

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Sept 19, 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 4

Ministry Publication Reading

How to Meet, Chapter Three

Scripture Reading

John 20:11-18; Luke 24:1-36, 41-43; Matt. 28:7, 16; John 21:5, 12-15

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

❖ The Holy Word for Morning Revival: Crystallization-Study of Joshua, Judges, & Ruth:

- District 1: please contact Charles Martinez
- District 2: at Ellen Arnold's front door
- Cost: \$7.00; cash (exact change) or check payable to: The church in Phoenix

❖ 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

With all the cases and examples in the Bible there are principles. They are not just cases; they are not just Bible stories. We must see the principle in each case, something spiritual, something divine, something deeper and even hidden. We must learn to see what is behind all the stories of the Bible...Based upon this record, I would like to present to you six principles of how to meet.

The first principle is this: all the meetings requested by the Lord, appointed by Him, and attended by Him were outside of religion and without any forms. We must know the background; we must know the situation at that time. All the disciples were Jewish people, godly people; they had the temple, and that was the place where they should meet to worship God. All God's people, according to their religion, went to the temple to meet and to worship, to offer the sacrifices, to observe the rituals, and to keep the forms. That was their background and environment at that time. But have you noticed this? All the meetings Jesus requested, appointed, and attended were absolutely outside of that religion and had nothing whatever to do with its forms. Those meetings were really informal; they were totally detached from religion.

Today, in principle, we are in the same situation as those early disciples. We also have a religious background with today's temples, rituals, and forms...Since the resurrected Christ is here, we do not need any religion, forms, or rituals. Christ is all in all; Christ is everything.

The second principle of meeting is that we must meet in resurrection as the Lord's brothers. Do we have the boldness to say that we are meeting as the very brothers of the Lord? We should. We can. We are the Lord's brothers — Hallelujah! We are meeting with the status of His brothers. We are not sinners; we are not even seekers; we are the Lord's brothers. The Lord Jesus said, "Go to My brothers" (John 20:17). When we come to meet, we are coming to meet our Brother. Oh, this is not a small thing! How could we be the Lord's brothers? In resurrection! We were born again through the resurrection of Christ (1Pet. 1:3), so we have become the Lord's brothers. He is the Son of God, and we also are sons of God. He has God's life, and we have too. He has God's nature, and we also have God's nature. He is no longer God's only begotten Son: now by His resurrection He has become God's firstborn Son (Rom. 8:29), and we are the many sons of God (Heb. 2:10). He is our Brother, and we are His brothers. The Lord said, "Go to My brothers," not "Go to My disciples," not "Go to the sinful people." He said that He wanted to meet with His brothers. This corresponds with what He says in Hebrews 2:12: "I will declare Your name to My brothers; in the midst of the church..."

All these verses [John 20:11-18; Luke 24:1-36] show how so many of the disciples in the early days, before they were in the meetings, had some strange, wonderful, and precious experiences of Christ. We also need to have this kind of personal experiences of our dear Lord in our daily life. Then when we come to the meeting, we have something bubbling and overflowing from us as a testimony to all the others. We have something as our experiences of Christ to speak about in the meeting. You know, many times when we are sharing something of our experiences of the Lord in the meeting, while we are talking, Jesus Himself is with us; we are so conscious of His presence in our midst. In our daily walk we need some extra portion from a sweet contact with the Lord Jesus that we may have something to bring to the meeting. Take this principle and put it into practice. Day by day we should have some personal, intimate, sweet contact with the Lord Jesus.

The next principle is that we must meet at the place appointed by Jesus, not the place chosen by us. The disciples were told to go into Galilee and there they would see Him (Matt. 28:7). "And the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus directed them" (v. 16).

Today, in principle, we have no right to choose a place to meet. The choice is not with us but with Him. If we have the prerogative to choose a place, we are divisive. We all must meet in the place appointed by the Lord. Learn to give up your concept, your choices. We all need to come together in the place which the Lord appoints.

Whenever we come to the meeting, we must come with the intention of meeting the Lord. "He goes before you into Galilee. There you will see Him" (v. 7). When we come to a meeting, we must realize that we are coming to meet our Lord. This matter must be emphasized. We always consider that we are coming for edification or for some other purpose. But we need to have a deep realization that our only purpose is to meet our Lord Jesus.

The meaning and purpose of the proper meeting is to give the Lord something to eat and also for Him to give us something to eat...[T]wo times in the record of these meetings the Lord asked His disciples if they had something to eat? "You do not have any fish to eat, do you?" He asked. Once, they answered Him "No" (John 21:5). But praise the Lord, another time they did (Luke 24:41-43). They did not have much; they just had a little, a mere piece of fish. It was not even a whole fish. Look into Darby's translation and some other better translations — they do not say fish, but just a part of a fish. They just gave Him a part of a fish...But though it was so little, the Lord ate it.

The disciples gave the Lord just a little, but the Lord gave His disciples plenty [John 21:12-15]. How should we meet? We must meet to satisfy the Lord and be satisfied by Him. To meet is to eat. Our meeting must be a kind of eating, a kind of feasting. We bring something as a feast for Christ, and Christ brings something as a feast for us. Christ comes to the meeting to feast with us, and we with Him. Every Christian meeting should be a feast which satisfies both the Lord and us.

We need to take all these basic principles and put them into practice. (*Lee, How to Meet, Chapter Three*)