

# CHURCH IN REGINA

2 Cor 4: 7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels that the excellency of the power may be of God and not out of us.

## HWMR Week 6—The Factor of Dealing with Our Natural Disposition For Our Growth in Life and Our Usefulness in Service

### The Church and the Work of God

If we truly know the meaning of God's work, we will have to acknowledge that **the outer man is indeed a great hindrance**. We can say that God is restricted by man today. God's children must understand the function of the church and its relationship with God's power and His work.

### God's Manifestation or God's Limitation

There was a time when God confined Himself within the body of a man—Jesus of Nazareth. With that flesh there was **the possibility of either limiting God or manifesting God's riches**. Before incarnation God's riches were not limited. But after incarnation God's work and power were limited to this flesh. God would not do anything apart from that flesh. God was willing to be limited by that flesh. Of course, the Bible shows us that God was not limited in any way by that flesh. It could have limited God, but it did not; rather, it manifested God's riches in a full way. God's riches became the riches of that flesh.

God put Himself into flesh at the time of incarnation. **Today God has put Himself into the church**. His power and work are found in the church. At the time of the four Gospels, God did not do anything apart from that flesh. All of His works were committed to the Son. In the same way **God has entrusted all of His works to the church**. He does not do anything apart from the church. God does not work independently; **He works exclusively through the church**. From Pentecost until today, God's work has always been carried out through the church. Just as He committed Himself wholly, unequivocally, and unreservedly to one person—Christ, He has given Himself wholly, unequivocally, and unreservedly to the church. How great the church's responsibility before God is! The church can limit God's work; it can limit God's release.

Jesus of Nazareth was God. God was manifested in Him. He did not limit God because **everything within and without Him was taken up by God**. His emotions were God's emotions. His thoughts were God's thoughts. While He was on earth He did not come to do His own will but the will of the One who sent Him (John 6:38). The Son did nothing from Himself; He only did what He saw the Father doing (5:19). He did not say anything from Himself. What He heard from the Father, these things He spoke to the world (8:26). In Him we see a man in whom God entrusted Himself. God could say that this was the Word becoming flesh, God becoming man in a full way. When God wanted to dispense His life to men, this One could readily respond, "If [the grain of wheat] dies, it bears much fruit" (12:24). He was able to release His life. He did not become a hindrance or a frustration. **Today God has chosen the church to be His vessel**. He has put Himself, His power, and His work into the church. **His desire is to release Himself through the church**. The church is the oracle of God, the vessel through which God manifests His power and accomplishes His work. If the church affords God a way today, God's power and work will be expressed. If the church fails, God will be limited.

### Church Meetings:

#### Lord's Table Meeting

Lord's Day  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

#### Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays  
7:00 - 8:00 PM

#### College Meeting

Fridays  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

#### Small Group Meeting

Fridays  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

#### Young Peoples' Meeting

Saturdays  
7:00 - 8:30 PM

### Conferences & Trainings:

#### October International

#### Training for Elders &

#### Responsible Ones

October 8-10, 2021

#### International Thanksgiving

#### Weekend Conference

November 25-28, 2021

#### Winter Training

December 20-25, 2021

### Contact Information:

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## NEW LANGUAGE

Grow in life;  
Be useful in  
service.

The fundamental teaching of the Gospels is that God was in a man, while the fundamental teaching of the Epistles is that God is in the church. The Gospels tell us that God was only in one man. He was only in Jesus Christ. The Epistles show us that God is only in the church. He is not in any organization or congregation. He is only found in the church. May our eyes be opened to see this glorious fact.

Once our eyes are opened to this glorious fact, we will spontaneously lift our gaze heavenward and say, "My God, how I have restricted You!" When the Almighty God dwelt in Christ, He was still the Almighty One; He was not limited or diminished in any way. **God's hope and goal today is that in the church He would continue to be the Almighty One, the infinite One.** God wants to freely express Himself in the church just as He was expressed in Christ. **If the church is restricted, God is restricted. If the church is powerless, God is powerless.** This is a very serious matter. We can only speak such a word humbly and respectfully. Simply put, **any obstacle in us becomes an obstacle to God.** Any limitation in us becomes a limitation to God. If God is not released through the church, He does not have a way to go on. God's way today is through the church.

Why is the discipline of the Holy Spirit so important? Why is the dividing of the soul from the spirit so important? Why must the outer man be broken by the disciplining work of the Holy Spirit? It is because **God needs to have a way through us.** We should never think that this is merely about personal, spiritual edification. It is not merely a matter of personal, spiritual experiences. It is very much related to God's way and work. This is a big issue. **Should we limit God? Does God have the liberty in us? Only as we are dealt with and broken will God find full freedom in us.**

If the church is to afford God a free way, we must undergo His stripping and allow Him to break our outer man. The greatest hindrance to this is our outer man. **If the matter of the outer man is not settled, the issue of the church as God's channel can never be settled.** If our outer man is broken by God's grace, there is no limit to how God will employ us as channels to His work...

