

# WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Feb 06, 2022

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

Vital Factors for the Recovery  
of the Church Life – Week 6

### Ministry Publication Reading

How to Meet, Chapter 22

### Scripture Reading:

Psa. 84:1-2; 55:14; 122:1,3-4

## Announcements

### ❖ 2021 Contribution Letter

- Saints who will need a 2021 Contribution Letter from The Church in Phoenix can request it from Won Huang via email at [wzhcpa@outlook.com](mailto:wzhcpa@outlook.com)

### ❖ International Chinese-Speaking Conference

- We will blend together with the churches in the Mountain States region and Canada's Prairie Provinces to participate in the upcoming International Chinese-Speaking Conference.
- Virtual blending conference schedule:  
Message 1: 7:30 pm Friday, February 18  
Message 2: 9:00 am Saturday, February 19  
Message 3: 11:00 am Saturday, February 19  
Message 4: 7:30 pm Saturday, February 19  
Message 5: 10:00 am Lord's Day, February 20
- Conference will be held through Zoom. Zoom link information will be emailed to the saints.

### ❖ Phoenix Conference with Brother Ron K.

- March 4-6, 2022
- Conference will be held through Zoom. Zoom link information will be emailed to the saints.

### ❖ Corporate Meeting on the Lord's Day

- February 13 at 10:00 am
- Districts 1&2
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the saints.

### ❖ Church in Rostov-on-Don Meeting Hall

- The church in Rostov-on-Don in Russia is purchasing a meeting facility at a cost of a little over \$400,000.
- The amount needed to complete the purchase with renovations is approximately \$132,000.
- First installment was paid on January 10, and the remaining amount is due May 1.
- Offerings can be made to [offerings@churchinphoenix.org](mailto:offerings@churchinphoenix.org) and designate on the memo line "for Rostov-on-Don meeting hall".

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

### ❖ Offerings

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

## Riches from the Ministry

Now we come to the matter of how to come to the meetings — not how to carry on the meetings or how to behave ourselves in the meetings, but how to come to the meetings before we arrive. Our coming to the meeting should be a kind of preparation; it is our opportunity to be properly prepared for the meeting. Many of us frequently come to the meetings without preparation — we come in a wrong way.

We will look shortly into some verses in the Psalms which show how the Old Testament saints came to their meetings. But before we do, I must confess the sense of shame I have had in comparing our situation with theirs. They were the Old Testament saints; they were under the law. We are the New Testament saints; we are under grace. But when we look at these verses in the Psalms and consider their experiences in coming to the congregation of the Lord's people, we see how backward we are. Is not this a shame? The Old Testament saints were in the shadow; we are in the reality. Certainly our experience should surpass theirs in the matter of coming to the meetings, but in fact we have fallen far behind. The Lord, however, is recovering us and will recover us even in this matter.

In the Psalms we see that when the saints of ancient times came to the congregation of the Lord's people, they came with at least seven things.

First, they came with a love for the Lord's dwelling place. In Psalm 84:1-2 the psalmist exclaims, "How lovely are Your tabernacles, / O Jehovah of hosts! / My soul longs, indeed even faints, / For the courts of Jehovah; / My heart and my flesh cry out / To the living God." A love for the Lord's dwelling place, practically speaking, is a love for the meetings. The psalmist said that he was even homesick for the Lord's dwelling place. We need this kind of love for the meetings. We should be able to say, "Without the meetings I am homesick."

We all must learn the lesson of loving the meetings. Unless circumstances definitely hinder, we must certainly come to the meetings. If we really love the meetings, we can frequently find a way around the circumstances or through the circumstances to be there.

The second matter is this — "We were in sweet counsel together; / We walked with the throng to the house of God" (Psa. 55:14). Before we come to the meeting, it is good to have some fellowship. We can say to others who live nearby, "Brother, are you going to the meeting? Good, let us go together...It is so good to hold sweet counsel with brothers and sisters on the way to the meeting, to fellowship or to praise together in anticipation of the coming feast...In so doing, our hearts are turned to the Lord, and our spirits are refreshed and released. The psalmist also says, "I rejoiced when they said to me, / Let us go to the house of Jehovah" (122:1).

Third, we should not go to the house of God individually, but in company if possible; not just one by one, but group by group. The psalmist said, "I passed through with the throng; / I led them to the house of God" (42:4). And again, "Jerusalem has been built as a city / That has been compacted together; / To which the tribes go up, / The tribes of Jehovah — / A testimony for Israel — / To give thanks to the name of Jehovah" (122:3-4).

Fourth, we need to come to the meetings with a voice of joy. "I led them to the house of God / With the voice of a joyous shout and praise, / The festal multitude" (42:4). We need not wait till we enter the meeting hall before we shout our hallelujahs and sing our praises to the Lord. While we are walking, while we are driving, while we are still on the way, we should begin. This is the way we should come to the meetings — with a voice of joy.

Fifth, not only come with rejoicing, but also come with thanksgiving and praise. "Enter His gates with thanksgiving, / His courts with praise; / Give thanks to Him; bless His name" (100:4). Before arriving at the meeting, while we are still on the way, how good it is to begin to offer our thanksgivings and praises to Christ. Thank and praise Him for the precious blood which cleanses you from all your sins and shortcomings. Thank and praise Him for all He has been to you today. Thank and praise Him for all that He will do in the coming meeting. By so doing, you will be well prepared. This should not be abnormal but our normal experience.

Sixth, we have to give glory to the Lord, we have to glorify Him on the way. "Ascribe to Jehovah the glory of His name...and come into His courts" (96:8).

Seventh and last, we must come with some offerings, either burnt offerings or other offerings. Psalm 96:8 says, "Bring an offering, and come into His courts." We all need to come to the meetings with something of Christ as the offerings that we may offer to God. None of us should come empty-handed.

If you get into the Word of God and compare what is there with what exists in today's Christianity, you will be amazed. It is absolutely different. The proper Christian meetings do not require the forms, the gifts, and the teachings as much as a daily life and walk in the spirit, a life of taking Christ as everything by the exercise of our spirit. The proper Christian meetings require this kind of preparation, plus the seven items we have just mentioned. As far as the Word of God is concerned, this is simply the normal way for Christian meetings, but as far as Christianity is concerned, this is certainly novel and revolutionary. We must be those who keep the Word of God.

Let us come to the meeting prepared to demonstrate our spirit so boldly that Satan will be put into the corner, the Lord will be exalted, God will be glorified, all the saints will be edified, and the newcomers will be attracted, caught, and built up in the Body. Let us look to the Lord, pray much, and even claim this matter for the recovery of the church.

Let us take these seven points, pray-read all these verses, and see what the Lord will do. Remember well that all these verses speak of how the saints in the ancient time came together. Today we should have more than this; today we should outshine them. Will you seek by the Lord's grace to come to the meetings in such a way? If so, the meetings will be greatly uplifted and improved. (*Lee, How to Meet, Chapter Twenty-Two*)