

CHURCH IN REGINA

Local Announcements

1. Prayer Meeting—Jan. 21
Grp 1 by Zoom; Grp 2 in person
2. Brothers' Mtg—Jan. 26
3. Prairie College Conference—Feb. 22.
Registration deadline is on Feb. 9.

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, CA

CONTACT US

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Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (1) - Week 1

Why did the Lord Jesus, after telling us that He is the Bridegroom, go on to speak of the new cloth, the new garment? We must look deeper to discern His meaning. The Lord tells us that the Bridegroom is with us. But look at yourself—**do you deserve His presence?** Do you think that your real condition in the eyes of God is worthy of the presence of the Bridegroom? **We must all answer, "No." All we have and all we are does not deserve the Lord's presence.** To enjoy the Lord's presence we need certain qualifications; we need to be in a certain condition, in a certain situation. What we are **by birth**, what we are **naturally**, whatever we can do, and whatever we have, **do not qualify us** to be in the presence of the Bridegroom. The Bridegroom is Christ, and Christ is God Himself. Suppose God appeared to you today. Could you just sit there? He is the holy God, the righteous God, and such a One is the Bridegroom. Recall the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15. The prodigal son came home. The father undoubtedly loved him deeply, but the son's condition was utterly unfit for the presence of the father. Therefore, the father immediately told his servant to take the best robe and to put it on him, thus making him fit for his presence. Our Bridegroom is God Himself. How may we, poor sinners, enjoy the presence of the heavenly King? We must remember the context of these verses in Matthew 9: the Lord Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners. We are "tax collectors" and sinners. We are not qualified; **we need something to cover us that we may sit in the presence of the Lord.** This is why, after the Lord spoke of Himself as the Bridegroom, He told us that we need to be clothed in a new garment. **When we put on the new garment, we are worthy of His presence.** When the prodigal son was clothed with the best robe, he could immediately stand in the presence of his honored father. The best robe qualified him to enjoy the father's presence. **We as sinners and "tax collectors" need to be clothed in a new garment that we may be worthy of the Bridegroom's presence.**

...Since Christ became the new garment after His resurrection, **how then may we put Him on?** Galatians 3:27 says, "As many as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." We must put on Christ, and the way to put Him on is to **be baptized into Him.** Now we must see how we may be baptized into Christ. We have seen that after His resurrection Christ became a new garment, but the Bible also tells us that after His resurrection **He was made a life-giving Spirit** (1 Cor. 15:45). If Christ were not the Spirit, how could we be baptized into Him? By being **crucified, buried, and resurrected**, Christ was made a life-giving pneuma, a life-giving breath, the living air. As the breath, **it is so easy** for Him to get into us, and as the air, it is so easy for us to get into Him. Christ in resurrection was made a Spirit. **This life-giving Spirit is the all-inclusive One. In this Spirit is all that Christ is and all He has accomplished.** This all-inclusive Spirit is the all-inclusive Christ Himself, and this Christ as the Spirit is the new garment for us to wear... Christ is the pneuma, the all-inclusive Spirit. When we are baptized into Him, we put Him on. Immediately **He as the Spirit becomes our clothing, our covering, and we are qualified.** Therefore, the new garment which we must put on is Christ Himself as the all-inclusive Spirit (Excerpts from Life-study of Matthew, Msg. 28).

PRAYER BURDENS

1. Lord, not only did You save us from the river side, but You also appeared to us as the great light. Continue to appear to each and every one of us, causing Your light shine in the darkness and overtake the shadow of death.
2. Lord, all authority is on You and exercised in Your words. May we apply this authority through faith as You infuse Yourself into us. Infuse us more and increase our faith that every word from You will be an enlightening word to us.
3. Thank You for coming as our Physician. Heal us, recover us, enliven us, and save us that we might be reconstituted to be Your new and heavenly citizen. Establish us as Your heavenly kingdom on this earth.
4. We lay hold of You not only as our Physician but also as our Bridegroom. Make us ready to be Your Bride, enjoying living in Your presence. Regulate and direct us by Your presence and not by doctrine.
5. Lord, You are the unfulled cloth and our garment. Save us from imitating Your human life and instead take You as the crucified and resurrected One and as our new garment to cover us as righteousness before God.
6. Lord, as the church, make us Your proper containers – containing You as the new wine. May we always be fresh expressing the enlarged corporate Christ.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for the Baltic and Nordic Conference in Tallinn, Estonia on January 24-26. Please pray that many saints, not only from the Baltic States and Nordic countries but also from other Russian and English-speaking churches, will be able to join the blending fellowship for the building up of the Body of Christ.

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. Pray for the recipients of the Bible distribution. May we be able to reach the new ones we have contacted and may they attend the Bible study this semester.
3. Pray for the continuing of the Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading. Remember Bro. Nathan, Sis. Cassie and our new ones: Doris Di, Julie Cao, Wendy Wang, and 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—Sundays 3:30-4:30 PM
- Children's Meeting—Saturdays 10:00-11:00AM
- Small Group Meetings—Fridays/Saturdays 7:00-9:00PM