

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

Aug 08, 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

Knowing the Truth, Being Absolute for the Truth, and Proclaiming the Truth in the Present Evil Age – Week 4

Ministry Publication Reading

Truth, Life, the Church, and the Gospel, Chapter One

Scripture Reading

John 5:39-40

Announcements

❖ The Holy Word for Morning Revival: Knowing the Truth, Being Absolute for the Truth, and Proclaiming the Truth in the Present Evil Age, available for sale at two locations:

- District 1: please contact Marilyn Towle
- District 2: at Ellen Arnold's front door
- Cost: \$7.00; cash (exact change) or check payable to: The church in Phoenix

❖ Monthly Brothers' Meeting

- Saturday, Aug 21 at 08:30 am
- Zoom link information will be emailed to the brothers

❖ 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

❖ 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 Lord has raised up His recovery upon the truth...We should enter into all the truths of the Bible by means of the Life-study messages. We should not merely obtain some enjoyment from them; rather, we should gain some practical knowledge and experience.

The Bible is a special work of literature. Although it does not focus on any particular topic, it has a central theme that is comprehensive, encompassing many matters. Over the ages the greatest difficulty for Bible readers has been the difficulty of seeing the Bible's central light and the comprehensiveness of its light. Thus, their understanding of the Bible has been fragmented and peripheral. They may have understood a point here and a point there, but they have not been able to gain a complete understanding. If we want to have a complete understanding of the Bible, we must see that the Bible has only one center and that this center encompasses many matters; it is comprehensive.

Under this principle the Life-studies have a center. They also contain explanations and definitions of various matters, so they are comprehensive as well. Therefore, when we study the Life-studies, we are always able to obtain the life nourishment from them, and we are also able to gain some knowledge of the truth.

Some criticize us, saying that we read the Life-study messages and not the Bible. Those who speak this way are completely misinformed. The goal of the Life-study messages is to bring people into the truths of the Bible. In the past when people read the Bible, they could not find the way to enter in, so they had no way to understand it. This is like having a house with no entryway, no door, and no windows to allow people to enter in. The Life-study messages do the work of paving a way, building a door, and opening a window so that people can enter the house and enjoy everything inside.

Another function of the Life-study messages is to bring people into life. The Life-study messages are not a set of philosophical or classical writings apart from the Bible. The Life-study messages do not merely expound the Bible and present the truth; rather, they also bring people into the truth to enjoy and experience its riches. Mere exposition of the Bible is just the impartation of knowledge, which causes people to know doctrines mentally. The Life-study messages bring us into the depths of the Bible to touch and enjoy the life within (cf. John 5:39-40).

Today pastors and preachers in Christianity must search everywhere to find a good word for their sermons. Some pastors do not have anything to talk about, so they speak about things such as sanitary practices and personal hygiene. Some are a little better and speak about matters such as redemption, the washing away of sins, and justification. There are some who are even deeper and speak about things such as how to fellowship with the Lord and how to enjoy the peace given to us by the Lord. But even this is not enough. We have seen from our experience and our research that the richest meetings are those with the Life-study messages as their content. If every Lord's Day we would take two Life-study messages as the content of our fellowship, the meeting would be very rich.

We should bring all the saints in the churches in the Lord's recovery into the practice of carefully reading one or two Life-study messages each week. If we do this, over the long term—perhaps over ten, eight, or even just five years—the saints will make much progress in all areas, and the condition of the entire church will be reversed.

I hope that the standard of truth will be constantly raised higher among the churches in the Lord's recovery. We cannot remain in the shallow gospel truths such as peace and prosperity, Christ's incarnation to save sinners, His crucifixion to accomplish redemption, and God's love for the world. Although these things are right, they are still elementary, basic, and beginning truths. We must go up to the high peak. It is just like in the elementary schools today, where what they are teaching is much higher than what was taught ten or twenty years ago. Yet the children are able to learn these things because the entire standard has been uplifted. Even in the daily conversation in the homes, we can find that the standard among the children has been raised; many of them use terms in a familiar way that we never understood when we were young. In the same way, when many people were young, they did not understand such truths as the essential Spirit, the economical Spirit, or the dispensing of the Triune God, but now the young people all speak about these things, and their speaking is true and logical. This is what it means when people say that the students can go farther than the teachers.

May we all be able to perfect the young people in the truth and encourage them to enter into the depths of the Word. This is why we have a burden to recommend and promote the Life-study messages. I hope that we would all be able to study and apply them and that we would teach the young people well so that they would receive the real help. If we do this, the Lord's recovery will have a wonderful future.

(Lee, Truth, Life, the Church, and the Gospel, Chapter One)