

CHURCH IN REGINA

Meeting Place: 3860 Buckingham Drive E, Regina, SK, Canada S4V 3A1

1 Timothy 2:4, "Who [God] desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth."

This Week's Pursuit:

HWMR - Crystallization Study
of The Gospel of Mark

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CHURCH MEETINGS:

Lord's Day

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays - Saints' Home
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Young People Meeting

Fridays
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Small Groupings

Fridays & Saturdays
Saints' Home

Seven ANNUAL FEAST

1. **International Chinese-speaking Conference**
Anaheim, California
February 15-17, 2019
2. **ITERO (Spring)**
Anaheim CA
April 5 - 7, 2019
3. **Memorial Day Conference**
Seattle, WA
May 24-27, 2019
4. **Summer Semiannual Training**
Anaheim, CA
July 1-6, 2019
5. **ITERO (Fall)**
Bangalore, India
October 3-5, 2019
6. **Thanksgiving Conference**
Houston, TX
Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, 2019
7. **Winter Semiannual Training**
Anaheim, CA
December 23-28, 2019

Message Five

A Life Fully according to and for God's New Testament Economy

(1)

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:1-11, 35; 10:45

God's New Testament Economy

If we compare the Epistle of James and the Gospel of Mark, we shall see that these books present **two kinds of lives**... Each of these books helps us to understand the other. [T]he life revealed in Mark, the life of the Lord Jesus as the Slave-Savior, is absolutely "white." This means that the Lord's life revealed in Mark is fully according to and for God's New Testament economy. (Excerpt from the Life-study of Mark, Message 53)

Aspects of this Life that lives according to God's New Testament Economy

In 3:7-35 we see **five auxiliary acts** for the gospel service: **avoiding** the crowd's pressing (vv. 7-12), **appointing** the apostles to preach (vv. 13-19), **not eating** because of urgent need (vv. 20-21), **binding** Satan and **plundering** his house by the Holy Spirit (vv. 22-30), and **not remaining** in the relationship of the natural life but of the spiritual life (vv. 31-35). If we live a life according to God's New Testament economy, **we shall stay away from the crowd and then pray in order to know God's will concerning others' living the way we are living**. Furthermore, **we shall care for God's need, not for our eating**. We shall also **bind the enemy and plunder his house**. At the same time, **we shall deny the natural relationship and remain in the relationship of the spiritual life**. All these are aspects not of a life of ethics, morality, religion, or culture, but of a **life that is of God and according to God**. Such a life is outside religion, culture, and ethics. This is a life that lives out God as everything.

Although the Lord sought to avoid the crowd, He wanted the **sincere ones to be able to touch Him**. If we are simply part of the crowd, we shall not receive anything from the Lord. We need to single ourselves out from among the crowd and **touch Him directly and honestly**. If we do this, we shall receive the ministry of life. The first of the auxiliary acts for the Slave-Savior's gospel service was averting the pressing of the crowd. Concerning this, we need to learn of the Lord. Often preachers are deceived by a crowd. When a crowd surrounds us, this may be deceiving; it also may be frustrating. Hence, **we need to avoid the crowd**. But this does not mean that we should give up the people. No, as we avoid the crowd, **we need to allow others to contact us, to touch us, directly in order to receive the genuine ministry of life**. (LS of Mark, Chapter 11)

The "goods" in Mark 3:27 **are sinners** kept in Satan's house for his kingdom. The Slave-Savior bound Satan, the strong one, and entered into his house to plunder his goods so that **the sinners might be brought into the house of God** (Eph. 2:19) **through regeneration** for the kingdom of God (John 3:5)... The gospel service is a warfare to destroy Satan and his kingdom of darkness. (LS of Mark, Chapter 12)