During these years God has been taking the way of recovery. God does not want to see a saved person wait for many years before he deals with his sins. He does not want to see him wait for many years before he consecrates himself to the Lord or answers the Lord's call to follow Him. The Lord is taking the way of recovery. The gospel has to be recovered, and the fruit of the gospel has to be recovered as well. As soon as a man is saved, he should be delivered from sin and should consecrate himself absolutely to the Lord. As soon as he is saved, he should break the power of mammon in him. He should be like the ones who were saved by the Lord in the Gospels and in Acts. If the gospel is indeed to be recovered, the preachers of the gospel must allow the Lord to cut a free way through them...

The Lord Jesus was never a limitation to God. He never limited God in any way. Throughout the past two thousand years God has been working in the church. **The goal is for the church to eventually not be a limitation to Him either.** Just as Christ was God's manifestation rather than His limitation, the church should be His manifestation rather than His limitation. **God has been teaching, buffeting, stripping, and smiting His children continually. This is how He deals with the church.** He will continue this work in the church until the church no longer is a limitation to Him but a manifestation of Him instead. Today we can only bow down our heads and say, "Lord! We are ashamed that we have delayed Your work. We have frustrated Your life, Your gospel, and Your power." **Each one of us has to say to the Lord, "I give my all to You. I pray that You will have a way through me." If we want to see an absolute recovery of the gospel, we have to have an absolute consecration.** It is foolish to only lament the fact that our gospel is not as powerful as that of the early church. We have to acknowledge that our consecration is not as absolute as the consecration of the early church. In order to recover the gospel, we have to recover the consecration; both have to be absolute and thorough. May the Lord find a way through us. (*Excerpts from The Breaking of the Outer Man and the Release of the Spirit, ch.5*).

### Announcements:

1. Brothers' Pursuit Meeting at 6pm at Bro. Joseph Miranda's place on August 29.
2. Northern California Labor Day Conference via Zoom. Our LTM will be moved to 9:30am.  
September 3 (Msg 1 at 7:30pm)  
September 5 (Msg 2 at 10:30am)
3. 2021 Calgary YP Fall Conference online on September 17-19.

**Prayer Burdens:**

1. Lord, deal with our natural disposition and our character. We want to be useful in Your service and to the church. Have mercy on us that we would see how much of a frustration our natural disposition is and how gladly we would deny ourselves to grow in life.
2. Lord, we want to live a crucified life – a life where it is no longer us but You. Take care of our “burl”, our disposition so we can grow quickly, and You can have a freeway in us.
3. Lord, make us useful for Your economy. Give us a heart to love You, a vision of who You are, a vision of who we are and the self, and a proper character. Overthrow our self-confidence so we can be more effective in Your work.
4. Save us from our “hero” and “non-hero” mentality. We want to rid any hindrances in our disposition so our spirit would be released. We give ourselves to You and allow You to freely break our outer man.
5. Break through our conspicuous, obtuse, and hard spots. Be gracious to us and show us that everything is Your arrangement to deal with our natural disposition. Grant us much light to expose us and humble us.
6. We want to be filled with Your element. Thank You for the process of transformation – transforming us to be conformed into Your image to express You and exercise Your dominion. Bring us fully to maturity, overflowing Your life to others.

**Other Burdens:**

1. Pray for the Church in Airdrie and for the migration of saints in this city to strengthen the Lord’s testimony.
2. Pray for the Church in Edmonton and their need for a new meeting hall.

**Church in Regina:**

1. Pray for the household salvation of Aparato Family, Lamadrid Family and Chua Family.
2. Pray for our college students for this upcoming Fall Term. May they be channels of life and seeds of the gospel in their campuses—Brothers Vincent, Eric, Christian, Guytan and Sisters Priscilla, Gillian and Mika.
3. Pray for Aitong Liu’s immigration application. Select them in Your time that they may also come here, be saved, see the church and be Your testimony.
4. Pray for Sis. Estela Miranda’s recovery from shoulder rotator cuff surgery. Grant her a full recovery as soon as possible.
5. Pray for Bro. Dindo Ballao’s health and continuing recovery. Preserve the whole family as they settle here in Regina for Your testimony.
6. Pray for Bro. George Chua’s recovery from bypass surgery. Remember him, Lord. May his sickness be Your way to reveal Yourself to him. Grant him repentance and full recovery. Strengthen Sister Venus and their whole family during this time.