

## **Twelve Theses on Kingdom Servanthood for Post-Communist Europe – Peter Kuzmic**

1. Servants of the King know, love and obey their Lord above everyone and everything else: we are participants in the blessings of the Kingdom but also practitioners of its demands; in order to enter the Kingdom, you have to lose your life in order to find it.
2. Servants of the King are neither totally at home nor fully comfortable in any kingdom of this world: the church is not yet the community of the King, it is on its way there; and although the church is in the world, it is not of the world. The redeemed community is still on the way, it is a pilgrim community, it should never feel at home.
3. Servants of the King are seekers of the Kingdom and not empire builders: do not exalt your ego over Christ. Matt 6:33.
4. Servants of the King excel in righteousness and practice a prophetic spirituality: when people are born again into his kingdom they must seek not only to exhibit but also to spread its righteousness in the midst of an unrighteous world; we should be transformed in the totality of our personal and social responsibilities.
5. Servants of the King are indifferent to worldly gain and recognition: we have to fight against the spirit of the age, the spirit of greed, personal promotion because material affluence divorced from human and spiritual values is empty and meaningless.
6. Servants of the King are disciplines people, striving for excellence in all areas of life: the Kingdom of God stands against mediocrity and status quo. When invited in Jesus' kingdom, we are called to a life of self-denial, then we can qualify to be leaders and leaders are life-long learners. A kingdom-learner is to be: "severe with self; gentle with others, honest with all".
7. Servants of the King refuse to divorce theory and practice (word and deed): there is only one gospel which is both spiritual and social because it is focused on the individual person and the kingdom of God, clearly taught and consistently practiced in the ministry of Jesus.
8. Servants of the King are not religious tourists but engaged citizens of God's kingdom among the kingdoms of this world: there are wonderful servants of the King that come to Eastern Europe, there are also those who come to look for good photographs & stories for newsletters, serving their ego and kingdom agencies. But withdrawal and disengagement are not of the Kingdom.
9. Servants of the King have comprehensive vision: God's purposes have cosmic dimensions and are wholistic. Therefore, we have to develop a non-sectarian ecclesiology; develop an evangelical base for sociopolitical ethics; seek the welfare of society; promote peace; be agents of reconciliation; monitor human rights and speak for truth justice and minorities.

10. Servants of the King are concerned for the unity of all God's people: there is only one King, and therefore only one Kingdom; one head, one church; this means less independence and more interdependence; less competition and more cooperation, less ambition to lead and more willingness to follow and serve.

11. Servants of the King are holy people, people of prayer and praise, full of the Holy Spirit: Jesus proclaimed and brought the reign of God, messianic prophecies were fulfilled, resulting in joy and celebration; we are to be dependant and grateful; thirsty and filled, marked by holiness, humility and a simple life-style.

12. Servants of the King have a memory and a hope: we must constantly look back at the foundation laid by Christ and his apostles and at the same time look forward in the future to the return of Christ when his already inaugurated Kingdom will be complete at the end of history.