

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 4

Abiding in Christ as the Empowering One— the Secret of Experiencing Christ

Scripture Reading: Phil. 4:12-13; John 14:23; 15:4-5; 1 John 2:27-28; 3:24; 4:13; Rev. 21:3, 22

When we were **regenerated**, when Christ **as** life and **as** Spirit **came into our spirit**, God **put us into Christ**. It is of God that we are in Christ Jesus (1 Cor. 1:30); **positionally**, we are in Christ Jesus, but we need to also be in Him **experientially** as seen in Phil. 4:13. We need to learn the secret of being in Christ as the empowering One; for this, **we need to abide in Him**. To abide in the Lord is to remain in the Lord, dwell in Him, and take Him as our everything.

Even though we are in Christ, most of us don't know how to apply this fact to our experience. Being in Christ is like being in a car when going to the meeting; we simply sit in the car and let someone else drive. When we're being driven to the meeting, it would be terrible to try to get out of the car or to give our opinion which way to go – as if we know better than the driver. On the day we were saved, **God put us in Christ**, into the "best heavenly car in the universe"; **we were put in Christ, and we need to daily exercise to be in Christ in a practical way**.

The **Christ who lives in us empowers** us for us to live a life of the highest human virtues; in this Christ who empowers us, **we can be true, dignified, righteous, pure, lovely, and well-spoken of**. **Living such a life of the highest human virtues is not easy**; it is more difficult to live such a life than to do a Christian work. It is easier to preach the gospel, teach the Bible, and even establish churches, than to live a life of the highest human virtues, a life of being able to do all things in Christ who empowers us. In order for us to live Christ as our human virtues for the expression of the divine attributes, **we need to be empowered by the indwelling Christ**. The **teaching of the anointing of the Spirit** has nothing to do with right or wrong; rather, it is an inner sense of life. Whether or not we can enjoy the fellowship of the Body and have the anointing of the Spirit depends on whether or not we have dealt with our natural life. **If we still think by ourselves, propose things to the Lord and to the saints, and live in our natural man, we cannot enjoy the anointing of the Spirit**.

A wonderful and **practical way** for us **to abide Christ so that He may abide in us** is by dealing with the **constant word** of the Scriptures – which is **outside of us** – and the **present word** as the Spirit – which is **within us**. We can receive life in our reading of God's word only if we come to the Lord and touch Him. **It is the Spirit who gives life**; the words which the Lord speaks to us are spirit and are life. When we come to God's word in the Bible we have the explanation, definition, and expression of the mysterious Lord; when we inwardly contact the Lord and have His present speaking, we have the experience of abiding Christ and the presence of the practical Lord.

The **written word of God** is the "**logos**"; the **present, instant, spoken word as the Spirit** is the "**rhema**". We need to learn to convert the logos into rhema so that we may have not only mental knowledge of God's word but receive the instant speaking of the Lord within us. **When we pray-read the word, we receive the instant speaking of the Lord in His word, and His word abides in us; when His word abides in us, we abide in the Lord and He in us**.

In 2 Cor. 2:17 Paul says that **we speak in Christ** before God, and in 13:3 he says that **Christ speaks in us**. **Whenever we speak, we need to pray that our speaking would be in Christ and that Christ would speak in us; this is genuine prophesying (1 Cor. 14:4), and this builds up the church**. We need to prophesy by speaking in the Lord and by allowing Him to speak in us.

Lord Jesus, we want to abide in You by abiding in Your word; may Your word be not only black on white letters but living, instant, spoken, to impart life to us. Amen, Lord, may we pray over Your word so that we may have Your speaking, Your instant and present word imparting life to us! Amen!
 (Excerpt from "The Ministry of the Word, Vol 23, No 8: The Experience of Christ", pp. 77-106)

Prayer Burden

1. Lord, we want to **learn** the **secret of living** in You in any environment. You **empower us** as long as **You are in us and we are in You**. We **deny** the flesh and have **no confidence** in anything other than You.

2. **Apart from You, we can do nothing**. Lord, **live** in us, be **formed** in us, **make Your home** in us and be **magnified** in us so You can continue to **empower us**. Only by empowering us can **we live** a life full of **Your virtues**.

3. Lord, we **take You** as our **dwelling place** for our daily life. We **abide in You** and **You in us**. Thank You **becoming** the **Spirit** that **enables us to live in You and with You**.

4. You are **our dwelling place**. We **live in You** and have **our living** in You. Cause us to **eat the hidden manna** so we can be more **incorporated** with You. **Keep us loving** You and **enjoying** You in Your **presence**.

5. Lord, we allow the **cross** to **deal with us** in a thorough way. You are the **Lord**, the **Head** of the body. By **taking You** as the Head, we **receive** the **inner anointing** and the **fellowship** of the Body.

6. Thank You for the **life-giving, bountiful Spirit in our spirit**. We can practice **abiding in Your constant and written word** so **Your instant and living word** would **abide in us**. Cause us to unceasingly **pray** and in everything **give thanks**.

