

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Nov 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
Joshua, Judges, & Ruth –
Week 11

Ministry Publication Reading

How to Meet, Chapter Ten

Semiannual Training Preparation on 1 & 2 Samuel

1 Samuel: Chapters Fifteen
through Twenty-One
LS of First Samuel: Messages
Eleven through Fifteen

Announcements

❖ Corporate Lord's Day Meeting:

- Nov. 14 at 10:00 am
- Districts 1&2
- Zoom link will be emailed to the saints.

❖ December 2021 Semiannual Training will be held by video training only

- Registration Due Date: Dec. 05, 2021
- Registration Fee of \$125 per trainee (non-refundable) can be sent through Zelle or Popmoney to the church's bank account using the following email address: register@churchinphoenix.org. Please indicate on the memo line "2021 Winter Training". Shared seating is not an option for this video training.
- Video Training Schedule: 12/20/21 – 12/25/21
- Note: Completed Registration means payment of \$125 has been made AND online registration has been submitted.
- Registration form: <https://tinyurl.com/2021WinterTraining>
- The church in Phoenix is planning to carry out the video training corporately via Zoom.

❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021 at 8:30 am
- Zoom link 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

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

Riches from the Ministry

When we consider the matter of meetings, it is very difficult to depart from the book of 1 Corinthians. Just in this one book meeting together is mentioned at least eight times. Verse 4 of chapter 5 speaks about coming together; chapter 11 refers five times (vv. 17-18, 20, 33-34) to coming together, or meeting together; and chapter 14 mentions this matter twice (vv. 23, 26). First Corinthians is not just a book which deals with gifts but a book which deals with meetings.

Have you ever been impressed with verses 3 and 4 of this chapter [5]? These verses reveal to us how much the apostle Paul was in the spirit. "I, on my part, though being absent in the body but present in the spirit, have already judged, as if being present, him who has thus done this, in the name of our Lord Jesus, when you and my spirit have been assembled, with the power of our Lord Jesus." It is quite interesting; when Paul was away, he still attended the meeting at Corinth. How? His spirit was there. Look at verses 4 and 5: "When you and my spirit have been assembled, with the power of our Lord Jesus, to deliver such a one to Satan." You see, while Paul was away, while he was absent from them, he did two things: (1) he attended their meeting, and (2) he delivered to Satan the sinful one, whom the church would not deliver. Paul did these two things in his spirit...He must have been so strong in his spirit.

Now let us go on to chapter 7. I am so happy that we have such a chapter as this in the Bible. Let us firstly read verse 10: "To the married I charge, not I but the Lord." What does this mean? Is this the apostle Paul commanding, or is it the Lord? The meaning is this: when I command, the Lord commands with me; the Lord commands in my commanding. Do you think that if Paul commanded by the exercise of his mind or emotion he could say, "Not I but the Lord"? It must be that he commanded in the spirit. "He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit" (6:17). He was one with the Lord in his spirit; so when he commanded in his spirit, he could say, "Not I but the Lord." When I command in my spirit, the Lord commands with me, for I am one spirit with the Lord.

Now let us read 7:12: "To the rest I say, I, not the Lord." If I were there, I would say, "Brother Paul, if it is not the Lord who is speaking, you should not speak." But Paul said clearly and definitely, "I say, I, not the Lord." Would you dare to say this? Would you dare to say, "I am going to speak something to you, not the Lord." Paul makes it clear that the word he is about to speak is not spoken by the Lord, but by himself. But I would ask you, do you take the word which he goes on to speak as of Paul or as of the Lord? I believe you take that word as of the Lord, and I do too.

Let us go on to verse 25. "Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord, but I give my opinion." Paul had no commandment of the Lord, yet he gave his opinion "as one who has been shown mercy by the Lord to be faithful." He was saying in effect, "I do not have the commandment of the Lord, but I have an opinion as one who has been shown mercy by the Lord to be faithful. So within my opinion, there must be something of the Lord's opinion. I have no commandment from the Lord, but I am one with the Lord; so whatever my opinion is must be the Lord's opinion too."

If we would be a right person and meet together in the right way, we must be this kind of person, like the apostle Paul. If we are people like the Corinthians, whatever way we meet will be wrong. If we are carnal, if we are fleshly, regardless of how we meet, we are utterly wrong. To meet in the right way, we must be the right person, and the right person is one who lives, walks, and has his being in the spirit.

...By looking into the context of all the chapters and obtaining a full scope, we realize that the function in the meeting depends on the life in our daily walk. The way to meet together properly is to live properly. This simply means to take Christ as our life and our everything in our spirit. Therefore, we must learn how to exercise our spirit constantly. We have seen that the apostle Paul was one who did this very thing. He was so strong in his spirit; he was forever exercising his spirit. This is the proper way to live, and this kind of living is the first necessity of the proper way to meet.

...[T]he proper way for us as Christians to meet depends upon the proper living, the proper life. First Corinthians 14 is not the first chapter or the last chapter of this book. There are so many chapters preceding it, telling how Christ is everything to us and how we must exercise our spirit to enjoy and experience Him in so many ways. Following chapter 14, we still have two chapters, telling how Christ is the life-giving Spirit, how our spirit needs to be continually refreshed with Christ, and how we need to live, move, and do everything in love. If we are such persons, taking such a way to live day by day, we are qualified to meet together; then we have the right foundation, the right basis, for our meeting.

What is the proper way to meet? (1) We must have the proper life. We must exercise our human spirit all the time to take Christ. We must be so accustomed to exercising our spirit. It is not just a matter of doing this in the meetings, but in our daily walk with our children, our husbands, our wives...By taking Christ as our life and experiencing Him as everything day by day, we will have a spiritual savings account. We will continually deposit something of Christ into this account and have a rich surplus of our experience of Him...Then, (2) we only need to exercise our spirit to stand up in the meeting to function, to prophesy. It will be so spontaneous for us to do so; it will simply be an overflow of what we have been experiencing of Christ all day. There will be no strain; it will just be a continuation of our normal, daily experience of Christ. Whatever we do in the meeting will be living and rich with Christ in the spirit...We must be delivered from the influence of thinking we are not capable of saying anything in the meetings, delivered from thinking we are not qualified, we are not committed with something from the Lord. No one else can function on our behalf in the meeting...We need to come in a new and living way, accustomed to exercising our spirit, with Christ as our life and with a rich surplus of Christ. This is the way to meet. (Lee, *How to Meet*, Chapter Ten)