

# Consider The Kingdom First

Imitators of God: William Borden

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience — among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

- Ephesians 2:1-3

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

- Ephesians 2:4-7

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- Ephesians 2:8-9

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- Ephesians 2:10

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Romans 12:1

Jesus lived and died for us.

We should live and die for him,  
not for ourselves.







# Cracker Jack<sup>®</sup>

BRAND





No Reserves.

Say no to self and yes to  
Jesus every time.

No retreats.



No regrets.

"A wave of sorrow went round the world ... Borden not only gave away his wealth, but himself, in a way so joyous and natural that it seemed a privilege rather than a sacrifice"

Mary Taylor - biographer

No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

Matthew 6:24

Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

Matthew 6:25-26

And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Matthew 6:27-29

But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

Matthew 6:30

Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

Matthew 6:31-33

...seek first the kingdom of God and his  
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Matthew 6:33

# No Reserves

- Not distracted by money, but occupied with people
- Used his money to meet people's needs
- Held nothing back for himself, gave everything he had

# No Retreats

- While in school (on the job) was about the business of introducing people to Christ, and in the process sought out and discovered God's direction for his life.
- Turned down “sensible, logical” career choices, even “spiritual” career choices, that weren't in line with the direction God had given him.
- did not worry about cultural and social expectations on him

# No Regrets

- Did not factor in his own personal safety or comfort
- trusted God to take care of exactly what he needed

- Are there areas of life that you are holding back in reserve for yourself.
- Are there decisions you are making or not making because you are retreating from what he has asked you to do.
- Ask for faith to believe that you will have no regrets in the end if you follow his plan for your life.