

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

April 25, 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 2 – Week 10

Ministry Publication Reading

The Service for the Building Up of the House of God – Chapter Four

Scripture Reading

2 Cor. 4:12; Gal. 2:20

Announcements

- ❖ **The Holy Word for Morning Revival: Crystallization-study of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, Volume 2 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
- ❖ **Virtual Lunch with FTTA trainees**
 - Sign Up: goggle doc <https://tinyurl.com/traineelunch>
- ❖ **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

- ❖ **Intercessory Prayer in North America:**
 - Sign up at <http://www.beseeking.org> to receive daily emails containing a prayer burden, along with crucial verses and ministry portion
- ❖ **Church Prayer Burdens:**
 - <http://www.churchinphoenix.org>

Riches from the Ministry

Every service,...should be a means for us to supply the life that we have received. Preaching the gospel is for the supply of life. Ministering the word is for the supply of life. Visitation is for the supply of life, and serving in the church business office is for the supply of life. Even ordinary things, such as sweeping and cleaning the windows, are a means to supply life. Apparently, there are many items in the church service, but spiritually, these many items have one purpose, which is to supply life.

The church is different from a society. The church is of life and is spiritual, but a society is like a business. In the church the point is not whether we do a good job but whether life is supplied. If the church were only for taking care of matters, not supplying life, the church would lose its nature and would be a society. The saints must uphold this point.

The life that we supply to others is in the Spirit. This means that the Spirit is the dwelling place of the life of God. In Romans 8:2 the Spirit is referred to as the "Spirit of life." Since the life of God is in the Spirit, the Spirit is the Spirit of life. In addition, as children of God, we have His life in our spirit. The life of God is in the Spirit and in our spirit.

Let us consider what it means to supply life. Christianity speaks of being good, which involves moral character, good deeds, and good behavior. Christianity does not speak of the divine life referred to in the Word of God. The Bible says, "Death operates in us, but life in you" (2 Cor. 4:12). This means that when the death of Christ operates in us, life operates in others. This life is not moral character or behavior; rather, it is the life of God. This is a great distinction.

...If a brother supplies others with copper, they will receive copper. If he supplies them with gold, they will receive gold. If we supply the saints with life, God's children will have a taste for life. People cannot have a taste for something that they have not seen. Christians do not have a taste for life, because the element of life is lacking in Christianity. What is expressed in Christianity is good moral character and good behavior. We need to understand that the moral character and good behavior spoken of in the Bible are none other than the life of God being expressed through man. Our service depends on our knowing what is life and what is the outflow of life.

...In order to supply others with the life of God, we must be in spirit, and we must fellowship with God. When we cease fellowshiping with God, we are cut off from the divine life.

...We cannot say that we want the life of God but that we do not want God, because a person cannot be separated from his life. When we received God, we gained His life, but when we reject God, we cannot gain His life. Likewise, we should not expect the life of God to be expressed through us when we do not fellowship with God and do not live one with Him. Although we cannot be separated from God because we have His life, in our experience we are cut off from the flow of the divine life when we do not maintain our fellowship with God.

If we want the life of God to flow out of us so that we can supply others with this life, we must have unhindered fellowship with God, contacting Him not only every day but every moment. Only when we are contacting God can the life of God flow out of us.

We must have the proper experience of fellowship. We need to daily set aside definite times to fellowship with God. No one can fellowship with God without spending time in prayer. In particular, the saints who serve must daily allocate enough quality time to fellowship with God in prayer. The focus of such prayer is not for God to give us things or to do things for us but for us to commune with God in spirit, that is, for us to breathe in God and enjoy Him.

Besides having set times to fellowship with the Lord, we should also keep ourselves in unceasing fellowship with Him. We should not let anything come between us and the Lord. Anything that comes between us and the Lord becomes a barrier. Such an item can be a thought, an intention, an emotion, a person, or a thing. Once we perceive that something has come between us and God, we must immediately reject, judge, and condemn it. Such condemning and judging will not only maintain our fellowship with God but also deepen it. Only those who have such moment-by-moment fellowship with God can supply others with the divine life. Then no matter what we do, whom we contact, or what we say, life will always flow out of us. Furthermore, those who contact us will sense God.

Another important point is the need to be broken. In order for there to be a pure flow of the life of God, we must be broken. Therefore, when we consider supplying others with the divine life, we must pay attention to our being broken. In Galatians 2:20 Paul says, "I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." The statement I am crucified...and it is no longer I refers to the experience of being broken...The statement but it is Christ who lives in me refers to the flowing out of the divine life. Christ being expressed through us is life flowing out of us.

The operation of death within us, spoken of in 2 Corinthians 4:12, is the killing. The operation of death is our being broken. The more we are broken, the more the life of God will flow out of us.

...The Spirit of life abides in our spirit. However, besides our human spirit, we also have a soul and a body. Our soul and body encase our spirit. Therefore, in order for life to be released from our spirit, our soul and body must be dealt with and broken. The body does not pose much of a problem, but our soul poses a great problem. The things of the soul, which is composed of our mind, emotion, and will, are difficult to deal with. The soul surrounds and encases the spirit. Hence, our soul must be dealt with and broken in order for our spirit to be released. Otherwise, there cannot be a pure flow of the divine life.

A person who cannot release his spirit is dominated by his mind, emotion, and will. A person who can release his spirit has subdued his mind, emotion, and will. The three parts of his soul are under the ruling of his spirit and let his spirit dominate. (Lee, *The Service for the Building Up of the House of God*, Chapter Four)