

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Nov 14, 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 12

Ministry Publication Reading

How to Meet, Chapter Eleven

Semiannual Training Preparation on 1 & 2 Samuel

1 Samuel: Chapters Twenty-Two through Twenty-Eight
LS of First Samuel: Messages Sixteen through Twenty

Announcements

❖ 2021 International Thanksgiving Conference:

- Message 1: 7:00 PM Thursday, November 25, 2021
- Message 2: 10:00 AM Friday, November 26, 2021
- Message 3: 7:00 PM Friday, November 26, 2021
- Message 4: 10:00 AM Saturday, November 27, 2021
- Message 5: 7:00 PM Saturday, November 27, 2021
- Message 6: 10:00 AM Lord's Day, November 28, 2021
- Conference Zoom link information 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>

❖ Holy Word for Morning Revival: The Intrinsic and Organic Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ

- District 1: please contact Marilyn Towle
- District 2: at Ellen Arnold's front door
- Cost: \$6.00; 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

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

Riches from the Ministry

The book of 1 Corinthians tells us that Christ became a life-giving Spirit. This is wonderful!... By taking Christ as everything in our spirit, we can have a proper life; we can enjoy Him all the day. This life is for the meeting, and the meeting is for the building up of the church.

...[W]e must realize that the best worship we can render to God is to build up the church. The real worship that God desires is the building up of the church. This is the main purpose of the meetings.

Since the meetings are for the building up of the church, what must we do in the meetings? If we read through 1 Corinthians, which is practically the only book in the New Testament that deals with the matter of meetings, we will come to the conclusion that to build up the church we must prophesy... Paul said in chapter 2, "When I came to you,...I did not determine to know anything among you except Jesus Christ" (vv. 1-2). In other words, Paul, in order to build up the church in Corinth, determined not to know anything among them but Christ. Paul, so that the church in Corinth might be built up, admonished them to prophesy (14:1, 5, 24, 31). By putting these two points together, we get the right meaning of prophesying in this book. It is simply to minister Christ to others so that the church might be built up.

Now we must see that whatever we speak for Christ, whatever we do in the meeting, must be a demonstration of the spirit. This is quite important. Christ can never be ministered to others without the demonstration of our spirit. I am sorry to say that when some dear ones rise to speak in the meetings, there is no ministry of Christ because there is no demonstration of the spirit. That kind of speaking kills the meeting.

The apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:1-4 that when he came to the Corinthians, his speech and his proclamation "were not in persuasive words of wisdom but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." This means that when he came to the Corinthians to minister Christ to them, by his speaking, by his preaching, he did not exercise his mind to use excellent words in an enticing way; rather, he exercised his spirit. His speaking was a real demonstration of his spirit.

We all must learn to say something for Christ in the meeting with a demonstration of the spirit. We have to exercise this; we have to do this. There is no excuse. We cannot say that we were born timid, that we do not have a loud voice, or that we are not so eloquent. Second Timothy 1:7 says that God has not given us a "spirit of cowardice." God has given us a spirit "of power."...Do not say anything about eloquence — we do not need eloquence. We can say much for Christ without eloquence.

The proper way to meet together is this: We must take Christ as our everything, realizing that He is the life-giving Spirit today in our spirit; therefore, we must be in the spirit, exercising our spirit continuously. Then we will experience Christ, partake of Christ, and enjoy Christ in a wonderful way. As such persons, when we come together, we will not meet for the religious worship of today's Christianity, but for the building up of the church by ministering Christ one to another with demonstration of the spirit. In this way, there can be no system of clergy or laity... Praise the Lord, we are simply members of the Body and parts of the priesthood. This means that we must all prophesy. When the whole church comes together, all can prophesy one by one (1 Cor. 14:23-24, 31), because everyone has something of Christ to share with the others.

I have been much exercised in recent days to find a way whereby all the Lord's children may function one by one in the meetings. To the present day in the local churches, the brothers and sisters are not all functioning among us. So many are still taking advantage of others. So many are still spectators and not participators. This troubles me greatly. If we do not come to the meeting, that is another thing. But if we do come, we must function one by one. If we are not functioning, we are not scriptural. "You can all prophesy one by one" (v. 31). There is no escape; there is no exception; all must take part. Whenever anyone stands to prophesy, there should be a demonstration of the spirit. This is the proper way to meet.

We all must practice one thing in our daily life: to exercise our spirit to contact the Lord... The most important thing for you and me in our daily life is to continually exercise our spirit to touch the Lord. How? Just by this simple way of calling on His name. "O Lord Jesus, O Lord Jesus, O Lord Jesus!" Say it loudly. Do not say there is no one listening to you — there are many listening; at least the angels and the demons are listening. The more you practice in this way, the more you will be nourished. The more you speak, the more you will be inspired. The angels will listen to you, the evil spirits will also listen to you, and it will be a good exercise for your spirit.

Brothers and sisters, we all must speak for Christ. We should not be dumb people; we do not worship dumb idols, but a living, speaking God. We all can speak — Hallelujah, praise the Lord!

We are now living in the age of the book of Revelation. In this book we read a number of times of a loud voice, a voice like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunders (7:10; 14:2; 19:1, 6). We must have a loud voice for Christ. We should not be so dumb; we must learn to say something all the time for the Lord, regardless of whether we have a visible audience or not. Wherever we are, we can tell the angels and the demons, "Jesus is the Lord; Christ is my life. I am not here for myself, for my job, for my schooling; I am for Christ." We are not speaking just to the air. We are speaking to the principalities, the powers in the heavenlies. This is the way to exercise and strengthen our spirit. We need practice to speak for the Lord, and we have many opportunities every day. By such continual exercise, it will not be difficult to speak for Christ in the meetings. (*Lee, How to Meet, Chapter Eleven*)