

The Whole Church #16 - The Church and The Kingdom

AT Snacks- March 10, 2024

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Monday:

A lot of people want to give toward the disaster relief for the Texas Panhandle. If you want to give toward that effort, you can call the Trinity office and let them know what you can do. If you write a check for the this fund, make the check out to Trinity Fellowship and in the memo, please write disaster relief.

Please read Matthew 6:25-34, to set the tone for this teaching.

Worry fights directly against your faith. If we can learn to exercise our faith rather than to exercise worry, we will find out that it changes everything and start to show some gratitude about what you already have.

“Oh, ye of little faith”. Every time Jesus used this phrase, it was to indicate that they had the faith to do what He was talking about. When the storm was about to tear the boat into pieces, Jesus spoke to the storm, *“Peace be still”*. And then He looked at the 12 and He spoke, *“Oh, ye of little faith”*, which just says that they had adequate faith to stop the storm.

Your faith is capable of navigating the very thing that you’re dealing with and going through in your life right now. You are created for these things that we talk about. You’re created to receive it and to work it out in your life with the help of the Holy Spirit and the people around you.

The Church is the answer for everything that’s wrong and out of kilter in the world.

Tuesday:

There are seven issues that define this house. The Kingdom of God, the Father, grace, relationships, equipping the saints, signs and wonders, and the poor.

This Awakening that we’re talking about is manifesting the Kingdom of God. Every time you do the right thing, pray for someone, you don’t fall prey to the trickery of the enemy, and you don’t run your mouth, you are manifesting the Kingdom.

On the other hand, every time you go negative, start to gossip or start talking badly about somebody, the kingdom of darkness is manifest.

In real estate, it’s location, location, location. But in the Kingdom of God, it’s relationship, relationship, relationship.

The enemy causes problems in relationships because he hates it when we come together, relationally. So heads up! Every relationship, given enough time, gets tested.

Whenever we make the problem more important than the relationship, the relationship is in trouble. So, you have to make the relationship more important than the problem.

What I’ve noticed about this house is that you have been obedient in whatever it is that God’s doing here, and whatever it is that God’s doing. But for the last couple of years, a hunger on the part of the people in this family is intensifying like I haven’t seen before.

We are embarking on a season where we’re going to see the Kingdom of God manifesting in a greater way, greater than any generation has ever seen before. So, that means we can’t be doing business as usual.

The hunger that you have is something that the Holy Spirit has initiated. It’s not you, but it’s Him.

Hunger attracts the attention of God, the favor of God, the grace of God, God's voice, God's presence, and the divine ability to walk through whatever it is, mountain tops or valleys, that you are going through. You will have more than enough grace to go through those things.

Wednesday:

The church is the only organism on the planet that God has designed to give the world hope, which makes us ambassadors.

Our citizenship is in heaven. You may have an address in western Oklahoma or the Texas panhandle, but you're a citizen of the Kingdom of God.

If the true church doesn't rise up and rise up quickly, the human race is in for some dark, dark, dark times. So I trust fully that God is doing what He wants to do, even in the hearts of the hardest individuals there are toward God. And He does it in a gentle, nurturing kind of way.

The Kingdom of God is the most vast, profound subject that there is, but it's also so simple that even a child can understand it. So, make yourself a student of the Kingdom of God.

Keep an eye on the little things around you, because a lot of times you're looking for something out there in the future, when a lot of things are happening right in your little circle that can be classified as the Kingdom.

Start looking for the things in your little daily life right here, and start proclaiming the gospel of the Kingdom like we are doing now.

When Jesus was walking the earth, He could only be in one place a one time. But now that He lives in you, He can be in several hundred places at the same time. You're an agent, you're an ambassador of the Kingdom.

It's just a little bit you and 99% Him. But it takes that 1% of you to show up, so that He can move in and through you.

You can sum it all up this way, you and Him. You just hook up with Jesus and have an encounter with God. You can initiate an encounter with Him. You can talk to Him about these things that you're dealing with and going through. It's the key of life, the two of you getting together.

