heart will see God as the reward for their purity.
 - The peacemakers will be recognised as sons of God.
 - The persecuted will get the kingdom of heaven as their reward.
 - Those falsely accused because of Christ will get a great reward in heaven.
2. Whoever is godly and teaches others to be will be great in heaven. (5:19)
3. If *anything* in your life is keeping you from heaven, rip it out! (5:29)
4. If you only love people who love you back, what's different about that? (5:46)
5. If you befriend only your friends, even the world does that. (5:47)
6. If you act religious to get recognition, don't expect any more reward. (6:1)
7. Give gifts secretly instead of publicly, and God will reward you in heaven. (6:2-4)
8. When you practice self-denial, don't flaunt it – or that's all the reward you'll get. Do it secretly for a heavenly reward. (6:16–18)
9. Don't accumulate stuff on earth – add to your bank account in heaven. (6:20)
10. Don't worry about your basic needs (food, clothing and shelter) – God is aware you need them. Seek the Kingdom and that stuff will fall into place. (6:30-32)
11. Grasp onto life and lose it; but let go of it for Jesus' sake and find it. (10:39)
12. Serve the person on the platform and you'll get the same reward. (10:41)
13. Even acts of service as small as giving a child a drink will be rewarded. (10:42)
14. Stand up for Christ before people and He'll stand up for you before God. (10:32)
15. To follow Christ, you must die to self and walk the road of suffering... don't gain everything the world offers but lose your soul in the process. (16: 25-26)
16. If you want treasure in heaven, give away your possessions and follow me. (19:21)
17. If you have left home, family or business to follow Jesus, you'll get back much more in the life to come. (19:29)
18. The greatest in heaven will be everyone's servant on earth. (23:5-11)
19. If you try to look great you will be humbled; greatness comes to the humble. (23:12)
20. If you faithfully steward what you have been given, the master will put you in charge of all His possessions in heaven. (24:45-51)
21. Work hard, take risks and make the most of your life for God, and you'll have a high position in heaven. (25:14-30)
22. How you treat the nobodies in your life is how you're treating Jesus. (25:31-46)

Use the three reflective questions below to help you think about how to apply them in your life.

1. Which of these examples most challenge me today? Which one could I implement in a circumstance or decision I face right now?
2. Which of these messages have I been drawn to throughout my life, and most desire that people see in me? What one step could I take to more compellingly convey this message through my life?
3. Which of these do I feel God calling me to begin doing in secret, just for Him?