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# Church in Regina

## **Church Pursuit & Fellowship**

#### THE EXERCISE OF THE KINGDOM

**HYMN: 947** 

The first word of the New Testament gospel was to repent for the sake of the kingdom of the heavens. It's quite different from our natural concepts. We are prone to consider that the first item of the New Testament gospel is the forgiveness of sins, and the second item is eternal life. We need forgiveness of sins so that we can have eternal life, and we need eternal life so that we can be under the heavenly rule. The kingdom is the requirement of the gospel, and the life is the supply of the gospel.

There is no doubt that once we have been saved, we are saved forever. Our salvation is eternally secure. In addition to salvation, there is the matter of the kingdom. The home is a place for birth and enjoyment, but the kingdom is a place for exercise and responsibility. After we have been regenerated, we must be exercised. We must be very clear: to be saved is one thing, and to be exercised in the kingdom is another. Today we need to be exercised so that tomorrow we can be rewarded.

> 2514 Truesdale Dr. E, Regina, SK **February 17, 2025**

### Hymn 947 God's Kingdom today is a real exercise

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God's Kingdom today is a real exercise, But when Christ comes to reign it will be a great prize; It is wisdom divine that we now may be trained That His plan be fulfilled and His justice maintained.

God's children, we're born to be kings with His Son, And we need to be trained that we may overcome And to know how to rule in His kingdom as kings, That His kingship thru us be expressed o'er all things.

Today we must learn to submit to His throne, How to have a strict life and His government own; His authority then we'll be able to share, O'er the nations to rule with God's Son as the heir.

With a life strict to self we must righteousness hold, Kind to others in peace, and with God joyful, bold; In the Kingdom's reality e'er to remain, For its manifestation prepared thus to reign.

Then Christ when He comes with the kingdom from God Will to us grant His kingship to share as reward; Thus the Lord will His righteousness thru us maintain And His wisdom to heavenly powers make plain.

For this the Apostle pressed on at all cost, For the Kingdom assured that he would not be lost; 'Tis for this he charged others, Be true to the Lord. That the Kingdom might be unto them a reward.

O Lord, give us grace for Thy Kingdom to live, To be trained that Thou may the reward to us give; Make the Kingdom's reality our exercise, That its manifestation may be our great prize.

#### **Scripture Readings:**

- Act 14:22 Establishing the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith and saying that through many tribulations we must enter into the kingdom of God.
- **John 3:5** Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- 1 Cor. 6:9 Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be led astray; neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers nor effeminate nor homosexuals
- 1 Cor. 6:10 Nor thieves nor the covetous, not drunkards, not revilers, not the rapacious will inherit the kingdom of God.
- **2 Thes. 1:5** A plain indication of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be accounted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which also you suffer;
- **1 Cor. 9:24** Do you not know that those who run on a racecourse all run, but one receives the prize? Run in this way, that you may lay hold.
- 1 Cor. 9:25 And everyone who contends exercises self-control in all things; they then, that they may receive a corruptible crown, but we, an incorruptible.
- 1 Cor. 9:26 I therefore run in this way, not as though without a clear aim; I box in this way, not as though beating the air;
- **1 Cor. 9:27** But I buffet my body and make it my slave, lest perhaps having preached to others, I myself may become disapproved.
- **Phil. 3:13** Brothers, I do not account of myself to have laid hold; but one thing I do: Forgetting the things which are behind and stretching forward to the things which are before,
- **Phil. 3:14** I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
- **Phil. 3:15** Let us therefore, as many as are full-grown, have this mind; and if in anything you are otherwise minded, this also God will reveal to you.
- **2 Tim. 4:6** For I am already being poured out, and the time of my departure is at hand.
- **2 Tim. 4:7** I have fought the good fight; I have finished the course; I have kept the faith.
- **2 Tim. 4:8** Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, with which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will recompense me in that day, and not only me but also all those who have loved His appearing.