If you will embrace Him in the relationship, this thing that you're dealing with now will fade into the woodwork, whatever it is.

Thursday:

Your story is really, really important as it relates to the people around you. Your story really turns out to be His story, what God had done in you.

We teach what it's supposed to look like in real life, how to cooperate with the Lord in salvation, and a simple way to help pray with someone to come into the Kingdom of God. How to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit, that when the door opens, you step in. You don't have to be an expert at it. Just say, "*This is what I did*".

Teaching how to enter the Kingdom of God should be the first thing that we teach people who just got born again.

When we talk about the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, we live in the Bible Belt and it's still kind of rough, even for some people in this room who have heard it a lot. It's still kind of hard sometimes for them to step out and pray for someone or step out and do some kind of ministry for someone. It is the fear of messing up.

You who are mature in the Lord, if you keep on doing for these fledgling believers who believe this, and keep doing for them the things that they can do, they'll never know what they can do.

If you keep praying for and pulling people out of the fire, you are going to always have to keep pulling them out of the fire. You need to let them go through some fire situations themselves. The fires that we go through in life are purifying us. That's what causes the impurities that don't belong to Jesus to come to the surface.

Pay attention to your spiritual life, and the rest of your life will go well.

Be intimate with God. He wants to be intimate with you. That's how the church and the Kingdom work hand and hand with one another.

Friday:

I asked several of my pastor friends this question, *"what percentage of the people in your church do you think are consistent Bible readers who are looking for their answers, and who are serious about the word? I'll bet you 75% of the people are not doing that"*. Everyone of them said, *"it's a lot more than that. Maybe 90%"*.

The more word you know, the more dangerous you are to the enemy. When Jesus was being tested in the wilderness, all three times He took the club to the enemy with the Word of God. Declare the Word every day. The more Word you know, the more Word you declare, the harder you are on the enemy.

Just find some *"It is Written"* things and the enemy hates that, because he has to comply with the Word of God. You have to get in the Word till the Word get in you.

Through the written word, the Word that God is speaking and the Spirit of God Who helps you discern and understand all this stuff, that's how you avoid getting deceived.

Make yourself a student of the Word. Read a little and let the Lord speak to you.

If you pray in generalities, God answers in generalities. But if you pray in specifics, God answers in specifics.

When people are on the mountain top, they get lackadaisical and lazy sometimes. You usually get more serious about God when you go through the fire. But let's just stay consistent. Get up! Show up!

I found that if I listen, my list of things that I need to ask God for just kind of dwindles down to almost nothing. He knows what we need.

Everybody gets tested by the enemy, so become skilled in spiritual warfare, how to fight off the enemy, and how to take the battle to the enemy. Stop playing defense and get on the offensive.

Saturday:

The church is to help its people know how to undergo the testing process of God. 1 Peter 4:12, *"Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happening to you"*. James 1:2-4: *"My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing"*.

He's going to let you have another test. Why? So you can be conformed into the image of Jesus, and not stay like you are. Be obedient during the time of testing.

We have to tell people out there who don't know Jesus how Jesus is, because some of the church in different spots and places has not done a very good job in showing the world who Jesus is.

Luke 17:20b-21: *The Kingdom of God does not come with observation, nor will they say, "see here, see there", for indeed, the Kingdom of God is within you.*

Jesus told Nicodemus, *"You must be born again or you can't enter the Kingdom of God"*. (John 3: 3) You can turn that around and say, *"If you are born again, you can, and have, entered the Kingdom of God."* But you have to look with spiritual eyes to see it.

What are the things that you encounter in life that touch you at the deepest point, that trigger your emotions in a good way? What are you burdened for? Who or what is it that you would naturally like to make better? That is the Kingdom of God within you.

I had a friend say to me, *"Well, you know if I was a millionaire, I'd help so many people"*. I said, *"Well, you aren't a millionaire so why don't you help just one?"*

What are the things that touch your heart? What are the things that you can't talk about without breaking down? Find out what those things are for you. That's a part of Jesus in you that the Father wants to nurture and perfect.