September 18, 2022 Volume X Issue No. 38

CHURCH IN REGINA

JOHN 15:4-5 ABIDE IN ME AND I IN YOU...FOR APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.

Taking the Way of Enjoying Christ as the Tree of Life—Week 4

NEW LANGUAGE Christ is the Son of Man.

Church Meetings:

Lord's Table Lord's Day, 10:00 - 12:00 PM

Prayer Meeting Tuesday, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

YP & College Meeting Friday, 6:45 - 8:30 PM

Children's Meeting Saturday, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

Small Group Meeting Friday, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Conferences & Trainings:

Chinese-Speaking Conference February 18-20, 2022

April ITERO April 1-3, 2022

Memorial Day Conference May 27-30, 2022

July Semiannual TrainingJuly 4-9 2022

October ITERO October 6-8, 2022

Thanksgiving Conference November 24-27, 2022

Dec. Semiannual Training December 26-31, 2022

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Abiding, Dwelling and Making Home in Christ

To abide in Christ is not only to remain in Him but also to dwell in Him. To dwell in Him means to make our home in Him. Most English readers understand the word abide to mean simply to remain. But the Greek word for abide means "to make home." In John 14:23 the same Greek root is used in the nominative form. Used as a noun, this word means "an abode, a dwelling place, a home." Therefore, the Greek word for abide does not mean simply to remain but also to dwell, to make home.

To abide in Christ is not only to remain in Him but to be fully settled in Him. Sometimes when I visit the churches, I stay in the church guesthouse. Although I may stay there for a time, I do not make my home there. I stay there with the expectation that I will leave after a few days. Our abiding in Christ should not be like this but rather like our dwelling in our own home. If you abide in a certain place for a few days and then leave, that is not a home to you but a hotel or a motel. Unfortunately, many Christians abide in Christ as a motel, just for a temporary stay. But we need to get ourselves settled in Christ, to make Christ our home. We need to dwell in Him. In John 14:23 the Lord Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make an abode with him." This verse says that both the Father and the Son will come to us and make an abode with us. For the Father and the Son to make an abode with us means that the Triune God settles in us, making us His abode, that we would make Him our abode. The abode in John 14:23 and in 1 John 2:6; 3:24; and 4:15-16 is a mutual abode. God takes us as His abode, and we take Him as our abode. Our real and permanent home is our God. Christ is our home and our dwelling place.

Growing in Christ

Finally, to abide in Christ is to grow in Christ. If you take Christ as your home, He will eventually become the soil to you. Look at the branches abiding in the vine. The vine is a home to the branches, and at the same time the vine is the soil to the branches. While the branches are abiding in the vine, they are also rooting into the soil (Col. 2:7). Therefore, they all are growing (1 Cor. 3:6; Eph. 4:15). The vine and the branches in John 15 are not an illustration of a dead, lifeless home. The abode in John 15 is an organic home because all the dwellers are fruit-bearing branches (v. 5). That the branches bear fruit indicates that they are growing. While we are abiding in Christ, we are growing. This is the way to experience Christ, to enjoy Him, and to grow in Him and with Him. While we are growing in Him and He is growing in us, there is a kind of mutual growing (Rom. 6:5). This is the enjoyment of Christ, and this is the real experience of Christ.

(Excerpts from The Secret of Experiencing Christ, CWWL, 1980, vol.2)

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Prayer Burdens:

1) Lord, make us one with You. Cause us to fear You, take refuge in You, trust in you, wait on you, hope in You, praise You, thank You, and worship You.

- 2) Thank You, Lord that we are joined and growing together organically. Continue to dispense Yourself to us. Infuse us to such an extent that Your richer life will swallow up all the defects and transform our poor life.
- 3) Thank You, Lord, for passing through all the processes of incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection to become the life-giving Spirit. May our living be a living of the grafted life, a life that is no longer by ourselves but a life and living by the mingled spirit.
- 4) Lord, we open to You. Strengthen, uplift, and enrich us by Your divine life until all the negative elements in us are discharged. Praise You, Lord for supplying us with Your riches and saturating our whole being.
- 5) Lord, we abide in You. Thank You, Lord for also abiding in us. Increase our appetite to eat You more and more as the tree of life. Make us those who also live as part of the tree of life.
- 6) Lord, we take You as our dwelling place and as our everything. Make us part of the tree of life fully that we will care not for good and evil, but for life. Grant us a keen discernment to sense life and death.

Europe/North America/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for the gospel trips in Germany and Switzerland on October 10 to 23. Please pray that the Lord will gain many young Germans and Swiss as remaining fruit, and for the spread of the Lord's testimony in all the cities through the gospel trips.

Church in Regina:

- 1. Pray for a regular bible distribution and the continual preaching of the gospel.
- 2. Lord, we pray for our individual pursuit of the Bible and the Life-study messages.

- 3. Lord, we pray for each family in Regina. Strengthen each one to go on in the church life.
- 4. Raise up new ones and bring more families to Regina through our continual preaching of the gospel or through immigration.
- 5. Pray for the new school year. Preserve our next generation from the evil and perverted age.
- 6. Pray for the 24 souls who attended our welcome dinner at the University of Regina. Pray that they

A Timely Speaking

THE SECRET OF BUILDING

The building is something that is critical to the accomplishment of God's eternal economy.

To be built up with the fellow believers is the Lord's supreme and highest requirement to His faithful seekers according to one of the divine attributes of the Divine Trinity (John 17). Our oneness, to which we testify in the Lord's table meeting, is according to the divine oneness, which is an attribute of the Divine Trinity...

The work of the divine building is the believers' growth in the divine life and their being joined together in the divine life (Eph. 4:15-16; 2:21). We need to grow up together and be joined together in the divine life. This growing and joining together is the building. The actual building is our growth and our union in the divine life. When we grow in the divine life and when we are joined together in the divine life, we are in the building.

~Excerpts from The Secret of God's Organic Salvation— "the Spirit Himself with Our Spirit", ch. 4

Announcements:

- 1. All Canada Churches Special Fellowship on September 18 at 11:00am via Zoom (Note: Lord's Table Meeting will be at 9:30am to accommodate this special fellowship)
- 2. **Brothers' Meeting** on September 25 at 6:00pm via Zoom.