CHURCH IN REGINA

Local Announcements

- 1. Combined Prayer Meeting-Jan. 7 at **Glencairn Community** Centre at 6pm
- 2. Love Feast-Jan. 12
- 3. Bible Distribution and Welcome Dinner-Jan. 17 at the UofR

Conferences & Training

- 1. Chinese-Speaking **Blending Conference—** Feb.14-16, Anaheim, CA
- 2. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones-Apr.4-6, Anaheim, CA
- 3. Memorial Day Blending Conference—May 23-26, Phoenix, AZ
- 4. Summer Training—June 30-July 5, Anaheim, CA
- 5. International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones—TBD
- 6. Thanksgiving Blending Conference—Nov.27-30, Indianapolis, IN
- 7. Winter Training-Dec.22-27, Anaheim,

CONTACT US

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Material Offering—Week 4

The Character of the Lord's Worker—Towards Money

Let us [continue to see]...Paul's attitude towards money. In 2 Corinthians 12:14 Paul said, "Behold, this third time I am ready to come to you, and I will not be a burden." This was Paul's attitude. How stern he was toward himself! Some had spoken against Paul and had a problem with Paul. Therefore, when Paul was ready to go to them the third time, he was not a burden to them. In verse 14 he continued, saying, "For I do not seek what is yours but you." Was he being narrow-minded and mean? No. He continued in the same verse, saying, "For the children ought not to store up for the parents, but the parents for the children." Brothers and sisters, do you see how sweet Paul's attitude before God was? The Corinthians heard many rumors and said many things about Paul. Therefore, Paul was forced to decline their gifts, but even though he declined their gifts, he did not shrink from the responsibility of teaching them about money. Second Corinthians may be the book that touches the matter of money the most. Had Paul refrained from any speaking of money, some could have construed that Paul was offended by the matter. But he was not offended, because money had so little influence over him. He went on to teach the Corinthians about money. He told them to send the money to Jerusalem. He did not advise them not to send it. He was above money; therefore, he was above the Corinthians' attitude towards him personally. He refused their gift because he wanted to maintain his dignity. Yet he boasted to the Macedonians that the Corinthians were well prepared. At the same time, he entreated the brothers to make their promised blessing ready beforehand, lest they be put to shame by their unpreparedness when the Macedonians came to them (9:2, 4-5). His personal feelings were completely set aside. God's servants must be delivered from the influence of money. Had Paul not been delivered from money, the Corinthians would never have heard such a message. Paul would still have spoken to the Ephesians or the Philippians, but he would not have spoken to the Corinthians. But Paul still went after the Corinthians; he would not give up. He continued to talk to the Corinthians about money. He showed them that God could use their money, but that he himself would not; he did not want anything from them. In this matter, he did not become burdensome to them.

Brothers and sisters, can we differentiate between them and theirs whenever we communicate with others in the church? When we see the brothers, are we after them or after theirs? If they have a problem with us and we cannot gain their hearts, will we still support them, edify them, and pray for their growth? Paul had plenty of reasons to turn away from the Corinthians, but he came to them again and again, and even a third time. Yet he was not after their possessions. This is a great temptation to God's servants. We have to learn to do what our brother Paul did.

In 2 Corinthians 12:15-18 he continued, saying, "But I, I will most gladly spend and be utterly spent on behalf of your souls. If I love you more abundantly, am I loved less? But let it be so! I did not burden you; but, as some of you say, being crafty, I took you by quile. Did I take advantage of you through anyone whom I have sent to you? I entreated Titus and sent with him the brother. Titus did not take advantage of you, did he? Did we not walk in the same spirit? In the same steps?" Brothers and sisters, think of Paul's attitude: He most gladly spent and was utterly spent on their behalf. In preaching the gospel, it is not enough for us just to be spent. We have to spend; we have to give everything we have. It is always wrong to receive money in exchange for our preaching of the gospel. Rather, we have to be prepared to willingly spend our money for the gospel. If our money does not go into our preaching, something is wrong. If our money does go into our preaching, we are doing the right thing and are putting our money into a worthy cause. This is what Paul did. He was willing to be spent, and he was willing also to spend. He was willing to spend and be spent for their souls. When he was among them he was not a burden to anyone. Nor was Titus or the other brother a burden to anyone. He would not take advantage of anyone. The gospel is true—this is why we can spend our money on it. Brothers and sisters, we have to be like our brother Paul. We should not be a burden to anyone. On the contrary, we should be utterly spent for the gospel's sake. Because the gospel is true, it is right for us to spend and be utterly spent. Our gospel must be one which carries our money along with it. This is the proper way to go (Excerpts from The Character of the Lord's Worker, CWWN, vol. 52).

PRAYER BURDENS

- Lord, continue to spread Your recovery in all the earth. Release those who will carry out the gospel in other places. In these days of consummation, rekindle our love toward You and burden us.
- 2. Teach us how to be abased and how to abound. We rely not in our strength or capacity, but on Your supply. We give ourselves to serve You not in a "hired" way, but because of Your calling.
- 3. Continue to balance us and save us from working for ourselves. Instead, we offer ourselves for the furtherance of the gospel. Keep us in this fellowship for Your move today.
- 4. Lord, train us to be Your full-timers, those who are ready to give everything we have for Your move today. May You fill our every need according to Your riches in glory.
- 5. Lord, give us a heart to give even five percent for Your work not as a burden but as our offering for the fellowship unto the gospel.
- 6. May we all practice giving for the need of the church. Renew our concept in the matter of our offering and we consecrate our offerings for Your work.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

- 1. Please pray for the French-speaking work in Europe. Please pray:
- > That a number of saints will receive the Lord's burden to serve in French-speaking Europe for one to three months to meet the urgent need for continued shepherding of the new ones the Lord has put into our hand;
- > That by summer 2025 there will be a team of 20 full-time serving ones in Paris to take care of the Lord's needs throughout France and French-speaking Europe. Please pray for the release of long stay visas for these saints;
- > That many students, families, and mature saints will migrate to France within the next several years for the Lord's interest.

Church in Regina

- 1. Pray for the propagation work in Saskatchewan. Strengthen the saints in Foam Lake, Yorkton and Stenen. Encourage them and supply them that there would be a lampstand in Yorkton for Your testimony. Remember Bro. Isaac, Bro. Charles, and Bro. William.
- 2. Please pray for the upcoming semester. Revive our young people and college students. Gain new ones in the University of Regina and reach many more young seekers for Your testimony.
- 3. Pray for the continuing of the Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading. Remember Bro. Nathan, Sis. Cassie and our new ones: Sis. Doris Di, Sis. Julie Cao, and Sis. Tina Huang.
- 4. Pray for positive and immediate approval of all the immigration papers:
 - > Alforte Family (Radam and Rosalina) PR Application
 - > Orolfo Family (Wilson and Jenny and their three children) PR Application
 - > Jerome Family (Pravin and Abinaya and their two children) PR Application

WEEKLY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

- Lord's Table & Prophesying-Lord's Day 10:00-12:00PM
- Prayer Meeting—Tuesdays 7:00-8:00PM
- Home Meeting—Wednesdays 6:00-7:00PM
- Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading—Wednesdays 8:00-9:00PM
- College Meetings—Fridays 7:30-8:30PM
- YP Meetings—Fridays 7:00-8:00 PM
- Children's Meeting—Saturdays 10:00-11:00AM
- Small Group Meetings—Fridays/Saturdays 7:00-9:00PM