

FAITH & FOOD

Messages



Thank you all for attending this important session and wrestling with the issue of creation stewardship. Does what I say I believe in the pew show up on my menu? Does a farm that stinks up the neighborhood practice “treating your neighbor as you'd like to be treated”? Physical creation is an object lesson of spiritual truth. God knew that all of us tend toward academic focus-group-treatment of His truth and struggle applying it viscerally in our lives. Our treatment of His stuff—“the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof”—shows how we treat His truth. On our farm, we want people who visit to say as they leave: "We've just seen forgiveness, abundance, sacredness, respect, redemption." As owner, God's return on investment should not be riparian dead zones and factory chickens carrying virulent pathogens. So is eating a moral act, or an act of the conscience? Yes. As one of the most intimate things we do with our bodies, eating is a litmus test of the landscape our children will inherit, and how we will fare in the faithfulness-test of God's creation. Does the food we eat respect the animals, the plants, the air, soil, and water? If we don't know, why don't we find out? And knowing, how can we say we believe in stewardship and biological respect on one hand, and then patronize a system dedicated to the opposite on the other? Sacredness can and should permeate all our lives, shining truth in a practical way into our families and our communities. Have a wonderful conference.

Joel Salatin

-Owner and Farmer of *Polyface Farm*; featured on *Food Inc.*

Thank you all so much for watching these important films that cross all walks of life. You will see that the message the films share is perhaps one of the biggest human rights issues the planet faces today. Please watch with an open mind and heart, and take from it what you can. We encourage you to do your own research on these topics, as well as share what you learn with your friends, family, and loved ones. We are all in this together, and the time has come for us to take compassion, environmentalism, and True Health to the next level. Enjoy!

Kip Andersen

-Director of *Cowspiracy* and *What the Health*

I still believe agriculture is the backbone of America and when you have an industry as big as agriculture you have to pay attention to the labor force. People often look at farmworker issues as an immigration issue but it's more than an immigration issue, it's a human rights issue. I'm so grateful to St. Dominic's for highlighting these issues at their screening of *Food Chains*. The religious community has always understood the value of people over profit, and I'm grateful that you all are linking Faith and Farmworker Rights in this day and age. Thank you!

Eva Longoria

-Hollywood Actress and Food Laborers Advocate; featured on *Food Chains*