

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Aug. 14, 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 4

Ministry Publication Reading

Messages for Building Up New Believers (3), ch. 49

❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- o Saturday, Aug. 20 at 8:30 am
- o Zoom link information will be emailed to the brothers.

❖ Labor Day Blending Conference in Denver

- o The meetings will be held in the Denver meeting hall at 2180 South Leyden Street.
- o Meeting Schedule:
Meeting 1: Saturday, September 3; 9:30 AM
Meeting 2: Saturday, September 3; 7:00 PM
Lord's Table & Meeting 3: Lord's Day, September 4; 9:30 AM
Meeting 4: Lord's Day, September 4; 7:00 PM
Meeting 5: Monday, September 5; 9:30 PM
- o The church in Denver will try to provide as much hospitality as possible.

❖ Ukraine: Additional Shepherding Trip

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

❖ 2022 International Thanksgiving Blending Conference

- o The 2022 International Thanksgiving Blending Conference, which will be held at the Washington Hilton in Washington, DC.
- o Reservation: There is a special group rate of \$104.00 USD/per night plus tax for single, double, triple, and quadruple occupancy rooms. For room reservations, please call 1-202-483-3000 or 1-800-HILTONS and request the Living Stream Ministry group rate by providing the code: LSM1. To make online reservations at the special group rate, please go to: <https://book.passkey.com/go/LSM>. Reservations must be made on or before 5:00 PM local time (EDT) on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2022 in order to get this reduced rate.
- o Meeting Schedule
1st meeting: Thursday, November 24..... 7:30 PM
2nd meeting: Friday, November 25..... 10:00 AM
3rd meeting: Friday, November 25..... 7:30 PM
4th meeting: Saturday, November 26 10:00 AM
5th meeting: Saturday, November 26 7:30 PM
6th meeting: Lord's Day, November 27..... 9:30 AM

❖ Offerings

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

Riches from the Ministry

Service in the Body

There are many members in the Body of Christ, and the Holy Spirit dispenses all kinds of gifts and ministries to them according to the need of the Body. The Lord grants the members different kinds of gifts and ministries for the purpose of supplying the need of the whole Body [1 Cor. 12:28-30]. The Lord knows that He will not make the whole Body the eyes or the whole Body the ears [1 Cor. 12:14-21]. The Lord gives the members different gifts and ministries to supply the whole Body. As the human body needs all the members, so the church needs the different kinds of gifts and ministries for its spiritual service... All the members, including the uncomely ones, are useful in the ministry of the Spirit. It is impossible to have a useless member in the Body. Every brother and sister is a member in the Body and every member has his or her function and service. As long as you are a Christian, you are a member of the Body of Christ, and as a member in the Body, you must have your own service before God. We must honor such a practice of universal service. Every Christian must have his or her respective function and must serve the Lord according to this function.

Every member in the church should find a place to serve. Everyone should serve and there should not be any monopoly. A member or a few members should not replace all the members in doing everything... In the physical body, the eyes, the mouth, the feet, and the hands may all be very busy. Yet they do not contradict each other. Something is wrong if only the eyes function while the mouth, feet, and hands do not. If the eyes, mouth, feet, and hands all function together and coordinate as one entity, we have the body. If some serve and others do not or if only one or a few serve, we do not have the Body of Christ. We must be very clear about this principle.

Romans 12 [12:4-8] shows us that everyone who is gifted must function according to the gift which God has given him, whether it is in the ministry of the word or in the ministry of service... Everyone should have his or her specific service and should be faithful to this function. Everyone should know what he can do before God and what gift he has received from the Lord. This knowledge should direct him to function in a specific way. No one should go beyond his own function to take over the service of others. No member should take the place of another member, and no member should relinquish his own function. All should serve together, and everyone should fully apply himself to his own work. In this way the Body of Christ will be expressed.

Even though the gift that you have received from God may be small, you should not hide your gift. Even if the gift you have received from God is just one talent (Matt. 25:14-30), you should not keep it or neglect it. Whether one's gift is big or small, whether it is "five talents," "two talents," or "one talent," he should exercise what he has and serve accordingly. If he refuses to give himself to his service and instead buries his "one talent," the church will suffer. If a few members in the Body refuse to function, the Body will suffer great loss.

It is not easy to find five-talented ones in the church. Yet every child of God, no matter how small his gift may be, has at least one talent. If all the one-talented ones will rise up to serve, they will be more effective than the few who have five talents. If all the one-talented ones will rise up to serve, the church will surely flourish. All those with one talent should rise up to serve. Whether or not the church will prosper depends on whether the one-talented ones will rise up to serve. If only a few people are laboring and working, we do not have the church. If all the brothers and sisters are working and laboring, it will be the church serving and the Body functioning. A few members no longer will take over the function of the whole Body. We hope everyone who has "one talent" will dig out his talent from the earth. Everyone who has the "mina" should realize that the handkerchief is for wiping sweat, not for wrapping up his mina (Luke 19:20). We must learn to serve according to our ability. When everyone rises up to serve and no one passes his responsibility to someone else, we have the church.

The Testimony of the Body

"Seeing that there is one bread, we who are many are one Body [1 Cor. 10:17]." In the New Testament the breaking of bread is a very important matter. Whenever we come on the Lord's Day to break bread and remember the Lord, we acknowledge that the Lord has broken His body for us. We also express that the Body is one. The breaking of bread signifies the Lord's giving of Himself in love on the cross for us; the oneness speaks of the union among God's children. Every Lord's Day we come to the Lord to acknowledge that His body was broken for us and that all of God's children are one. On the one hand, we testify that the Lord's body was broken for us. On the other hand, we testify that the church is the Body of Christ and that this Body is one. We who are many are one bread and one Body. We express this oneness. Whoever understands the Body of Christ renders this testimony on the Lord's Day... God's children should gather together for the purpose of breaking bread and fellowshiping with one another. The more one understands the Body of Christ, the more he will testify of the oneness of the Body through the breaking of bread. The breaking of bread is a remembrance of the Lord's death, and it is an expression of the oneness of the Body. "Seeing that there is one bread, we who are many are one Body." We do this to show the world, the universe, and the whole creation that the church is one Body! (Nee, *Messages for Building Up New Believers* (3), ch. 49)