

Toward the end of Romans, Paul casts a VISION of the gospel of kingdom life, the world redeemed and renewed by the living God. He declares that the kingdom of God is not about fights over food or drink, but instead all about peace, joy, and righteousness IN the Holy Spirit (Rom 14:17; Note the similarity with the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23). In and through the Holy Spirit we can begin to experience this messianic kingdom life NOW, not just when Christ will bring all things into alignment and right purpose when He returns at His second coming.

We can experience JOY - because IN Christ the power of sin is broken - sin will not corrupt and destroy relationships and lives.

PEACE - because we have access to the Prince of Peace who brings us into right and honest relationship with the Father.

And RIGHTEOUSNESS - because sin will not hold us back from seeking to do good and right for God and for our family, friends, and "neighbour" (Luke 10:29).

PRAY: In the Holy Spirit (pray in your heavenly tongues for a few minutes). Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you into a greater measure of His kingdom. Ask him to lead you into his righteousness, peace and joy - in his presence, as you worship Him in praise and worship (sing a song of praise and thanksgiving).

In Jesus name, BIND the work of the evil one who wants to bring division and break up relationships in the family and church family. Bind the spirit of offense and contention that wants to destroy what God has put together in His body for His purposes.

DECLARE: the kingdom of God and His righteousness, peace and joy will increase in your life, your family, our church, in your work and the people in your world.

ACTION: Be a peace maker - by asking the Holy Spirit to lead you to at least one person with whom you can have a spiritual conversation to bring them closer to Christ. Start by listening to their story. Then you could share a personal testimony of what God has done in your life and take the opportunity to pray for them - PRAY they will experience the righteousness, peace, joy and love of God in their life.

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