

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."

The Church of the Saints in Regina
<http://thechurchinregina.org>

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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

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

HWMR - THE EXPERIENCE OF CHRIST, Week 1

The Intrinsic Significance of the Experience of Christ

Scripture Reading: Phil. 1:3-6, 19-21a, 27; 2:2, 20-21, 30; 3:1; 4:1, 4

The **experience** of Christ is primarily in our **spirit**, but the **enjoyment** of Christ is in our **soul**. Like children who are made to eat without enjoying their food, many times we experience Christ without enjoying Him. The reason that many lose the enjoyment of Christ is the **problem** they have in the soul; if you do not have much enjoyment of Christ, it indicates that you are **not one in soul**, joined in soul... Strictly speaking, Philippians is a book not only on the experience of Christ but also on the enjoyment of Christ

We need to have the **experience** of Christ in our **daily living**, otherwise our **church life** will be **empty**. It is possible for us to have some **knowledge** of the truth, some wonderful and biblical **practices** in our daily life and church life, and we may even be **zealous** for the gospel and the increase of the church, but we may be **fundamentally empty if we are Christ-less in our experience**. The experiences of Christ occur in the divine and mystical realm, and they are mysterious, because God, Christ, and the church are all mysterious; we believers in Christ are a bunch of mysterious people.

To **magnify Christ** is to express Christ without limitation; it is to show the whole universe that the very Christ by whom we live is unlimited. Phil.1:20-21 says, "According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain..." [Hence], Philippians **unveils** that the experience of Christ is our fellowship unto the furtherance of the gospel until the Lord Jesus comes back.

We have seen that our experience of Christ is something very mysterious yet very necessary, for the **church life** is the **sum total** of our **Christian living**. We may say we are in the church life and we enjoy the church life, but **how much do we experience Christ** not only in the **meetings** but also at **home**, by **ourselves**, at **work**, and with our **family**? We need to have a renewed vision of the church life, realizing that it is **not** the Christian practices or the church practices that make up the church life **but** it is our experience of Christ. In other words, when I live Christ and you live Christ, when I live Christ both at home and in the meeting, both in my bedroom and in the meeting hall, both in front of people and when people can't see me, **that living and experience of Christ is part of the church life**.

And speaking of the fellowship unto the **furtherance of the gospel**, some Christians may want to attract the millennials, those in Gen Z, and they may use "new ways" to attract them and keep them, using the technology to do this and that...is this the real church life?

This is not the way of the Lord's recovery; **in the church life in the Lord's recovery for us to live is Christ, and Christ is our life**. We may think that this is "spiritual talk" and we have no regard for the practical side, but according to the Bible – the word of God – and the ministry we have received, we need to know how to conduct ourselves in the house of God, the church of the living God. How do we conduct ourselves as believers? **We need to live as God does, we need to experience Christ and live Christ, so that the church may become the great mystery of godliness – God manifested in the flesh.**

Conclusion:

The Christ whom we experience as **endurance** cannot be exhausted. If we live by Him, He will be **magnified**; that is, He will show forth His exhaustlessness. Christ is unlimited, but we are limited. If we love others with our own love, we will discover that eventually our love will be exhausted...**The more fellowship we have in the furtherance of the gospel, the more Christ we experience and enjoy; this kills our self, ambition, preference, and choice.**

From the time that we are saved until the time the Lord Jesus comes back, our **Christian life** should be a **gospel-preaching life**: Paul charges us to conduct ourselves "in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ," which is to "stand firm in one spirit, with one soul striving together along with the faith of the gospel". To **experience** Christ with **enjoyment**, **we need to be in one spirit with one soul**; in order to enjoy Christ, we need to have a **proper soul**, a "co-soul" that is one with the souls of other saints. (The Ministry of the Word, Vol 23, No 8: The Experience of Christ)

Prayer Burden

1. Praise You Lord for Your **unlimitedness**. You are **mysterious** and our **Christian living** is also **mysterious**. We want to **express** You without limitation. Cause us to **magnify** You in all aspects of **our living, experiencing** You as the **unlimited** One.

