

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

July 31, 2022

The church in Phoenix

Announcements

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

9:30 am – Cleaning & Maintenance

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

Meeting God's Need and Present Need in the Lord's Recovery – Week 2

Ministry Publication Reading

The Central Work of God and Proper Spiritual Experience, ch. 12
Knowing Life and the Church, ch. 15

❖ The Holy Word for Morning Revival: Meeting God's Need and Present Need in the Lord's Recovery

- District 1 – contact Marilyn Towle
- District 2 - Books are available on the Lord's Day at Ellen Arnold front door. On other days, please call ahead before going over.
- Books are also available for sale at the church's bookroom.
- Cost \$7.00; cash or check payable to: The church in Phoenix

❖ Meeting Hall in Sao Paulo, Brazil

- Acquiring a property in São Paulo, that could serve the church in Sao Paulo and, the work of the Lord in Brazil, and even all of South America
- Price of the property including the needed repairs is US\$1,563,600; currently have half of this amount; still lacking approximately US\$800,000.
- Offerings can be made through Zelle payable to: The church in Phoenix. Please designate on the memo line "For the meeting hall in Sao Paulo"

❖ GTCA Virtual Tours

- Virtual Tours of the 9 target cities
- Go to [gtca.us website](http://gtca.us) for the schedule of the virtual tours and the Zoom link.

❖ Ukraine: Two Additional Shepherding Trips

- Cycle P4: Dates: Sep 8-25; deadline for registration: Aug 25
- To apply, please click on the following link: <https://rb.gy/yyvrf>

❖ Offerings

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

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

Riches from the Ministry

God's need for man far exceeding man's need for God

Man's need reflects God's need. Man has a need, but God has a need as well. Man has needs every day, but God has needs every day as well. Man has a lack, but God also has a lack. Man needs satisfaction, but God also needs satisfaction. Man on the earth needs satisfaction just as God in the heavens needs satisfaction. The one problem in the universe involves the matter of need.

By looking at man's need, it is possible to see God's need. Is man's need greater, or is God's need greater? In other words, is man's need for God greater than God's need for man? Most people assume that man cannot be without God, and therefore, that man's need for God is greater than God's need for man. This suggests that whether or not God gains man is not as important to Him as it is for man to be without God.

This natural concept is the opposite of the divine revelation. In Isaiah 6, when God was about to speak to and work on the children of Israel, He asked Isaiah, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for Us?" (v. 8). Immediately, Isaiah answered the Lord, saying, "Here am I; send me" (v. 8). This shows how much God needs man. God needs man to a greater degree than man needs God. Our thoughts are focused on the drastic consequences of our being without God, because we are so fallen and despicable. However, if God opens our spiritual eyes to see what the Bible truly reveals — the fact that God needs man — we would kneel down and praise in prayer, "O Lord, thank You! It is a small matter for me not to have You, but You must have me."

(Lee, *The Central Work of God and Proper Spiritual Experience*, ch. 12)

God needing man in His work

With God there is eternity past; with man there is eternity future. As God journeys from eternity past to eternity future, there is a bridge of time. This bridge of time is really man himself. God wants to cross from one side to the other through man, but many people have a sign that says Not a Through Street. When God makes a demand on us, we often shake our head to indicate that the road is blocked. When God makes a demand, we often respond, "But I have a wife, children, and..." Our "but" means that God cannot pass through us. In eternity God is not under any restriction, but in time God is restricted. If we will not allow God to pass through, God cannot do anything in the church life. We restrict God the most.

Nevertheless, God is patient. When He cannot get through in us, He will wait patiently and call us again. If we do not listen to Him, He will wait some more. He is very patient. He will wait until we are touched by Him and say to Him, "O God, I will say yes to You. I will no longer say but or Not a Through Street. I will only say Amen." When we hear the Lord's word and forsake everything to follow Him, we will not be like the disciple who said to the Lord, "Permit me first to go and bury my father" (Matt. 8:21). God's principle in redemption is that man would cooperate with Him and that man would be a bridge for Him to pass through.

We should never consider this as a doctrine only. On the whole earth, regardless of when or where, God will be expressed as long as we are willing to say, "God, I am here. I want to be a smooth way to let You pass through." God always works in the principle of incarnation, that is, in the principle of God mingling with man.

In our fellowship with God and in our reading of the Bible and prayer before the Lord, will we answer His call unconditionally when we hear His voice? Or will we say however and but? How many of us can say yes to the Lord, or "Lord, I will take this way"? Our usefulness in the Lord's hand depends upon how much we cooperate with Him; how far He can go in us depends entirely upon how absolute our Amen is to Him. We are sinful and corrupt, we tend to lose our temper, and we always blame others. From our experience in following the Lord, we know that these are hindrances to the Lord. However, our unwillingness to submit to the Lord absolutely is the greatest hindrance.

We absolutely must see that God is not looking for meek and perfect people in His work; rather, He needs people who will cooperate with Him. Without man's cooperation God cannot do anything. May we not be proud but pray: "O God, You can work without me, but if You have me, it will be easier for You to work. I do not want to delay Your time." God truly needs our cooperation.

(Lee, *Knowing Life and the Church*, ch. 15)