It is not easy to analyze or systematize the Lord's actions. There seems to be a contradiction between the Lord's behavior in **averting** the crowd in 3:7-12 and His behavior in 3:20-21. First He **avoided** the crowd. But when He was in the house and the crowd came together, He did not try to get away from the crowd. According to what He did in 3:7-12, we would expect Him to stay away from the crowd in order to finish eating... However, He acted in a different way. He stopped eating and **took care of the urgent need of those in the crowd**. The Lord's relatives, perhaps His brothers in the flesh, thought that He was beside Himself. They were concerned because He cared only for the crowd and not for His eating. We should not try to analyze in a natural way what seemed to be the contradictory behavior of the Lord. When the crowd pressed upon Him, the Lord sought to avoid the crowd. But when the crowd **afforded Him opportunities to minister life to people**, He would not care for His eating. We need to differentiate these two matters—the **pressing** of the crowd and the **opportunity** to minister life. (LS of Mark, Chapter 11)

The Lord [also indicates a] **rejection** of His relatives' natural concern. In order to defeat the evil one's schemes and fulfill His gospel service, He would not remain in the relationship of the natural life. This **displayed His absoluteness for God in His humanity**. Looking at those sitting in a circle around Him, the Lord declared, "Behold, My mother and My brothers!" Then He went on to say that whoever does the will of God is His brother, sister, and mother. Here we see that the Lord's relationship with His followers is not in the flesh but in the spirit. Whoever does the will of His Father is His brother for helping, His sister for sympathizing, and His mother for tenderly loving. Through His gospel service the Slave-Savior was **making the believing sinners** His spiritual relatives, those who **became His many brothers** (Rom. 8:29; Heb. 2:11) in the house of God (Heb. 3:5) and His many members **for the building up of His mystical Body** to do the will of God. (LS of Mark Chapter 12)

Prayer Burden

1. We thank You, Lord for the **priesthood** in the New Testament. We want to be those who **preach** the gospel by our **living and being**, make **sinners** sons of God and **active members** in the practice of the **Body life**. May our **preaching** of the gospel be the very service we **render to God in our spirit**.

2. Thank You, Lord for being such a **pattern** to us, taking the way of **baptism** to **fulfill** God's New Testament requirement according to righteousness. Lord, we also declare we are **good for nothing** except **death** and **burial**, **worthy of nothing** in the eyes of God, and willing to have ourselves **terminated**, **crucified** and **buried**.

3. Thank You, Lord for accomplishing an **all-inclusive death**. In Your death, You **bore our sins**, **condemned sin**, **crucified the old man**, **terminated the old creation**, **destroyed Satan**, **judged the world**, **abolished the ordinances**, and **released the divine life**. Hallelujah to You!

4. Praise You, Lord for Your **wonderful resurrection**. You **regenerated** us and **germinated** the new creation. Thank You for **bringing** all of us and now **ushering** us to enjoy You in Your **ascension** as our **life** and **life supply**, as our **Lord of all**, the **Head of all to the church**, the **Head of the Body**, the **glorified One**, the **enthroned One**, the **One who is above all**, and the **One who fills all in all**.

5. Grant us, Lord a clear view of the kind of life we should be **living**. Save us from being **distracted** by the "good" things that **frustrate** us from living according to the life-giving Spirit and fully according to Your economy. We want to be those who live "**Christ Himself**."

6. Lord, grant us a **heavenly vision** of a life that lives and **expresses** God as a complete, whole, perfect, and entire pattern of God's New Testament economy. **Direct** our steps, **control** our living and **bring** us into God's consummation. May we be those who only **care for nothing else but God Himself**.

7. Please pray for:

Israel

- We pray that the seed of the gospel to be sown bountifully all over Israel. We believe that there are still hundreds in this land who were **appointed to eternal life** (Acts 13:48) for the testimony of Jesus in the cities of Israel.

Europe - Bibles for Europe

- **Offerings** for future printings and distribution of NTRV Bibles for Europe

8. Please pray for the church in **Regina**

- Pray for the **increase** of meeting ones and to gain local saints. Pray for the contacts.
- For the purchase of a lot **property** for the church
- The children, YP and College work
- Brother Dindo and family to get settled permanently here in Canada.

