

IT'S TIME TO MOVE FORWARD

God is able to overcome any obstacle. So, let go of your fear, access your faith, and **move forward**.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ Equity versus equality. Equality is providing the same resources to everyone, irrespective of individual circumstance, while equity involves taking individual circumstances into account when providing resources.
- ❖ In the "equity vs equality" debate, an equitable approach leads to more successful outcomes. By understanding where a person comes from and tailoring resources and opportunities to them specifically, they can get farther in life.
- ❖ When we study the Scriptures, one of the things that becomes clear is that God often takes the equitable approach with humanity. God moves with specificity and with intention. He is not random or arbitrary in how He does things.
- ❖ With this in mind, Numbers 13 tells us of a critical moment for the nation of Israel. They had been traveling in the desert when the Lord told Moses to "send some men to explore the land of Canaan" (v.v. 1-2).
- ❖ The nation of Israel had been without a home and God had promised them one. Not only did God promise them a home, He promised to take them out of their misery *and* settle them in a rich land "flowing with milk and honey" (Exodus 3:17).
- ❖ When the Israelites went into the land, they found it to be exactly as God described: a rich, fruitful place, flowing with milk and honey. God was true to His Word!
- ❖ But then something odd happens—the leaders don't want to go. *What?!* Why not? "...The people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there" (Num. 13:28).
- ❖ And the leaders, operating in fear instead of hope, went so far as to insult themselves, saying they were "like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them" (v. 33).
- ❖ Can you imagine God's reaction as He watched all this unfold? It's easy to point out the foolishness of Israel, but what about our own mistakes?
- ❖ How many times have we acted in fear instead of in faith? How many times have we clung to what's familiar and let go of the future God has in store for us? And how many times have we called ourselves grasshoppers when we should have called ourselves giants?
- ❖ It got so bad with Israel that they wept and complained about Moses and Aaron. They thought it would have been better if they had died in the wilderness and "said to each other, 'We should...go back to Egypt'" (Num. 14:4).
- ❖ If they had been successful in their desire to return to Egypt, what would have happened to the rest of the Old Testament? What about the New Testament and the life of Jesus? They were risking more than they could have possibly imagined by going against what God wanted them to do.

KEY SCRIPTURE: Numbers 13:27-33
(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)

- ❖ Fear of the future, fear of the unknown, fear of change will rob you of your destiny and leave you in chains. But "...God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7 NKJV).
- ❖ It's time to move forward. God has spoken. He has opened up a promise and an opportunity for you. Now is the time to let go of your fear and move forward.
- ❖ Do you remember BlackBerry? Once upon a time, it was *the* phone to have and had dominated the marketplace. Nobody at the time could have suspected that in just a few short years, BlackBerry would pretty much be forgotten in the smartphone landscape.
- ❖ Why did BlackBerry fail? An online search would provide these top two answers: "slow to embrace change" and "failure to innovate." BlackBerry didn't move forward and, today, it doesn't even operate in the marketplace it once defined.
- ❖ In Numbers 14, God does something terrifying. In the face of Israel's refusal to embrace change and failure to innovate, He skips an entire generation (v.v. 26-35).
- ❖ The crossing from Egypt to Canaan—from slavery to promise, from oppressed group to recognized nation—would have been about 10 days by foot.
- ❖ Israel's future could have been secured in a week and a half, but they went in circles for *forty years* because God refused to honour a generation that treated His Word and His promise with contempt.
- ❖ We're in a season of change and growth that is clearly instigated by God. There is obviously a trajectory the Lord has us on, but if we refuse to move forward in obedience with His Word and His promise, *He will skip us*. His plan will still be accomplished, *but we won't be involved*.
- ❖ So, how do we make sure that doesn't happen? We let go of fear. We access faith. **And we move forward.**

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. "God moves with specificity and with intention." Discuss this statement in relation to the Israelites' sojourn from Egypt to Canaan, from slavery to promise.
2. Like the Israelites, name at least two other biblical figures who acted out of fear instead of faith. What happened when they acted out of fear? Were they eventually able to have a faith response? How so?
3. Has God ever moved with specificity and intention in your life? Testify!

PRAYER TIME

Lord, please help me to let go of fear and to stand upon Your promises as I move forward. Amen.

Start-up: Have there ever been any opportunities in your life you had to refuse? What caused you to say "no"? Did you ever regret it?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2025

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

PRAYER FOCUS: Thanksgiving for God's goodness, provision, protection, freedom, health, etc.

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

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For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONTHLY LEADERS' MEETING

Sunday, October 26th @ 1:15 p.m. in the Upper Chapel

1ST EAST REGIONAL LIFE GROUP FELLOWSHIP

Date: Sunday, November 9th, 2025

Time: 1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Location: Lower Chapel

Who: Everyone with family members



We believe in the dignity of the human being; that everyone is made in the image of God to become the best they were created to be (Gen 1:27, Eph 4:13).

WHY WE EXIST

As a local church, we are "feeding Canada to feed the world" in a spiritual sense. We do this by teaching biblical principles that transcend cultures so that people can bring the best of who they are to the table and successfully engage secular life.



HOW WE DO THINGS



We are building a strong Christian fellowship that will impact our nation and others beyond our national borders through biblical literacy, and economic empowerment.

WHAT WE'RE DOING

Faith

SANCTUARY

FEED CANADA TO FEED THE WORLD

OUR VISION IS THAT GODLY NATIONS WILL RISE IN OUR LIFETIME.

OUR MISSION, IN THE CONTEXT OF JESUS' MISSION TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST, IS TO FEED CANADA TO FEED THE WORLD SPIRITUALLY.

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).

OCTOBER 26, 2025



Feed Canada to Feed the World

Building People, Building Resources

~ 2025 ~

Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

*"The Lord will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the Lord your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom."
Deuteronomy 28:13 (NIV)*

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