

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

February 7, 2021

The church in Phoenix

Meeting Schedule

Lord's Day

10:00 am – Lord's Table Meeting

11:00 am – Prophesying Meeting

Tuesday

7:30 pm – English-speaking prayer meetings at Districts 1 & 2

7:30 pm – Chinese-speaking prayer meeting at District 2

7:00 pm - Spanish-speaking prayer meeting in the homes

Friday

6:30 pm – English-speaking College Meetings

7:00 pm – Chinese-speaking Student Meetings

7:30 pm – Small Group Meetings

Saturday

7:30 pm – Young People's Meeting

7:30 pm – Small Group Meetings

Continue in the Ministry
and the Word

Holy Word for Morning Revival

Crystallization-study of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, Volume 1 – Week 1

Ministry Publication Reading

Serving According to Revelation – Chapter 1

Scripture Reading

1 John 1:5; 2Cor. 3:16; Matt. 5:8

Announcements

❖ Phoenix Conference with brother Ron

- March 5-7
- Conference messages will be given live via Zoom.
- Details regarding meeting schedule and Zoom information will be forthcoming.

❖ International Chinese Speaking Conference

- We plan to join together with the churches in the Mountain States in Zoom both to watch the messages and to prophesy in breakout sessions for the blending of all the saints.
- The conference schedule is as follows (all times are Mountain time):
Message 1: 9:00 AM Saturday, February 13
Message 2: 11:00 AM Saturday, February 13
Message 3: 7:30 PM Saturday, February 13
Message 4: 9:00 AM Lord's Day, February 14
Message 5: 11:00 AM Lord's Day, February 14
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the saints.

❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- February 20 at 8:30 am
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the brothers.

❖ The Holy Word for Morning Revival: Crystallization-study of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, Volume 1 available for sale at two locations

- District 1 at Michael & Helen Rhodes' front door from 9am-5pm.
- District 2 at Ellen Arnolds' front door from 9am-5pm.
- Cost: \$7.00; cash (exact change) or check payable to: The church in Phoenix

❖ 2020 Contribution Letter

- Saints who need a 2020 Contribution Letter from The Church in Phoenix can request it from Won Huang via email at wzhcpa@outlook.com

❖ Offerings

- Please send your offerings through *Zelle* or *Popmoney* to the church's bank account using the following email address: offerings@churchinphoenix.org.

Persevere in Prayer

❖ Church Prayer Burdens: <http://www.churchinphoenix.org>

Riches from the Ministry

Our service to God can be divided into service that is according to revelation or service that is natural. Service according to revelation involves meeting God, being shined upon by God, receiving revelation from God, and being burdened in spirit by God. This kind of service is not initiated by us but by God; it is not out of ourselves but out of God. We must meet God and contact God in order to have service that comes from God as the source.

Natural service is different. Natural service is according to our own ideas, views, traditions, or regulations. It also comes from copying or imitating others, and it is often initiated to simply meet the need of a certain situation. Such service comes out of ourselves or out of others but not out of God. This kind of service does not require us to meet God or contact God; it is service that we can do apart from God.

The most important matter in a person's serving of the Lord is revelation. Every act of our service should come out of revelation. We should not have outward acts of service to the Lord without inward revelation from the Lord. Our inward revelation must govern our outward acts. If we act according to an outward situation without any inward revelation, our service will only be natural.

Natural service does not depend upon fellowship with the Lord, and it can be carried out without any inward sense or burden. For example, some responsible brothers may make arrangements to visit the brothers and sisters, and we may visit them because we do not want to feel bad. This, however, is an indication that we do not have a burden from the Lord. Our visitation, thus, will be related only to outward arrangements and outward needs, not to an inward burden. In other words, our service does not come out of contacting God but from the influence of an outward situation. This kind of service is natural.

Sometimes when we hear that a brother or sister has grown cold and is no longer meeting with the church, we consider visiting them out of a sense of duty. Even though this sense of duty is better than merely accepting the arrangement of others, such a service is still natural. It is not according to revelation; rather, it is based on outward situations, not inner revelation...Whatever has not passed through God or does not come from our contacting of God is merely natural service, no matter how good or necessary it may seem to be; it is not service according to revelation.

When we act without contacting God or letting God touch us, that is, when we act according to outward needs, a sense of duty, or good intentions, the result may seemingly be good, but it will, in fact, be quite different in nature from what comes out of contacting God. One result involves inward shining, whereas the other does not. One result is according to revelation, whereas the other is natural. One result comes out of contacting God, whereas the other comes out of environmental influences.

Abraham's service to God was according to revelation. He left Ur of the Chaldeans and journeyed from Haran to Canaan. There he pitched his tent and built an altar to serve God. His actions were the result of the God of glory appearing to him. He met God and received revelation from God (Gen. 12:1-8; 13:1-4, 14-18; Acts 7:2-3). All his actions came out of God's appearing and revelation. All his actions were governed by God's appearing and revelation.

Lot, however, did not have God's appearing or God's revelation. All his actions were governed by Abraham's moves, not God's revelation. When Abraham went out of Ur, Lot went with him (Gen. 11:31). When Abraham went out of Haran, Lot again went with him (12:4). When Abraham went to Canaan, Lot went with him to Canaan as well (v. 5). Lot never met God; he only followed a man.

Abraham's service came out of meeting God and receiving revelation from God; hence, his service was able to stand. Even though he went down to Egypt in a moment of weakness, his service was still recovered before God (v. 9—13:4). Lot, however, did not meet God or receive revelation from God; his service was based on his being influenced by another and his following after another. Therefore, it could not stand the test and did not endure. Once Lot entered Sodom, he could not recover his service to God.

Some may ask, "How can we receive revelation?" On the one hand, we need God's mercy, but on the other hand, we also must bear the responsibility to seek the Lord's shining and revelation. We must remove everything in us that covers the light and hinders us from receiving revelation. We must condemn our natural zeal, reject our natural service, and turn our heart to the Lord. Then we will receive light and revelation.

In order for a person to have revelation, he must meet God, contact God, and touch God. God is light (1John 1:5), and in the universe, only God is the source of light. All light and revelation come from Him. When we meet God, we will see light and receive revelation. Revelation is man meeting God; it is God shining His light into man and causing man to see.

In order for us to meet God, we must turn our whole heart to the Lord, wanting nothing more and nothing less than His will. Second Corinthians 3:16 says that whenever our heart turns to the Lord, the veil that covers us is taken away. Matthew 5:8 says that the pure in heart will see God. Hence, absolute consecration and thorough dealings are necessary. Whatever is not purely for God, is not out of God, does not come from meeting God, or is not done through contacting God must be dealt with and rejected. We must desire nothing apart from God, have no veil covering us before God, and have no barrier between us and God. Then we can see God face to face, be shined upon, and receive revelation from Him. When we turn to Him, draw near to Him, and fellowship with Him, it will be easy for Him to anoint His heart's desire into us and give us a sense and a burden. This sense and burden become our revelation. (Lee, *Serving According to Revelation*, Chapter One)