LIFE-STUDY OF 2 CORINTHIANS

"One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy"

April 06, 2019, 2018, Monday [Life-Study messages 1 - 7]

In Life-Study message 3 we enjoyed that the three matters—the **anointing**, the **sealing**, and the **pledging**—are actually one. They are one thing with three aspects. First we are anointed, then we are sealed, and then we have the pledge as a guarantee. Hallelujah, we have the **essence**, the **image**, and the **guarantee**! All these are the processed God who is now the Spirit. The Spirit is the oil with which we are anointed, the essence with which we are sealed, and the pledge which guarantees that God belongs to us and that He is our portion. **Because we have been anointed and sealed and have received the pledge, we can be one with the faithful God and live Christ. Now we are qualified and equipped to live the unchanging Christ.**

April 07, 2019, Tuesday [Life-Study messages 8 - 45]

In this section, we see the **ministers of the New Covenant**, a **pattern** of living Christ for the church, **attached**, **anointed**, **sealed**, **captured**, **subdued**, and **led** to scatter the incense of Christ, **competent** of Christ as the alphabet to write living letters with the Life-Giving Spirit of the living God, **shining** the glory of the New Covenant, **being transformed** into the image of the Lord from glory to glory as from the Lord Spirit by beholding and reflecting His glory with unveiled face. The **essence** of the New Covenant ministry, the ministry of the Spirit as the **life supply** and of righteousness as God's expression, **the ministers and the ministry becoming one**, the manifestation of life through the killing of the cross, the putting to death of Jesus and the renewing of the inward man, a new creation in Christ becoming God's righteousness through the second step of reconciliation, the mingling of divinity with humanity.

April 08, 2019, Wednesday [Life-Study messages 46 - 49]

In this section, we see **the apostle's fellowship concerning the ministry to the needy saints**. This includes the **grace** from four parties, exercising foresight for what is honourable, giving as a blessing, not as covetousness, sowing for reaping the fruits of righteousness.

In message 48 we enjoyed that as children of God, **we all must learn to give. To give is to gather**. How much manna we can gather depends on how much we give. In Luke 6:38 the Lord Jesus says, "*Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over; shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.*" This verse indicates that if we want to receive, to gather, we first need to give. **Our giving is our gathering, our receiving**. We all need to gather manna every day. Because our gathering is our giving, **we all need to give in order to gather**. We gather little because we give little. May we all be impressed that our giving is our gathering.

April 09, 2019, Thursday [Life-Study messages 50 - 57]

In this section, we see **Paul's vindication of his apostolic ministry**. Paul vindicates his apostolic ministry by his warring, the measures of God's rule, his jealousy for Christ, the various aspects of his compelled boasting, and by the authority given to him.

In message 55 we can experience **Christ as our grace and power**. We are those who are weak and powerful. In this message, we see that **the grace experienced by Paul was actually the Lord Jesus Christ Himself**. The Lord's grace became power spread over him like a tent. This grace-power became a dwelling place for Paul in his sufferings. As he was suffering, Paul could dwell in the tabernacle spread over him. This tabernacle, this tent, sustained him, supported him, maintained him, and kept him.

April 10, 2019, Friday [Life-Study messages 58 - 59]

In this section, we see **the final exhortations, greetings, and blessings**. In message 58 we enjoyed that according to the New Testament, **the Christian life should be a life of rejoicing**. If your life is not a rejoicing life, your Christian life is not normal. To rejoice includes more than just being joyful. It is possible to be joyful without rejoicing. **Joyfulness** is something inward, but

