

KINGDOM FELLOWSHIP A.M.E.  
**NECESSARY  
ENDINGS**

**REFLECT**



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Pastor Watley continues the sermon series entitled, “Necessary Endings” this week with the sermon title, “The 3rd Man”. This week's focus comes from the scripture, The Gospel According to Luke, the 9th chapter, verses 57 through 62. The Pastor shares in the opening of the sermon that the scripture should be looked at together with the Gospel According To Matthew, 8th chapter, verses 18 through 22. Pastor highlights for us that the Gospel According to Luke has the same outline of the story, but in Luke’s gospel we are introduced to the 3rd man and this is the focus of the sermon today.

***Luke 9:57-62***

***57As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”***

***58Jesus replied, “Foxes have holes and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”***

***59He said to another man, “Follow me.”***

***But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”***

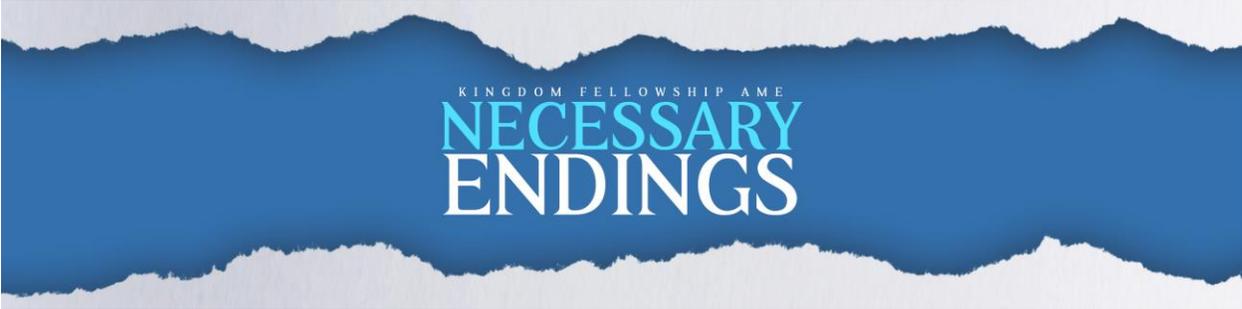
***60Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”***

***61Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family.”***

***62Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”***



**KFAMECHURCH**  
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Rev. Matthew L. Watley, Senior Pastor



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Pastor Watley shares that the 3rd man is important because he's a representation of us. This man wants to follow Jesus, but also wants to say goodbye to his family. Pastor highlights that this man is in transition, trying to go into a new thing but wanting to end the old or current situation. Pastor says this line, "This man is trying to get closer to Jesus but he has some issues."

As we make this transition as a church, Pastor makes it clear that this is going to be a great move. The building is beautiful and an offering to the Lord, but we're going for more than the building. Pastor reminds us that while the building itself is beautiful with the floors, windows, and audiovisual system, we're going to 11710 Beltsville Drive to see lives changed and people transformed all to the Glory of God.

Our goal in this season should be to transition into better and not just better for us but better for the Kingdom of God. Pastor tells us that this moment in time should be seen as an opportunity or an "inflection moment". This moment is can shift or change the rest of our lives. What God is doing at Kingdom is better than just Kingdom but should be used in our lives as well for God to do something greater through our faith. This is a special season in our lives for us to make important decisions of necessary endings and as Pastor shares the stakes are high. The stakes are high for us just as they were for this 3<sup>rd</sup> man in our scripture. This man had to make a decision between what he has now and the unknown. This man had to make a sacrifice and we also have to make a sacrifice as well. The 3<sup>rd</sup> man stated that he wanted to go but he also wanted to stay to deal with his family. Pastor shares that the issue is that this man had to make a decision between a good thing and a God thing. Many of us have made decisions between a good thing and a God thing. Pastor tells us that often times we pick the good thing because the God thing is uncomfortable. However, if we're going to move forward, we need to make some God decisions that don't make sense and decisions that other people in your situation wouldn't make. Pastor points out in the text that Jesus reminded the man that he couldn't have all that God wanted for him if he continues to look back, but you can only receive the harvest if you look and move forward.

The 3rd man had to be willing to end his old and current thing in order to receive the God thing with the seed that comes from the Lord.

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## 1. RESPOND

### **Introspective Questions**

- ï What things in life now are you having an issue with because you're looking back?
- ï What do you believe is ahead of you from the Lord if you continue to forward and not back?

### **Discussion Questions**

- ï What do you think the family of the 3<sup>rd</sup> man thought when he didn't come back to say goodbye?
- ï What do you think this man learned from following Jesus that he wouldn't have learned if he stayed where he was ?