

FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION:

Feel free to read the passages again and to discuss them throughout the questions

1. What rituals do you have to reward or calm yourself after a hard project or tough situation?
2. Do you think most people are living life with end goals in mind? Why or why not?
3. What would the end goals of your life be? How does it shape your daily decisions?
4. The idea of heaven/the future being part of the present by how we live may be new to you. What do you think about that?
5. If we are part of the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Canada, how/in what ways can we put that first citizenship (and the one that will outlast the other) above the other?
6. Temples are physical spaces set aside for "spiritual" or "religious" space. What places make a separation between ordinary and un-ordinary life in our culture?
7. Jesus undoes the idea of the Temple as a sacred space for encountering forgiveness and God. What does he replace the Temple with?

PRAYER:

FEBRUARY 14, 2021

PEACE WITH SELF • PEACE WITH GOD • PEACE WITH OTHERS

Territory + Temple

We build online and physical temples searching for purpose and meaning out of our lives; social media, gyms, music, celebrities, art galleries, food, shopping, porn sites, or sports among other things can become religious to us. But what if we build on land not found on a map, with a leader in no need of governmental buildings? How can this way of living bring us the life we try so hard to secure?

Jesus crashes through the walls we build that keep us from encountering God. Become a dual citizen and a living temple!

Core Texts: **Matthew 9:3, Luke 19:45-48, Matthew 12:6, Romans 14:16-18**

OPENING

JESUS TAKES ON TERRITORIALISM - Understanding the Kingdom of God

Jesus invites us into eternal life now. He calls us to live a coherent and connected life with what is to come, NOW. "Are you living now the way you want to live forever?..."

Are you being NOW who you want to be forever" (EOR2 164).

Peace is part of the Kingdom of God way of living... **Romans 14:16-18**

The Kingdom of God was a core teaching of Jesus. **Luke 17:20-21**

First: The Kingdom of God is not...

Second: It is...

+ Within hearts

+ Expressed through relationships

Dual Citizenship

The Constantinian Shift

Jesus Takes on the Temple

Tearing down the sacred/secular walls **Matthew 12:6**

Direct forgiveness of Jesus

Luke 19:45-48 Hiding behind religion

The church as the assembly of god...

FINAL WORD