

BRIGHT STAR COMMUNITY CHURCH

A STAR in the West Leading People to CHRIST
Taking over in the kingdom

Matthew 11:12

From the days of John the Baptist until now,
the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully
advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.



Taking over in the kingdom

Matthew 11:11 – 15

11 I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. 13 For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. 14 And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come. 15 He who has ears, let him hear.

Taking over in the kingdom

Matthew 11:12

12 From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

Taking over in the kingdom

TAKING OVER IN THE KINGDOM

Taking over in the kingdom

John was the Herald, the Messenger who announced that, "After me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire" (Matt 3:11). We are the Heralds announcing Christ's second coming and the need for all men everywhere to repent and be born again. Jesus himself said, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit" (John 3:5).

Taking over in the kingdom

**1. MAKE EVERY
EFFORT FOR
KINGDOM TAKEOVER**

Taking over in the kingdom

Luke 13:24 "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to."

Acts 14:21-22 ' ... Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, 22 strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God," they said.'

Taking over in the Kingdom of God will not be easy

Taking over in the kingdom

Look at Jesus

Matt 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Taking over in the kingdom

Matt 12:28 Jesus said: But if I by the Spirit of God cast out devils, then the kingdom of God is come upon you.

The point is: the Kingdom of God is real, it rules over the kingdom of the devil.

Taking over in the kingdom

The gospel has 2 sides

1. Saying 2. Doing

1 Co 4:20 For the Kingdom of God is not in word, but in Power.

In other words: The Kingdom of God is not just a concept or theory to be grasped intellectually, But the Kingdom of God is a kingdom of Power.

Jesus is the King and the Holy Ghost is the Power.

Taking over in the kingdom

The Kingdom of God is the rule, the dominion, the authority of Jesus manifesting through us by the power of the Holy Ghost to prove to the world that Jesus is alive.

Taking over in the kingdom

The gospel of the Kingdom is a gospel of Power.

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation, to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Romans 14:17 For the Kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

It's a Spiritual Kingdom:

It's a Kingdom of righteousness: You can't have sin in your life and operate in Kingdom authority and Power.

Taking over in the kingdom

You can't join this Kingdom, you must be born into it.

Jn 3:3 Except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God.

Vs 5 Except a man be born again he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

**The Kingdom of God is not for the passive
(It's for the Passionate)**

If you want Kingdom Power: You have to pursue it.

Taking over in the kingdom

Matt 11:12 From the days of John the Baptist until now, the Kingdom of Heaven suffereth violence and the violent take it by force.

Taking over in the kingdom

2. SATAN'S SCHEMES / THE DAY OF EVIL

Taking over in the kingdom

Ephesians 6:10-14:

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood ... Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, ...

Taking over in the kingdom

2 Timothy 3:1-5:

But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. 2 People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, 4 treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God- 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.

Taking over in the kingdom

**3. THE KINGDOM THEN IS NOT
FOR WEAKLINGS, WAVERERS
OR COMPROMISERS:**

Taking over in the kingdom

It is not for people like Balaam: 2 PETER 2: 14-16 With eyes full of adultery, they never stop sinning; they seduce the unstable, they are experts in greed-an accursed brood! 15 They have left the straight way and wandered off to follow the way of Balaam son of Beor, who loved the wages of wickedness. 16 But he was rebuked for his wrongdoing by a donkey-a beast without speech-who spoke with a man's voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

Taking over in the kingdom

It is not for people like the rich young ruler who placed a higher value on his riches than salvation in Jesus Christ. (Matthew 19:22)

Taking over in the kingdom

It is not for people like Pilate who would rather follow the crowd for the sake of being popular, rather than follow his personal conviction that Jesus is the son of God and that in him there was no sin. (John 19:12-13)

Taking over in the kingdom

It is not for people like Demas who will desert us in the midst of the fight and fall in love with this present world (2 Tim 4:10). May I remind you that this world is not our home- we are merely passing through.

Taking over in the kingdom

4. The Kingdom Is For The Strong and Sturdy

Taking over in the kingdom

People like Joseph, who, when tempted by Potiphar's wife, stood firm and said "How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" (Gen 39:9).

Taking over in the kingdom

People like Daniel and his friends, who replied to the king, 16 ... "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. 17 If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. 18 But even if he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up." (Daniel 3:16-18)

Taking over in the kingdom

People like Stephen, who, when martyred for his faith, could still say a prayer for his killers, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them."
(Acts 7:60).

Taking over in the kingdom

People like Paul and his singleness of mind and purpose: Phillipians 3:13-14 "Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

And let us not forget such brave women as Ruth, Deborah, Esther and Lydia, to mention but a few.

Taking over in the kingdom

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with Power who went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with him.

Jesus message was: Repent for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand. (And he delivered the people from their sins and he healed their bodies and he drove out the demons, and he raised the dead.

Then he sent his disciples out and they did the same thing.

Taking over in the kingdom

2 Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ as though God did beseech you by us, we pray you in Christs stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Ambassadors are sent forth with full power and authority to represent the Kingdom that sends them.

Taking over in the kingdom

Jesus said:

Jn 17:18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

Lu 10:19 Behold I give unto you power to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Taking over in the kingdom

The plan of God is that every believer would not only be saved from sin, but would take their rightful place as kings and priests and begin to rule and reign with Jesus over satans kingdom and all his works.

1Jn 3:8 Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world.

Taking over in the kingdom

The devil is trespassing on Kingdom Property

Psalm 24:1: “The earth is the
LORD’s, and everything in it, the
world, and all who live in it;”

BRIGHT STAR COMMUNITY CHURCH

A STAR in the West Leading People to CHRIST
Taking over in the kingdom

Matthew 11:12

From the days of John the Baptist until now,
the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully
advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

