DIFFERENT KINGDOMS, DIFFERENT MENUS

Physical food sustains your body for a day; God's Kingdom nourishes your soul for eternity.

KEY POINTS

"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."
— Romans 14:17 —

God's Kingdom nourishes us now for eternity.

- *"For the kingdom of God…."*
- To the people listening to Jesus and hoping for a Jewish Messiah, the word "kingdom" referred to Israel and the land God had promised Abraham and his descendants through His Covenant.
- The conversation of the disciples on the road to Emmaus shows that some who followed Him were disillusioned (see Luke 24:13-35). They had hoped Jesus would restore the rule of the kingdom of Israel, yet His ministry was about a kingdom of hearts and minds, not lands.
- Such a kingdom transcends physical boundaries through ideas, principles, and spiritual anointing. Jeremiah described this as the New Covenant where God would write His Law not on tablets of stone as with Moses, but upon our hearts (see Jeremiah 31:33).
- For completeness, we also speak of the universal kingdom, God's uncontested reign described in Revelation.
- God created and sustains everything. He says that if you drink the water that He gives, you will never thirst again (John 4:14).
- Life's competitive pressures tend to force us toward addressing urgent issues rather than important ones. But it's important to set non-negotiable times in your day for delving into God's Word and prayer. Always let God's kingdom nourish you first so that you are equipped to deal with the now and with eternity.
- To do this, we need a relationship with God. The good news is that He has already put everything in place for that to happen (see Acts 2:38).

Physical food is crucial for the temporal body but it cannot satisfy the soul.

- *"…Is not a matter of eating and drinking…."*
- Understanding what something is about is key to applying it correctly. This confused many during Jesus' ministry.
- Jesus frequently explained that His kingdom was not a temporal one concerned with eating. That's why, when the religious leaders fretted over the things you should or should not eat, He pointed out that food simply passes through the body (see Mark 7:18-19).
- On the other hand, His parable of the rich man who had a bumper harvest and built larger barns only to die that same night in Luke 12:16-21 shows that life means far more than good and abundant eating. Though important, feeding the flesh is not life's ultimate priority.
- Nor is the kingdom of God a matter of drinking. Life is about much more than the next party. Jesus said this was the preoccupation of society until God shut the door of Noah's ark before the flood came (Matthew 24:37-39). And that is what it will be when He returns to establish His eternal kingdom.
- To say that this world becomes irrelevant once you're saved is to misrepresent the full counsel of scripture. People who have a relationship with God should make for better all-rounded citizens because He loves the world. He speaks to people through our love, work ethic, integrity, and willingness to give more than we take.
- So, work to be wealthy, build to be comfortable, and enjoy fellowship. But remember these things are temporal and will eventually cease. Yet the things that satisfy the soul never seem to expire.

Spiritual food is most crucial for it gives eternal life now.

- *"…But of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."*
- So, if the kingdom of God is not about material things, what is it about and what does it mean for us right now? It's about the active release of the fruits of the Spirit described in Galatians 5:22-23 into the lives lived by God's children.
- 'Righteousness' speaks of the verdict of divine approval. God gives us the nod because He sees us covered by the blood of Jesus, which is righteous in its innocence, holiness, and redeeming sacrifice. This is what justifies our participation in God's kingdom.
- Our citizenship herein gives us 'peace.' This refers to rest and prosperity, which Hebrews links to the fulfilment of the Sabbath principle when we enter God's kingdom (see Hebrews 4:1-11).
- A fruit of the spiritual kingdom is 'joy'. This word means "calm delight" or "gladness." God's kingdom in this age is growing and dynamic. His joy in us is contagious, and the light it brings should not be hidden but seen by the world.
- Jesus told His disciples that what made His joy complete was the fact that in His kingdom we become one in Him—that His influence becomes our influence (John 15:5-11).
- God's kingdom nourishes us for now and for eternity. Jesus said that there is no profit in gaining the world but losing your soul (Mk. 8:36). Working for things that satisfy only outwardly and temporarily isn't enough. Your soul's satisfaction—now and in the long haul—matters.
- Spiritual food is most crucial, for it gives eternal life now. Instead of feeding only on things that have temporal value, choose to eat from the menu of the kingdom of God. It will give spiritual fruit that nourishes your spirit. Therefore, you can have eternal life that sustains you now and for eternity.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Read Romans 14:17. How does Paul's description of God's kingdom challenge what people commonly pursue for fulfillment, happiness, and success?
2. Compare John 4:14 and Mark 8:36. What do these verses teach about the difference between satisfying physical needs and nourishing the soul?
3. According to Scripture, how can one go about deepening the kingdom qualities described in Romans 14:17 (righteousness, peace, and joy) in their lives?

PRAYER TIME

Heavenly Father, teach me to feed on Your kingdom and find my satisfaction in You alone. Amen.

KEY SCRIPTURE: Romans 14:17
(all scriptures in text are in NIV unless otherwise noted)

Start-up: If you owned a restaurant, what three dishes would have to be on the menu, and why?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

 (Reminds me/Confirms)  (New idea)  (Think about)

 (Do this)  (Speaks to my heart) (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD

PRAYER FOCUS: U.P.C.I. leaders and their families

24-hour Prayer: Daily;
Daily Devotions: Monday - Friday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.;
Departmental Prayer: Every **Thursday** (please check schedule)
Corporate Prayer: Every **Friday** @ 7:00 p.m. (and in person every second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.).
Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 **Phone Access:** 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS
To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give
For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY CORPORATE BIBLE STUDY
Date: Every Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m. on Zoom and in person. *Contact Pastor Chris Simpson for further information.*

FAITH GALA
Save the date! Join us on Friday, November 20th at 7:30 p.m. for our Faith Gala. Our theme this year: "Anchored in Hope". Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online or at the Guest Service Hosts' desk in the front foyer. *For more information, please contact Pastor Lucy.*

STOREHOUSE
The following items are needed in the Storehouse: corned beef, sweet milk/evaporated milk, sardines, tuna, baked beans, oil, toothpaste, and coffee. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.
Contact: Bro. Richard or Sis. Naomi Daley



FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.
(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)
Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.
(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)
Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)
Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)
Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled
(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD
We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD
We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION
We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL
We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL
We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE
Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN
We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Faith SANCTUARY

Feed Canada to Feed the World



Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

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Romans 14:17 (NIV)

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