

## 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 Job,  
Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes,  
Volume 2 – Week 11

### Ministry Publication Reading

The Service for the Building Up  
of the House of God –  
Chapter Five

### Scripture Reading

1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:22-23; Acts  
2:4a; Eph. 4:4a

## Announcements

### ❖ Corporate Lord's Day Meeting

- May 9 at 10:00 am
- Districts 1 & 2
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the saints

### ❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- May 15 at 8:30 am
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the brothers.

### ❖ Virtual Lunch with FTTA trainees

- Sign Up: goggle doc <https://tinyurl.com/traineelunch>

### ❖ 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).

Persevere in Prayer

### ❖ Intercessory Prayer in North America:

- Sign up at <http://www.beseeking.org> to receive daily emails containing a prayer burden, along with crucial verses and ministry portion

### ❖ Church Prayer Burdens:

- <http://www.churchinphoenix.org>

## Riches from the Ministry

The church is a living organism, not a dead organization. In the New Testament, especially in the Acts of the Apostles, the church was a living organism. At that time the believers took the ascended Christ as their Head and were under His authority. They were ruled and led by the Spirit. They lived, moved, and worked in and by the Spirit. The human will, the letter, and regulations are not expressed in Acts, nor is there a system or an organization. This is the proper condition that God desires the church to have on the earth. The church is the living Body of Christ, the Son of God. All the believers in the Body of Christ are joined mutually to one another by the divine life and by the Spirit; hence, there is nothing of the human will, of the letter, or of regulation. This is the normal condition of the church.

The church did not remain in its proper condition for long. Both the Bible and church history reveal that the spiritual and heavenly condition of the church did not last very long. The church fell gradually into regulations, became an organization, and lost the experience of the divine life, its spiritual nature, and its heavenly position.

The church lost her function because she lost her nature, position, and content. The nature of the church should be spiritual, her position should be heavenly, and her content should be the divine life. Christianity is an organization instead of being spiritual, it is of the earth instead of being heavenly, and it is human instead of being divine. As a result, the church has lost her function as the Body and cannot supply the life of Christ to people, express Christ on earth, or rule on the earth for God.

What we practice in the meetings must be according to our vision of the Body of Christ and the present situation in Christianity. We do not intend to become another sect or another denomination. We must understand that the church is heavenly and spiritual. We are not a denomination, and we are not an earthly or human organization.

We do not want an organization, a system, regulations, or anything worldly. We want to live in the life of God and to be ruled by the Spirit in order that we may be God's testimony on this earth in every locality. Apart from this desire, we are nothing. We do not have a system, and by the Lord's grace, we want to take this way and be His testimony. We are a group of believers who walk together and testify for God.

If we fall into a system and become an organization, we will lose the Spirit and the element of life, and we will be left with arrangements and positions; that is, we will have only an empty shell without life. We face this danger in every locality. The fellowship from some of the brothers concerning the lack of spiritual supply in certain localities indicates the danger of becoming an organization.

There is a difference between a corpse and a body. A corpse is a body without life. We recognize that it is not possible to be without arrangements in the spiritual service, but the arrangements must have the Spirit and life. If we have arrangements but not the Spirit and life, we have fallen into a system and become an organization.

Arrangements are necessary, but the arrangements must be in life. Arrangements must meet the needs of the divine life in the saints. Arrangements that lack the spiritual element of the divine life are a system.

Likewise, it is good for the churches to copy, imitate, and follow each other. The Bible speaks of this in 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7. The positive situation in a local church should be imitated by other local churches. This is right and pleasing to the Lord. However, we must guard against imitating, copying, and following that become a system.

The full-time serving ones in the localities have practical needs for their living. Under the Lord's leading, they are supplied by the churches and by the ministry. This arrangement is spiritual and of life. We must guard against this arrangement becoming a system, in which the care of the full-time serving ones becomes solely the responsibility of either the ministry or the church. Under normal conditions this should be a living matter. The serving ones should live before the Lord and look to Him for their needs. The saints, the churches, and the ministry should follow the Lord's leading to supply the serving ones. Everyone should live according to the Spirit and be in life. Then this matter will not become a system.

The first danger we must guard against is having a system and becoming an organization. There should be elders and deacons in the local churches, and services should be orderly and free of chaos. However, we must guard against the danger of losing the presence of the Spirit and the vitality of life, that is, of falling into a system and becoming an organization.

When God's children serve together, they must learn spiritual lessons, submit to spiritual authority, and coordinate. The coordination should supply, nurture, and strengthen. Otherwise, the practices that are of life and the Spirit will become a system.

Whether or not they are a co-worker, an elder, a deacon, or a responsible one in a group meeting and regardless of their age, every brother and sister is responsible to guard against becoming an organization. We all should learn to accept the breaking of the cross and the discipline of the Spirit and to know our position, the order in God's house, and the authority established by God. We must also learn to live in spirit and in fellowship and to be fresh, vital, and strengthened in our services. Our submission to authority should be of the Spirit and full of the anointing. If this is our situation, we are on the right track. We will be delivered from the danger of a system. We must not condemn others in these matters. We should apply them to ourselves so that we focus on the Spirit and life and guard against systems and organization.