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. Life-study readings 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon.
2. There will be no Lord's Table Meeting here in Regina on April 21, 2019, we will be going churching in the church in Saskatoon., and visit sister Gloria after the Bread Breaking Meeting
3. The church pursuit on April 19, 2019, is at brother Joseph's place at 6:00pm.
4. Prairie conference in Edmonton on May 3-5, 2019. The deadline for registration is April 21, 2019.
6. Every last Friday of the month, the Small Group Meeting will be held at Brother Radam's place
7. Churching in Lloydminster will be on April 28, 2019.

rejoicing means that our inward joy is expressed outwardly. I believe that Paul would say that in order to rejoice we must use our voice; that is, we need to sound out our joy, to give it voice. Thus, **to voice out our joy is to rejoice**. **We should rejoice either by singing, praising, shouting, or calling on the Lord**. Therefore, **to rejoice is to voice out our inner joy, to sound it out**. This rejoicing is an important characteristic of our Christian life. If our Christian life is normal, it will be a life of rejoicing.

The Christian life is a **life of rejoicing** and also a **life of peace**. Thus, to strive against others or to have rivalry with them is contrary to a basic principle of the Christian life. Strife and rivalry are characteristics of the life of fallen mankind... The Christian life is absolutely different from this. As a heavenly people, we should always be at peace with one another.

THE SECOND EPISTLE OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS OUTLINE

April 6, 2019

I. Introduction – 1:1-2:11

- A. Greeting -- 1:1-2
- B. The comfort of God – 1:3-11
 - 1. Comforted to comfort – vv. 3-4
 - 2. Pressed down unto despair – vv. 5-11
- C. The apostles' boasting–1:12-14
- D. Concerning the apostle's coming – 1:15-2:11
 - 1. Being one with Christ – 1:15-22
 - 2. The reasons for the delay – 1:23-2:11
 - a. To spare the Corinthians – 1:23-24
 - b. Not to come in sorrow – 2:1-11

II. The ministry of the new covenant – 2:12-3:11

- A. Its triumph and effect – 2:12-17
- B. Its function and competency – 3:1-6
- C. Its glory and superiority – 3:7-11

April 7, 2019

III. The ministers of the new covenant – 3:12-7:16

- A. Constituted by and with the Lord as the life-giving and transforming Spirit – 3:12 - 18
- B. Conducting themselves for the shining of the gospel of Christ – 4:1-6
- C. Living a crucified life for the manifestation of the resurrection life by the power of the treasure in the earthen vessels – 4:7-18
- D. Longing to be clothed upon with the transfigured body – 5:1-8
- E. Making it their aim to please the Lord by living to Him – 5:9-15
- F. Commissioned with the ministry of reconciliation for the Lord's new creation – 5:16-21
- G. Working together with God by an all-fitting life – 6:1-7:16
 - 1. The work of the reconciling ministry – 6:1-2
 - 2. The adequate life of the reconciling ministry – 6:3-13
 - 3. A frank exhortation of the reconciling ministry – 6:14-7:1
 - 4. The intimate concern of the apostles' ministering life – 7:2-16

April 8, 2019

IV. The apostles' fellowship concerning the ministry to the needy saints – 8:1-9:15

- A. The grace from four parties – 8:1-15
- B. Exercising foresight for what is honorable – 8:16-24
- C. Giving as a blessing, not as covetousness – 9:1-5
- D. Sowing for reaping the fruits of righteousness – 9:6-15

April 9, 2019

V. Paul's vindication of his apostolic authority – 10:1-13:10

- A. By the way of his warring – 10:1-6
- B. By the measures of God's rule – 10:7-18
- C. By his jealousy for Christ – 11:1-15
- D. By his compelled boasting – 11:16-12:18
 - 1. Of his status, labor, and afflictions – 11:16-33
 - 2. Of the Lord's vision and revelation to him – 12:1-10
 - 3. Of the signs of his apostleship – 12:11-18
- E. By the authority given to him – 12:19-13:10

April 10, 2019

VI. Conclusion – 13:11-14

- A. Final exhortations – vv. 11-12
- B. Greetings – v. 13
- C. Blessing – v. 14