

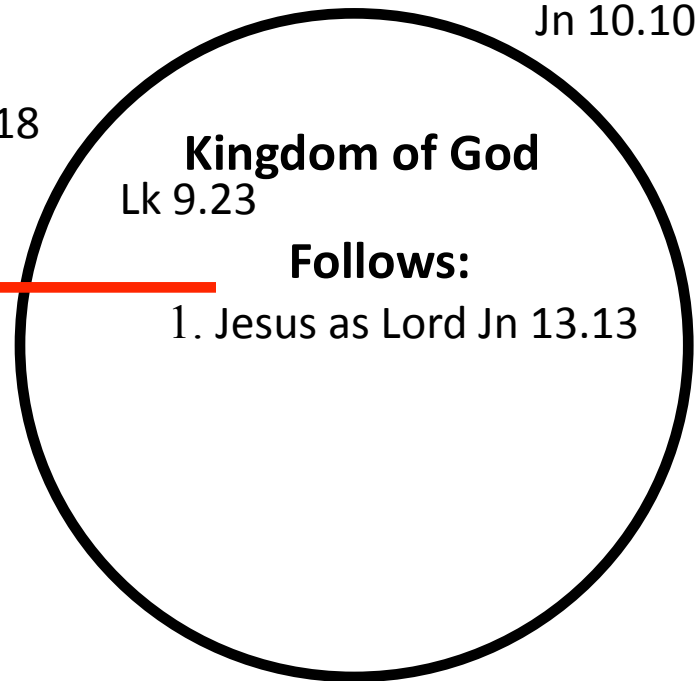
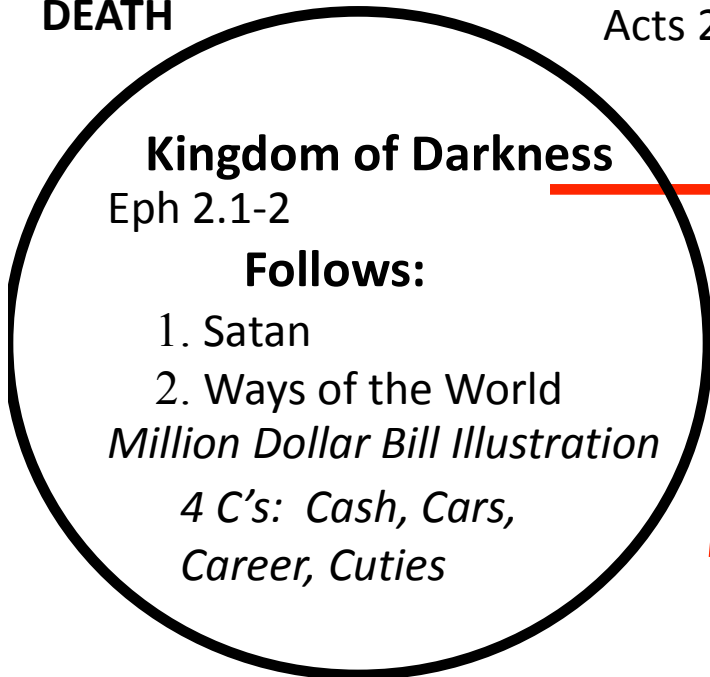
Two Kingdoms Illustration

LIFE

Jn 10.10

DEATH

Acts 26.18



Principles of the Illustration:

1. Proclaim the Gospel of the Kingdom. “Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming *the gospel of the kingdom* (Mat 4.23b). Many people share the gospel and never mention the Kingdom of God. Many of us have settled for Paul’s version of the gospel and we have forsaken the gospel of Jesus! Make the message about the Kingdom and the King, not salvation. The gospel of the Kingdom is the message that Jesus will run your world and bring life to it (Jn 10.10). Salvation is a bi-product of this gospel.

2. There are only two Kingdoms! Most Americans agree that there is evil and good in the world, but they see themselves as in between the two, which is biblically impossible. Start the illustration by asking “If I told you that there were two Kingdoms in the world, what would you say they are.” Whatever they tell you, they’ve agreed with you and God that there are only two Kingdoms, work from there. If, at the end, they still insist they are in their own Kingdom, draw a small circle in the Kingdom of Darkness and show them where their Kingdom really is!

3. Living for the World IS THE SAME as living for Satan. Most Americans don’t think they are living for Satan, but when you use the Million Dollar Bill illustration you can show them how living for the world is the same as living for Satan. Use Ephesians 2.1-2 to prove this point. Use the 4 C’s as typical illustrations of what people give their lives to that pleases Satan.

4. The most significant thing about the Kingdom of God is who the King is: Jesus. Most Americans think they are Christians, but if Jesus is not their Lord, then He is also not their Savior. In the Kingdom of Darkness anyone can be your king—Satan or even you-- as long as it’s not Jesus. One of the most important things that this illustration does is to help people see that they are not Christians because the Christ is not their King. This is the first step in leading most Americans to Christ.

5. Insist on repentance for those who want to enter the Kingdom. “Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand” (Mat 4.17) If people agree that they want Jesus to run their life, then ask them to take a first step of obedience. Ask them to get baptized or to meet you the next time you meet with your friends to talk about Jesus. Do it yourself as soon as possible if they agree. For those who aren’t ready to make Jesus their Lord, ask them to hang out with you and your friends so they can learn more.