2. **Magnify** Yourself **through us**. We don't need to be afraid of our **sufferings**; instead we simply **love** You and we want to **experience** more of Your **unlimitedness**. **Grant us** this vision that our **living** as the church be a complete mystery and would **govern** and **control** our lives.

3. Lord, we **put ourselves aside**. We are here to live a **gospel-preaching** life **in fellowship**. Our life is **not an individualistic** life **but a corporate** life. **Make us willing to be nothing** that we can experience You in our gospel preaching.

4. Lord, **make us stand firm in** one spirit, **with** one soul. We cannot do this on our own. We need the Spirit of Jesus. We don't want to simply preach the gospel. We want our **gospel-preaching life** to be a **feasting** life of **enjoying** Christ. We enjoy You by being **in one spirit** and **with one soul**.

5. Lord, we **experience** You in our spirit and **enjoy** You **in** our soul. We're **not** here merely to **carry out our duties**. We are here to **enjoy You**. **Save us** from our mind, emotion and will. **Make us one in soul**. **Grant us a genuine enjoyment** of You.

6. **Cause us to think** the **one thing**. Lord we want to **gain** more **subjective** knowledge of You. This is **not only** for ourselves **but** for the **Body life**. **Save us** from **murmuring, reasoning, and complaining**. Even make our **love** toward one another **an issue** of our **enjoyment** of You.

7. Please pray for:

- ISRAEL

- The **translation** and production of the hymns in Arabic language

- EUROPE

- The recent Autumn **University Conference** in **UK**, for the senior high, university, and young working saints - may they all will learn together how to advance in their **experience** and **enjoyment** of Christ
- **Jette** (Brussels), Belgium Conference on December 6 - 8, 2019

- USA

- The **volunteers** at the **distribution centre** to be strengthened, energized, and filled with joy as they prepare **Bibles** to be sent to God's seekers.

- Pray for the sick brothers and sisters

- Brother Joe lim - Taguig, Philippines
- Sister Gloria - Saskatoon, SK
- Brother Mark Haberl - Winnipeg, MB
- Sister Ellen Julba - Vancouver, BC

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

- To **think** the **same** thing, & the **same one thing**
- The **Campus Work** at the University of Regina
- The children, YP and College work
- The **readings** of the **Life-Study** messages, & the daily personal **pursuing** of the truth
- Practice the **one accord** and the practical living of the one **new man**

LIFE-STUDY OF 1 PETER

"One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy"

November 18, 2019, Monday: (Msg. 16) **Growth in Life and Its Results (2)**

According to Peter's word in 2:2, by the pure milk of the word we may grow unto salvation. The Greek word rendered "unto" also means resulting in. **To grow in life results in salvation**. We need to **grow** by **feeding on Christ** as the nourishing milk in the word of God unto full salvation. Peter charges us to **long for the guileless milk of the word that by it we may grow unto transformation**. We do not grow unto outward correction or outward adjustment or outward improvement. On the contrary, we grow unto inward transformation by life and in life. Then according to **verse 4**, we need to **come to Christ as the living stone**. But what is the way to come to Him? We come to the Lord **by drinking the milk of the word**. What is the milk in the word? That milk is the Lord Himself. Therefore, when we drink the milk, we come to the Lord. First, **the Lord is milk to nourish us**. Through the **nourishment** in the milk of the word, **transformation** takes place. Then we have the **building**, where the Lord Himself is the stone. This is the reason that in chapter two we first have the milk and then the stone. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 16)

