

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Aug 15, 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

Knowing the Truth, Being Absolute for the Truth, and Proclaiming the Truth in the Present Evil Age – Week 5

Ministry Publication Reading

Truth, Life, the Church, and the Gospel, Chapters Four & Five

Scripture Reading

1 Tim. 2:4; 3:15; 2 Tim. 2:25; 3:7; Titus 1:1

Announcements

❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- Saturday, Aug 21 at 08:30 am
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the brothers

❖ 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

Today the whole earth needs the truth of the Lord that is in His Word. Regrettably, however, the Bible, the divine Word, has not been fully opened to the world. Thus, it has not been possible for people to fully know the truth of the Lord. At the most, Christians are able to boast that the holy Word of God has been published into many languages and propagated over the whole earth. Yet they are not able to say that after reading the Bible, regardless of which language, they have been able to truly understand the deep mysteries within it...The mysteries of the truths in the Bible are very deep and profound. We need the enlightening of the Spirit of God to understand them, and we also need to spend time to dig them out (cf. 1Cor. 2:10-14).

The truths in the holy Word of the Lord were completed approximately two thousand years ago, but over a period of a little more than one thousand years, they seemed to slowly vanish. Only in the last few centuries have the truths again been released little by little through the zealous and careful study of many lovers of the Lord. This is what we refer to as the Lord's recovery. The Lord's recovery is the recovery of all the truths in the Bible that were lost. Thus, the recovery of the truth is one of the great pillars in the Lord's recovery. The Lord's recovery depends upon the recovery of the knowledge of the truth.

The New Testament says repeatedly that we should know the truth. Moreover, when referring to this matter, Paul repeatedly says that we should come to the full knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Tim. 2:25; 3:7; Titus 1:1). This means that we must know not just a small part or one aspect of the truth but rather the truth in its entirety and in all its aspects. Paul also says that the church is the pillar and base of the truth (1Tim. 3:15). This implies that the truth in the Bible is like a large building that is not one-sided but complete on all sides with a foundation and a roof. If we are going to spread the Lord's recovery today, we must know the truth and be able to expound the truth. (*Lee, Truth, Life, the Church, and the Gospel, Chapter Four*)

I hope that all the saints, especially the young people, would learn the truth in this way. Paul says that God desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth (1Tim. 2:4). We should no longer be like the elderly church members in Christianity who have been saved for decades but are still ignorant of the truth. For example, many Christians have been saved for years yet are not clear about the meaning of the name Jesus Christ. Some may think that Jesus is the same as Christ and that Christ is the Savior. If you ask them what the difference is between the terms Redeemer and Savior, they probably think that the two terms are nearly the same in meaning. Even many of the saints among us may not know the intrinsic significance and hidden mystery of these terms. I do not mean to expose other people's weaknesses, but I want to show you that we are too much under the influence of the old Christian traditions. Although we have spoken many high truths in the past, we have never precisely defined the meaning of the name Jesus Christ. The result is that we probably know something about the meaning but are not altogether sure about it. This is the general situation of Christians today.

After we have learned the truth, we still have to experience Christ so that He may become our reality. In this way, when we speak to people, we will not give them knowledge or doctrines, but we will minister Christ to them. For instance, if we tell people about the benefit of Coca-Cola yet do not give them a can of Coca-Cola to drink, then no matter how interesting our speaking is, they will not be able to enjoy the benefit of Coca-Cola. This is mere speaking without supply. In the past we mostly knew only to supply but not to speak; that also was wrong. The proper practice is that we would all learn to speak Christ and minister Christ to others.

I hope that not one among us would say that he does not have time. Some people say that they are really busy, but once they get on the telephone, they spend half an hour to an hour gossiping. If we would save our time to learn the truth, we would have more than enough time. It is very easy for us to waste time in our daily life. Hence, Paul tells us to redeem the time (Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5) and understand what the will of the Lord is (Eph. 5:17). To redeem the time means to grasp every opportunity, and the way to redeem the time is to not make any casual telephone calls, to not gossip, and to not waste time. Instead, we should save all our time to learn the truth.

In the past, when someone wanted to learn the truth, it was not that easy for him to find reference books, but now there are many spiritual publications among us, and most of them are related to the truth. If we have the desire to enter into the truth, there is no lack of reference books, and they are not difficult to get into. As long as we are willing to put in the effort, soon we all will be able to speak the truth. I hope that we all would meet the Lord's demand and make such a vow so that from today onward we will save our time by not gossiping, not making unnecessary telephone calls, and not wasting our time. Rather, we would endeavor to use the time to learn the truth, to know the truth, to speak the truth, to experience Christ through the truth, and to minister Christ to people by the Spirit. If we do this, the Lord will be able to gain a broad and opened way in every place.

(*Lee, Truth, Life, the Church, and the Gospel, Chapter Five*)