

Church in Regina

NEW LANGUAGE

CHRIST IS A PROPHET & SERVANT, NOT STRIVING NOR CRYING OUT,
NOT BREAKING A BRUISED REED OR QUENCHING THE SMOKING FLAX
(DEUT: 18:5 AND ISA.42:1-3).

Loving the Lord and Loving One Another for the Organic Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ—Week 6

The Effectiveness of Our Work Depending on Mutual Love and Oneness

John 13:35 says that when we have love for one another, people will know that we are the Lord’s disciples, that is, that we belong to the Lord. John 17:21 and 23 say that **when we are one** with one another, **people will know** that the Lord was sent by God. These verses clearly indicate that **if we desire** to have the ability to influence people concerning the Lord and **to bear fruit**, we must **have love for one another and become one**. Regardless of how much we labor and endeavor in the work, if we have neither a heart that loves one another nor the testimony of oneness, we will not have much fruit. Our love for one another and our oneness are a strong testimony that enables the people around us to see that we are the Lord’s and that we are serving the Lord. Only in this way can we bear fruit. Therefore, the Gospel of John shows that **real power in fruit-bearing** lies in the **serving ones loving one another and becoming one**. If we are short of love for one another and lack oneness, we may put a great deal of effort into the work, but we will achieve little result. We have consecrated ourselves to the Lord to do His work, but how can our work be effective? When we preach the gospel, we desire to see sinners saved; when we shepherd the saints, we desire to see some revived, others growing in life, and still others gained by the Lord to become useful vessels. We desire to be effective and to bear fruit. However, being effective and bearing fruit depend on our mutual love and oneness.

Any labor in the spirit of mutual love and in the atmosphere of oneness will be very effective. However, **regardless of how competent we are and how much we endeavor in the work**, if our work is not done in a spirit of mutual love or in an atmosphere of oneness, it will have **very little effect**. Therefore, we must see that **there is a principle** and that if we carry out our work according to this principle, there will be results; otherwise, there will be no result...

The Testimony of the Body Depending on Coordination in Love

Our work is for the testimony of the Body, and the **key to our work** is **coordination**. When there is no coordination, there is no blessing. Coordination is **not merely a working relationship**. There must be **love in coordination**. This love is not natural love; it is not natural affection. There is a regulation in the Old Testament concerning not adding honey into the meal offering (Lev. 2:11). This means that we should not have natural affection. Instead, frankincense, signifying resurrection, should be added to the meal offering (v. 1). Our natural affection is not frankincense; it is not in resurrection. In our service we should have a love that comes from the Lord.

May I ask all of you, “Who are your partners?” If you say, “I have not offended anyone, and no one hates me or opposes me, but I cannot tell you who my partners are,” this is proof that you are a failure. You must be able to say that you have been serving in the work for over ten years and have not made any friends through fleshly affection, but that you have gained some partners in love. Even if you are no longer serving in a certain place, there should be a taste in you. If we do not have this kind of experience, our service is a failure. The reason we fail is that we remain in the flesh and in the natural man. We are not willing to hand ourselves over to others and to receive their foot-washing...

May this be **our practice**; otherwise, we will not have much growth in life, nor will we have much effect in the work. **Genuine coordination** depends on foot-washing in love. If we are willing to practice foot-washing, the church will have seasons of refreshing; the saints will be open, and our work will be effective.

When there is love, there is oneness. John 13 speaks of foot-washing in love, chapter 15 speaks of bearing fruit in love, and chapter 17 presents oneness in love. Oneness does not merely mean not being divided; that is superficial. Genuine oneness is in foot-washing in love. This is our need today.

(Excerpts from Serving in Coordination and Washing in Love, CWWL, 1967, vol. 1).

Announcements:

- ◆ Brothers’ Meeting—April 2 at 6pm
- ◆ Combined Prayer Meeting at Seria residence—April 4
- ◆ College Meeting—April 6
- ◆ Church Pursuit—April 7 at Sis. Estela’s residence at 4pm

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. Lord, we heed Your charge to practice foot-washing in love. Keep us in the fellowship of the divine life, and in the enjoyment of the Triune God, that we may spontaneously love one another.
2. Lord, thank You that You are not only righteous and holy in nature, but that Your heart is love. It is with this great love that You accomplished complete salvation for us. Thank You, for such excelling love, even becoming a propitiatory sacrifice for our sins and the propitiation place for us to meet with God.
3. Thank You, Lord, that even when doubts arise, Your love is still within us. Lead us in our living. Pour out more of Your love in our hearts with the Holy Spirit, that we may conquer in all our tribulations.
4. Lord, we pray to know God experientially by continuously living in the divine life and loving others with the divine love. Deal with our natural love and perfect our love through the word and Your living supply.
5. Lord, keep us enjoying the divine life. Operate in us that we may be willing to lose our soul-life and not love the world with its pleasure. May we all take You in and express You as love in the church life, even helping one another practically.
6. Lord, we want to pay full attention to the Body life so that we can be prevailing and fruitful in the preaching of the gospel. Take away all hindrances, bonds and frustrating elements so that the Holy Spirit can move freely. Keep us abiding in the Vine and practicing the vital groups in the church life.

North America/Other Burdens

1. Pray for the release of funding to complete a purchase that will acquire the entire mezzanine floor of a building in Malaga, Spain, for the use of the church and the work (500,000 euros).
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 Bible distribution at the University of Regina. Pray for our coordination in arranging the time and making this our regular church service for the spreading of the truth, meeting local students, and preaching the highest gospel.
2. 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.

Misaiming concerning the Indwelling Christ

Misaiming: The God and Christ outside of us (the Reformation emphasis) is replaced with God and the Christ within the individual's heart (the medieval and gnostic emphasis)" (Modern Reformation, July/August 1995, p.28).

Truth: This statement is unbalanced regarding the divine revelation in the Scriptures concerning Christ objectively in the heavens and Christ subjectively in the believers. A concept regarding the objective Christ is used to deny the biblical truth regarding the subjective Christ. The writer employs one aspect of biblical truth to deny, perhaps even to label as "gnostic," other aspects of biblical truth.

The Bible reveals that, in relation to the believers, Christ is both objective and subjective. As the Lord of all, the Ruler of the kings of the earth, Christ is on the throne in the heavens. As our High Priest, He is at the right hand of God interceding for us. As our Advocate with the Father, Christ appeals to the Father on our behalf. These are illustrations of Christ in His objective existence outside of us. He is objectively real and true and cannot be limited to a believer's subjective experience. Nevertheless, the very Scriptures which reveal a Christ who is outside of the believers reveal a Christ who lives in the believers. The writer of the "misaiming" printed above should consider 2 Corinthians 13:5: "Do you not realize about yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you...?" Many believers fail to realize that Jesus Christ is actually in them. With Paul we should not be ashamed to speak of Christ in us, the hope of glory (Col. 1:27). The divine truth is twofold: Christ is both objective and subjective; He rules in the heavens and He lives in us. Instead of choosing, contrary to the Scriptures, between the objective Christ and the subjective Christ, we should believe and experience, according to the Scriptures, the objective/subjective Christ in all His marvelous aspects.

(Excerpts from Knowing the Triune God, Vol. 1. No. 1. January 1996)

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