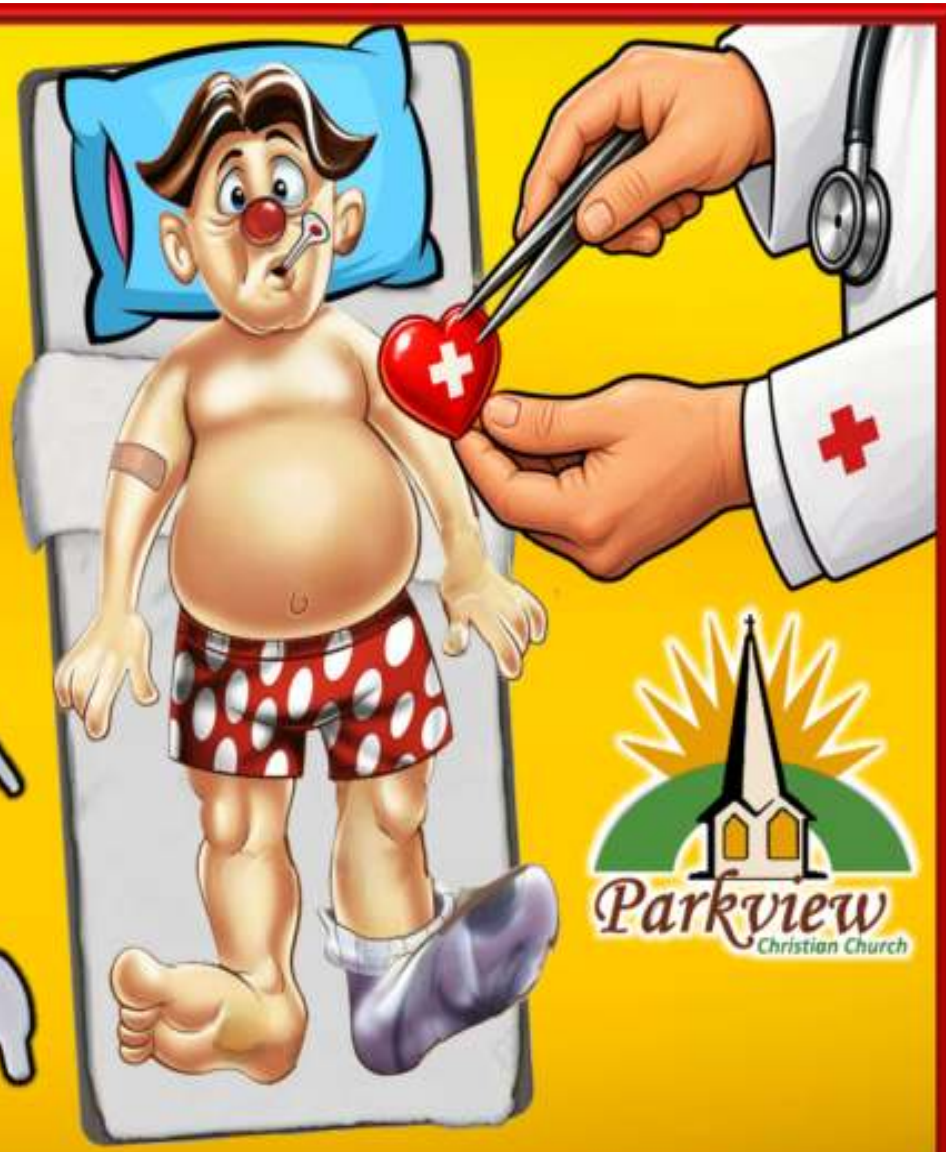
OPERATION

Allowing the Great Physician to Work in Our Life



Parkview
Christian Church

Input Matters



To unfreeze our brains, we had to do more than fight and focus our thoughts; we had to fill our minds with the right things

Fixing our speech isn't ultimately about what comes out of our mouths, but what we're putting into our lives



We worked to mend our peace, we learned that we needed to come to Jesus, connect with him, and commit ourselves to learning by following him

Input Matters

But this is about more than learning to eat the right things. It's about developing a healthy appetite

Because there's a difference between eating something because we're hungry and actually learning to hunger for what is good for us

What are we feeding our souls, and what are our souls learning to crave?





