

WE THE CHURCH!

The Church of Jesus Christ is not a building – it is His “body”, alive and active in our world.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ The “WE THE NORTH” slogan was the product of a multi-faceted and effective rebranding/marketing strategy for the Toronto Raptors basketball team.
- ❖ The strength of the Raptors’ campaign was that it brought our nation to the collective feeling that we’re all in this together – from the Atlantic to the Pacific to the Arctic coast up north.
- ❖ The apostle Peter may have had a similar kind of thing in mind as he wrote 1 Peter 2:1-10. He includes words and phrases that express the reality of our oneness, exclusivity, privilege and position.
- ❖ When we gather in the house of God, we often say we’re “going to church”. But really, We, The People, are “the Church” – the ekklēsia, the called-out ones, the body of Christ, who is the head (Ephesians 5:23, Colossians 1:18).
- ❖ The building we call “church” is just a place where the Church meets together in fellowship.
- ❖ We never need to wait to “go to church” to see God move. The head is always attached to the body; therefore, wherever the Church is, the Lord is with us.
- ❖ All of God is with us at all times (Col. 1:18-19), no matter where we are or what we’re doing. When we face situations that demand an act of God, we can deal with them right there and then.
- ❖ We all face situations where divine intervention is needed, and so do people we meet. If we are truly sensitive and listening to others, we will notice many opportunities to minister and to serve others.
- ❖ Our current COVID-19 pandemic experience highlights how important it is for the Church to know its role.
- ❖ Each member of the Church must live out our God-given privilege and responsibility *in* the world and *to* the world.
- ❖ No more of God’s power is available to anyone in the world than that which we, as Spirit-filled believers, have within us right now! God wants to work miracles through you and me, just as He did through the ‘super-saints’ we may have read about in scripture.
- ❖ In Acts 2:42-47 there is a description of the church we need to pay attention to. This section of scripture informs us that:
 - The “early church” was in a constant state of awe – they never took their relationship with God for granted.
 - They were in praise and worship mode to God at all times.
 - Wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.
 - They were known by and had good relationships with those who were not yet believers.
 - They were the Church wherever they went.

KEY SCRIPTURES 1 Peter 2:1-10; Colossians 1:1-2,16-20; Acts 2:42-47

- ❖ Does this sound like us? Are we in a constant state of awe in the presence of God? Is praise always on our lips? Do others outside of the assembly think well of us?
- ❖ When we find ourselves in conversations or situations that demands a miracle, we don’t wait for Sunday to come to the house of God to pray for the need. **WE ARE THE CHURCH!**
- ❖ We have the power and ability to pray right where we are with whomever is in need. Let’s give God the opportunity to work outside the four walls of the church building.
- ❖ We can attempt great things for God. **WE** are the church – not the building.
- ❖ Call on the Head of the Church, who is always with us. He will come through!

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Read the following scripture. What does it teach us about being the Church? What must we do/ not do? What is our identity?
Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ²as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby...⁵you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ...
⁷Therefore, to you who believe, He is precious...
⁹But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ¹⁰who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy. (1 Peter 2:1-10)
2. Examine specific aspects of our identity in Christ (e.g. living stones, a spiritual house, holy/royal priesthood, chosen generation, holy nation, His own special people). Discuss, as you reflect on the above: What privileges do we have? How should we be influencing/serving our world?
 - ❖ Discuss the following questions regarding your Church community: Are we in a constant state of awe in the presence of God? Is praise always on our lips? Do those outside of the assembly think well of us?
3. Take time for personal reflection to privately ponder and answer the questions above.

PRAYER TIME

Lord, help me to remember and to live out the truth that I AM THE CHURCH. In Jesus’ name.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020

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
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

Start-up: Complete the sentence, I AM _____, with the one word that sums up your personality most effectively.

"WE PRAY" FS FACEBOOK GROUP

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/weprayatfaithsanctuary/>

PRAYER FOCUS: Revelation of the divinity of Jesus Christ to religious non-Christians



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO SUBMIT A BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

Obtain approval from Head of Department and send to announcements@faithsanctuary.com by Wednesday @ 4:00 p.m. (If projection is desired send to media@faithsanctuary.com.)

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

For email transfers, please use the following address:
donate@faithsanctuary.com

JUNE

Friday 5: Faith Family Online Prayer Meeting
Sunday 7: Communion during online service

WE THE CHURCH
WE THE BODY
CHRIST THE HEAD

NOTICE:

Faith Sanctuary services are suspended until further notice, at the direction of public officials.

Watch our services at 10:15 a.m. (Bible Study) and 11:00 a.m. (regular service) every Sunday morning.

Ways to connect to the services:

- Go to www.faithsanctuary.com >click "livestream" link (or type in www.faithsanctuary.com/live)
- Go to www.youtube.com >search for "Faith Sanctuary"
- Sign in to Facebook >search for "Faith Sanctuary"
- Call 1-844-268-4848 for toll-free telephone access

Participate in in-depth Bible Study each Monday evening from 6:30-8:00 p.m. (Facebook and Zoom).

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).

MAY 31, 2020


Faith
SANCTUARY
Know Jesus, Love Jesus, Share Jesus

2020 ~the year of vision~ 2020

Pastor: Rev. Granville E. McKenzie

*"Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually."
1 Corinthians 12:27 NKJV*

SUNDAY SERVICES

Worship: 8:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m. • 6:30 p.m.
Sunday School/Bible Study: 9:45 a.m.

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