November 19, Tuesday: (Message 17) **Growth in Life and Its Results (3)**

The very Christ chosen by God as a stone, even a cornerstone held in honor, is the **preciousness** to **His believers**. But to the **unbelieving**, He is a rejected, despised stone. Christ's preciousness is not only a matter of **condition**, but also a matter of His **position**. For Him to be **precious** means that He is held in **honor**, that He occupies an honorable position. Christ is not only a rejected stone and a stone held in honor; He is also a stumbling stone and a rock of offense. As the stone, Christ functions in both a positive way and a negative way. For us, He is the cornerstone positively, but for the unbelieving Jews, He is a stumbling stone and a rock of offense. Those who stumble at the word have been appointed by God to disobedience. Disobedience is their portion. If someone does not believe what the Bible says concerning Christ, he stumbles at Him. Spontaneously the result of that unbelief and stumbling will be rebellion. Hence, disobedience becomes the appointed portion of that one. Actually, this is logical. Anyone who does not believe in the word will stumble at it and then reap the fruit, the harvest, of what he has sown. **He sows unbelief, and he reaps disobedience as the result appointed to him**. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 17)

November 20, 2019, Wed.: (Msg. 18) **Growth in Life and Its Results (4)**

In verse 5 Peter indicates that the **believers** are **living stones**. We, the believers in Christ, are living stones, like Christ, through regeneration and transformation. At regeneration we received the seed of the divine life, which by its growth in us transforms us into living stones. If we would be transformed, every day we need to come to the Lord as milk. We have pointed out that the way to come to Christ as the living stone is to drink the guileless milk of the word. This means that **we come to Christ by drinking Him**. As we daily drink in the milk of the word, we shall be **transformed**. As living stones we are being **built up** a spiritual house. The spiritual house into which we are being built is God's building. In the New Jerusalem there will not be any clay, for all the clay will have been transformed into precious stone. This means that the New Jerusalem is built with precious stones. We are becoming the precious stones that will be built up into the New Jerusalem. Hallelujah, the building work is now going on! (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 18)

November 21, 2019, Thursday: (Message 19) **Christian Life and Its Sufferings (1)**

In verses 19 and 20 Peter says, "For this is grace, if anyone because of conscience toward God bears sorrows, suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if sinning and being buffeted you shall endure it? But if doing good and suffering you shall endure, this is grace with God." Here Peter is saying that if, due to our conscience toward God, we are **willing to bear sorrows** and **suffer unjustly**, that is, **suffer unjust treatment**, this is grace. The Greek word rendered "grace" in verse 19 is charis, referring here to **the motivation of the divine life within us and its expression in our life**, becoming in our behavior gracious and acceptable in the eyes of both man and God. As we have pointed out a number of times, **grace is actually the Triune God becoming our life for our experience and enjoyment**. These verses speak about **our behavior in our daily life as Christians**. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 19)

November 22, 2019, Friday: (Message 20) **Christian Life and Its Sufferings (2)**

Grace is the **motivation** of the divine life which we received at our regeneration inwardly and the **expression** of this life outwardly. Then this motivation and expression become gracious, acceptable, in our behavior. When others observe this, they may say that this is **grace in our manner of life**. Day by day we should give others the impression that grace is with us. This means that they should be able to see grace in our daily life. In 2:21-25 there are five important words: **grace, model, Savior, Shepherd, and Overseer**. Christ is this grace, and Christ is also the model. Furthermore, as we shall see, Christ is our Savior, our Shepherd, and our Overseer. **Christ is the grace expressed in our daily life**. Christ is the writing-copy, the original used for spiritual xeroxing. It is rather easy for us to understand that Christ is our Savior, Shepherd, and Overseer. To understand Christ as **grace** and the writing-copy, we need **experience**. From experience we know that as we are living out Christ day by day, we are under the **process** of spiritual xeroxing. As a result, others will be able to read Christ on us, for we shall become a letter of Christ. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. The **Brother's Meeting** on November 24, 2019, is at Brother Dario's house at 6 :00 PM.
2. Our **Children's Fun Day** is on December 17, 2019