

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS A GREAT LIGHT SPRING UP TO THE PEOPLE SITTING IN DARKNESS AND THE SHADOW OF DEATH (ISA.9:2).

Loving the Lord and Loving One Another for the Organic Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ—Week 5

One Fellowship

We have seen that in washing His disciples' feet, the Lord loved them to the uttermost. The **purpose of foot-washing** was to keep the disciples in **constant fellowship with God** and **with one another**. Apart from foot-washing, there is no way for this fellowship to be maintained.

In the church life often there are problems between the brothers. None of us can say that he has never had a problem with another saint in the church. Although we may have problems with one another, we may try to act polite. **But if the problems are not dealt with, they will eventually become problems between us and God.**

Do not think that a problem you have with a brother is simply a problem between you and him. If that problem is not taken care of, it will become a problem between you and God. For example, having a problem with a brother may hinder you from praying properly. This problem between you and the brother keeps you out of God; that is, it keeps you outside the tabernacle and at the altar. By this we see that **even a small problem with a brother can keep us from entering the tabernacle**. Therefore, we need the washing in the laver.

If we do not have the washing, both our fellowship with the brothers and our fellowship with God will be broken. **We cannot maintain our fellowship with God if the fellowship with our brothers is broken.** We need to be impressed with the fact that **there are not two fellowships**. There is not one fellowship with God and a different fellowship with the brothers. No, **our fellowship with the brothers is actually part of our fellowship with God**. Therefore, we should not regard our fellowship with God as one thing and our fellowship with the brothers as another thing. This fellowship is absolutely one matter. Hence, if our fellowship with our brothers is broken, that means our fellowship with the Father is also broken. At least, one link of this fellowship is broken. In order for our fellowship with God to be broken, it is not necessary that every link be broken; it is enough that just one link is broken. By this we see that a problem with a brother or sister can cause our fellowship with God to be broken. A problem with another saint hinders us from entering the tabernacle.

Whenever our fellowship has been broken, **we need foot-washing in order to recover this fellowship**. You may not have any problem with God directly. But you may have a problem with God indirectly through the problem you have with your brother. The problem with your brother also becomes a problem between you and God. This indicates that we need foot-washing in order to maintain our fellowship with God and with one another. Day by day, we all need foot-washing...

The Sign of Brotherly Love in Foot-Washing

The Lord's washing the disciples' feet was **a matter of love to the uttermost**. After He washed their feet, He charged them to do the same to one another: "If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example so that you also may do even as I have done to you" (vv. 14-15). To wash one another's feet, therefore, is a matter of brotherly love.

The commandment to love one another is the unique commandment in the New Testament. This commandment was first given in John 13, the chapter on foot-washing: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (v. 34). The commandment to wash one another's feet is related to the commandment to love one another. Today Christians talk a great deal about brotherly love, yet not many realize that brotherly love is expressed in foot-washing. **If we do not have the reality of foot-washing, we actually do not have brotherly love.** If we love one another, we need to wash one another's feet. Without foot-washing, there is no brotherly love. The Lord Jesus loved His disciples to the uttermost, and this love is seen in His washing their feet. Now we also need to love the brothers in washing their feet. (*Excerpts from The Fulfillment of the Tabernacle and the Offerings in the Writings of John, CWWL, 1982, vol. 2.*)

Announcements:

- ◆ Brothers' Meeting—April 2 at 6pm
- ◆ Combined Prayer Meeting at Seria residence—April 4
- ◆ YP Conference at Church in Calgary Meeting Hall—April 7-9

Church Meetings:

- ◆ Lord's Table, Lord's Day, 10:00-12:00PM
- ◆ Prayer Meeting, Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00PM
- ◆ YP & College Meetings, Fridays, 6:45-8:30PM
- ◆ Children's Meeting, Saturdays, 10:00-11:00AM
- ◆ Small Group, Fridays & Saturdays, 7:00-9:00PM

Contact Us:

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Prayer Burdens:

1. Thank You, Lord for being our Pattern, for laying aside Your garments to wash our feet. We confess that we are dirty and in need of foot-washing. Wash us spiritually by the Holy Spirit, the word, and the life.
2. Lord, we want to have a pleasant fellowship with You and with all the saints. We need Your blood for our sins, and we need our feet to be washed. Deal with everything apart from sin that separates us from You.
3. Lord, You were the first one who humbled Yourself and washed our feet. Save us from our proud attitude and cause us to "lay aside our garments", humble ourselves, and also wash each others' feet.
4. Teach us to love one another by ministering spiritual foot-washing. Lead us to the green pastures where we can be new, fresh, and living. Save us from our staleness and oldness so we can have a fresh fellowship with You.
5. Lord, we need the renewing of the Spirit so that we can always be spiritually fresh and invigorated. As You have washed our feet, we also need to wash each others' feet. Make us such ones that drive others to seek after You.
6. Lord, fill us with the Spirit and cause us to be in constant fellowship with You. Keep us clean from all earthly touch. May we all exercise foot-washing to maintain an excellent fellowship and have the real church life and real brotherly love.

North America/Other Burdens

1. Pray for the release of funding needed for Phase I renovations and for the planning, design, and permits needed for the meeting hall in Stuttgart, Germany.
2. Pray for Brother Isaac and Marie Hiebert who plan to move to Foam Lake at the beginning of April. May this move be one with the Lord's move for raising up a lampstand in that town.

Church in Regina:

1. Lord, we pray for a regular station for a Bible distribution. Arrange a place for us where we can regularly set up a table, meet Your people, and preach the highest gospel.
2. Pray for the recipients of the last bible distribution at the University of Regina. May they be open to our invitation on Friday, March 31st, to meet and have a regular college meeting on campus.
3. Pray for safe and smooth delivery of Sister Evangeline. Strengthen her in her tripartite man and make both mom and David healthy. Preserve their whole family for the church life.

Nothing But Love

1. The church as the bride is a matter of love,
 God's inner substance, so sweet;
 As we enjoy God in His presence divine,
 Our first love and best love we keep.

Chorus:

Nothing but love, poured from above
 Can make us overcomers today;
 Love strong as death, 'til our last breath,
 Come quickly, Lord Jesus, we pray!

2. O come, my Belov'd, and let us go forth,
 Enjoying a fresh bridal love;
 When working together, a fragrance breaks forth,
 The fragrance of mutual love.

3. To just love the Lord is to give Him the first place,
 To live Him and treasure His heart,
 Appreciate Him, open fully to Him,
 Until we become His counterpart.

4. Lord, grant us a strong and affectionate love,
 A burning and flaming hot love;
 Our last testimony, through rapturous praise,
 Is "Loving You, Lord, was enough!"

Events, Conferences & Trainings:

Chinese-Speaking Conference

February 17-19, 2023, Anaheim, CA USA

March ITERO

March 24-26, 2023, Anaheim, CA USA

Memorial Day Conference

May 26-29, 2023, Chicago, IL USA

July Semiannual Training

July 3-8 2023, Anaheim, CA USA

October ITERO

October 5-7, 2023, TBD

Thanksgiving Conference

November 23-26, 2023, Dallas, TX USA

Dec. Semiannual Training

December 25-30, 2023, Anaheim CA USA