Learning to Depend on God



Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Matthew 4:4

He's hungry. He's physically weak.
His body needs food

“If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”



Satan was tempting Jesus to put his immediate need ahead of his trust in God

Learning to Depend on God



Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 8:2–3

Learning to Depend on God



Those years were meant to humble and test them, revealing whether they would trust God and keep his commands.

God provided the manna, but he also gave the Israelites instructions about gathering it

God was teaching them more than how to collect food. He was teaching them to depend on him daily, but they struggled to trust his provision

Loosing Your Appetite



"But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!"

Numbers 11:6

God had rescued them from slavery, sustained them in the wilderness, and provided food for them day after day

Yet they had grown dissatisfied with his provision because they wanted something different

They had food to eat, but they no longer appreciated the One who provided it

Loosing Your Appetite



That's the lesson Jesus is reminding us of in the wilderness

Life is about more than satisfying our immediate needs.

Jesus refused to let his hunger dictate his obedience. He trusted his Father more than he trusted the promise of immediate satisfaction

Are we learning to trust God's provision, or are we so focused on satisfying our own appetites that we've forgotten to depend on him?

Watch What You Eat





There's an almost comical moment in Matthew 16 when Jesus and his disciples are traveling across the lake

The disciples realize they've forgotten to bring bread

Jesus warns them to be on their guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees

The disciples immediately assume he's talking about their lack of bread. Jesus is talking about something much more important

Watch What You Eat



Jesus reminds them of the two occasions when he fed thousands of people with just a few loaves of bread

If providing bread were the problem, they should know by now that he could handle it

His concern wasn't their empty stomachs. It was what they were allowing into their minds

Matthew explains that Jesus was warning them about the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees

Watch What You Eat

The Pharisees and Sadducees
had plenty to say about religion

They had rules, traditions, and expectations
about how people should live

But religious teaching isn't automatically
healthy simply because it sounds religious



Jesus knew that wrong teaching could
work its way into a person's thinking, just as yeast works
its way through dough

Developing Your Appetite



“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”

Matthew 5:6

Unfortunately, it's possible to develop a hunger for religion without developing a hunger for righteousness

We can fill ourselves with opinions, arguments, traditions, and other people's ideas until we feel spiritually full

And before long, we're full of things that do little to help us become more like him

Developing Your Appetite



The question isn't simply whether we're filling ourselves spiritually. It's whether what we're consuming is helping us grow in righteousness

We need to be careful about what we feed our souls, what should we be hungry for? What is it that can truly satisfy the deepest needs of our lives?

The people looking for Jesus were hungry, too. But Jesus was about to show them that their greatest need wasn't another meal. It was something only he could give

Developing Your Appetite



They had seen Jesus multiply the loaves and fish, and they had eaten their fill

The problem is that they're focused on the bread he gave them rather than what that miracle revealed about him

He reminds them of the manna God provided to Israel in the wilderness

But he explains that the true bread from heaven isn't simply something God gives them to eat. It's the gift of God that brings life to the world

Bread of Life



“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

John 6:35

They came looking for something that would satisfy their physical hunger, but Jesus was addressing their deeper spiritual need



They wanted bread that would fill their stomachs. Jesus was offering life that they could find only in him

Bread of Life



“From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.”

John 6:66

They had come looking for Jesus, but when he offered them something greater than what they wanted, they walked away



They wanted what Jesus could do for them, but they weren't willing to accept what he was teaching them about himself

They weren't hungry for what Jesus was offering

How is Your Appetite?



What are we feeding our souls, and what are our souls learning to crave?

We need to depend on God rather than simply satisfying our own desires

We need to be careful about what we allow to shape our faith

Ultimately, we need to recognize that our deepest spiritual need cannot be met by religion, information, or experiences alone. We need Jesus


LORD'S
SUPPER
EXAMINE YOURSELF
1 CORINTHIANS 11:28