7. Please pray for:

- EUROPE

- European **Winter School of the Truth** in the **UK**, the **Netherlands**, and **Spain** (26-31 December) We pray that the Lord will gain this generation of young people for His testimony
- The growth, building up, and blending of the saints and the strengthening of the Lord's testimony in **Hamburg**, **Bielefeld**, **Zurich** (Switzerland), and **Vienna** (Austria)
- The growth, building up, and blending of the saints and the strengthening of the Lord's testimony in **Darmstadt** and **Heidelberg**.

- ITALY

- Pray for the Property for the church in Milan and the literature center in Italy. A total of 741,600 Euros must be paid by January 13, 2020.

- 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 **seek** the Lord and **live** a crucified life
- Taking Christ as our pattern that we may become the **reproduction** of Christ
- 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
- For the purchase of a lot **property** for the church

LIFE-STUDY OF 1 PETER

"One Life-Study a Day Makes One Holy"

December 09, 2019, Monday: (Msg. 31) God's Governmental Judgement (2)

We need to be deeply impressed from 4:17 that **judgment begins from the household of God**. This is God's governmental administration **carried out** by His disciplinary judgment over His own children. The **purpose** of this **disciplinary judgment** that begins at God's house is **that God may have a strong ground to judge**, in His universal kingdom, **all those who are disobedient to His gospel and rebellious against His government**. The **result** of this judgment will be the **establishment of God's kingdom**. First Peter is a book on the Christian life under the government of God... the **Christian life** and the **government of God** go together. The Triune God has passed through a long process and has become the life-giving Spirit to indwell us. This is for our Christian life. At the same time, the Triune God is still the **Creator** of the universe and its ruler. On the one hand, we have been **reborn to have a spiritual life, the divine life**. On the other hand, we are still in the old creation. For this reason, we need God's governmental dealings. **In order for the Christian life to grow, we need the discipline of God's government**. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 31)

December 10, Tuesday: (Message 32) The Elder's shepherding and Its Reward

In 5:2 Peter says, "*Shepherd the flock of God among you, overseeing not by way of compulsion, but willingly, according to God; not seeking gain by base means, but eagerly.*" According to this verse, **elders** are not rulers; they are **shepherds**. Sometimes a shepherd may have to rule the flock, but that is not the ruling of a king. It is a **ruling of someone who cares** for the flock. **Shepherding** is a **proper care** exercised over the flock. The flock needs to be cared for, protected, and led in the right direction. They need to be brought to a place where they can eat and drink. This is shepherding. Furthermore, the word "**overseeing**" in verse 2 means taking the **oversight, looking** diligently to **be aware** of the situation. By the context we can see that to oversee does not mean to rule; it does not mean to be a king... There is no need to compel someone, to force him, to be a ruler. The words "*not by way of compulsion*" indicate that **to oversee is to care for the church, not to rule over it**. The elders should become patterns of the flock. This means that they take the lead to serve and care for the church so that the believers may follow. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 32)

December 11, 2019, Wed.: (Message 33) The Mighty Hand of God and its Goal (1)

In 5:5 Peter says that **all of us should gird ourselves with humility toward one another**. Everyone in the church, including the elders, should gird himself with humility. In 1:13 Peter charges us to gird up the loins of our mind, but here he indicates that **our entire being needs to be girded**. **We should not be loose in any way**. If we are loose, we may automatically become proud. **We need to gird ourselves with humility**. If we are girded with humility, we shall become humble, careful persons. We shall not be loose or careless... Peter says that **God not only resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble**. Strictly speaking, this grace refers to the Triune God Himself as the life supply being multiplied in the humble believer. If we would humble ourselves in the church life, we need to become **lowly**. Instead of uplifting ourselves, we should always **keep ourselves low**. Then we shall be in a position to receive the Triune God as our life supply. **We shall receive the grace God gives to humble believers**. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 33)

December 12, 2019, Thursday: (Message 34) The Mighty Hand of God and its Goal (1)

We need to do **three things** that are related to our experience of the mighty hand of God. **First**, we should **humble ourselves** under God's mighty hand. **Second**, we should **cast all our anxiety** on Him. **Third**, we need to **be sober and watch**. Everything that happens to us is under God's mighty hand. There is **no need for us to worry or be anxious**. We should simply **humble ourselves** under God's mighty hand and not resist it. Then we should **cast all the troubles** that cause our anxiety upon the Lord. Along with this, we need to **be sober and watchful**. If we **cast all our anxiety** on God, we shall have a **sober mind**, and we shall be **clear** about our situation. This book was written mainly to show the persecuted believers God's governmental **purpose in their sufferings**. That they may pass through those sufferings, God will **supply them** with all the **multiplied, varied, and true grace**, which is sufficient to enable them to participate in the sufferings of Christ and for Christ, and will **perfect, establish, strengthen, and ground** them in the Triune God and **bring** them into His **eternal glory**. (Life-Study of 1 Peter, chapter 34)

ANNOUNCEMENTS and SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

1. Our Love Feast and Children's Fun Day is on December 15, 2019.
2. The Brother's Meeting is 6 PM at brother Hendrick's place on December 15, 2019.
3. Our Church Pursuit and Combined Prayer Meeting will be on December 31, 2019.