

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Sept 12, 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 Joshua, Judges, & Ruth – Week 3

Ministry Publication Reading

How to Meet, Chapter Two

Scripture Reading

Acts 5:11; 8:1; 9:31; 11:22, 26; 12:1,5; 13:1; 14:23, 27; 15:3-4, 22, 41; 16:5; 18:22; 20:17, 28

Announcements

❖ SCYP JH & HS Conferences:

- **JH Conference:**
October 15-17, 2021
Cost: \$15.00/person
Due Date: October 3, 2021
- **HS Conference:**
October 22-24, 2021
Cost: \$15.00/person
Due Date: October 10, 2021
- **Late Registration will not be accepted.**

❖ SCYP: Parents and Young People's Serving Ones' Fellowship

- Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021 at 9:30 – 11:45 am
- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://meetingonline-us.zoom.us/j/83450817111>
Meeting ID: 834 5081 7111
Dial by phone: 16699006833

❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021 at 8:30 am
- Zoom link will be emailed to the brothers

❖ Engagement: Lydia & Stephen

- Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021
- Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
- Zoom Link Info:
Meeting ID: 898 0647 9329
Password: 123
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or
Android: <https://asu.zoom.us/j/89806479329?pwd=TnBxdjRCYkFDYXFWKzEvOXpDVWwwQT09>
Password: 123

❖ Offerings

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

Riches from the Ministry

There are so many Christian meetings today which are simply churchless. Those who attend them have no concept whatever of the church, so their meetings are not church-related or church-conscious. We all must be so church-conscious in our meetings. Strictly speaking, if we know the Word of the Lord, we will realize that to meet in a churchless way is actually sin. Why? Because if we meet without paying due attention to the church, we are meeting in a divisive way. To be divisive in the eyes of God is sinful, for God's intention is to have a church. God's purpose is to build up a Body for His Son. If we meet in a divisive way, if we meet without keeping the oneness of the church, we are damaging the Body of Christ by our meetings; we are frustrating the building up of the church. So many people are innocently sinful; yet still they are sinful, because they are dividing and damaging the Body of Christ. Some are doing it consciously. This is not a small thing.

...The Lord has made me to realize that Christian meetings are so greatly related to the church. If we meet in a proper and normal way, we build up the church; if not, we damage the church. Though we may have a good intention in our coming together, if we are not meeting church-consciously, we are sinful and against the Lord's economy. We all must be exceedingly clear that whenever we meet, whenever we even consider coming together, we must be church-conscious; we must never meet with any Christians in a churchless way.

Now in order to strengthen this concept, this matter in God's revelation, I wish to point out to you many verses in the book of Acts regarding the church [Acts 5:11; 8:1; 9:31; 11:22, 26; 12:1,5; 13:1; 14:23, 27; 15:3-4, 22, 41; 16:5; 18:22; 20:17, 28]. If you read through all these verses, you will realize that in the early days, in the first century, all the Christians were so church-conscious, so church-related. In their concept there was nothing of individualism. Whatever they had was the church — it was all the time the church. By reading these verses in the divine record, we see how careful the Holy Spirit was in using the word. Time after time, if I were the writer, I would use the word believers; but the Holy Spirit continually uses the word church. This is the record of fact in the ancient days. As far as the early saints were concerned, it was always a matter of the church. Whatever they did, they did it church-consciously; whenever they met, they met for the church. In the Holy Spirit's record regarding those days, this word church is used over and over. Based upon this fact, we have the principle that we must always be church-conscious.

...The meeting is for the church, the meeting is about the church, and the meeting is the church. I like this word: "Great fear came upon the whole church [Acts 5:11]." I do believe that if you were the writer, you also would use the word believers, not church. Why? Because, sorry to say, we are not so church-conscious; we are not so church-related. In the early days it was different, and, of course, especially with the Holy Spirit, it is absolutely different. When the Holy Spirit inspired the book of Acts, He used the word church — "Great fear came upon the whole church."

In the ancient time all the believers were church-conscious. They did not consider themselves as individual believers but as the corporate church. When they were persecuted [Acts 8:1, 3], that meant the church was persecuted. They were not individuals but the church. They were not separate believers with isolated meetings; they were the church. We today are so greatly under the influence of degraded Christianity. We need to abandon all our background in order that we may be so impressed with the church, that we may become church-conscious.

...[I]n 11:22 we have a very special verse: "The account concerning them was heard in the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem." I was a Christian for years before I came to see this verse and be impressed with it so clearly and deeply. The church has ears: "The account...was heard in the ears of the church." This is really extraordinary. Again I say, if I were the author, I would certainly have written that the account was heard in the ears of the believers in Jerusalem. But in the early days the believers considered that their ears were the ears of the church. They did not care so much for themselves as individual believers, but only for the church as a corporate body. Whenever they met, they met in the church way; they met representing the church; they met for the church and as the church. Whatever they heard, they considered that it was for the church, because they looked upon their ears as the ears of the church.

We stress this matter again and again simply because people today are not church-conscious; they do not care for the church. They care for meetings, they care for Christian individuals, but not for the church. Ask yourself this question: You have been meeting with God's children year after year; you have attended meeting after meeting; have you ever had some kind of consciousness that your meeting should be for the church? You have sought to have good meetings, but have you been church-related and church-conscious?

In these last days may we learn to be so church-conscious. This matter is almost totally related to the meetings. May the Lord be merciful to us that henceforth none of us may meet in a churchless way. This is the first principle we must learn for our meetings. Whether we are building up the church or doing something to damage the church all depends on the way we meet. We must meet in a church way. (*Lee, How to Meet, Chapter Two*)