

CHURCH IN REGINA

Local Announcements

1. Prayer Meeting—Grp 1 in person; Grp 2 by Zoom—Apr.29
2. Summer Training Registration Deadline—May 1 (July 1-11—Video Schedule); Cost \$125USD
3. Winnipeg Conference—May 3-4
4. Edmonton Conference—May 16-18

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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Living A Christian Life and Church Life Under the Government of God for the Economy of God—Week 3

God's Life Encountering Obstacles in Man

We need to see the obstacles that God's life encounters in us. I believe that many brothers and sisters know and have seen a little about life. The brothers and sisters also have some understanding concerning the way to obtain life and the issue of obtaining life. However, from our experience, we know that God's life also faces obstacles and difficulties in us. **Every part of our entire being, both inwardly and outwardly, presents some obstacles to life.** Although we know that **God's life has come into us to be our life and to be lived out of us**, in reality, this life encounters obstacles in us. Thus, it is very difficult for life to be lived out from us.

Our whole being is a hindrance to God's life. God's life encounters many obstacles in us...The **first problem** that God's life encounters in man is the problem of **ignorance**. After any person is saved and becomes a Christian, he still has his thoughts and concepts. After a person is saved, he even has concepts and thoughts concerning what it means to be a proper Christian. A person may believe in the Lord on the first day, be baptized on the second day, and consider what kind of a Christian he should be on the third day. **Everyone has human concepts.** However, **all human concepts are in darkness.** It does not matter whether we are wise or foolish, whether we are highly educated or uneducated, all our human concepts are in darkness, and they prevent us from knowing life and Christ. No matter how good, lovely, and precious, all our concepts are in darkness, and they keep us from knowing Christ as life in us...

The **second problem** that life encounters in us is **hypocrisy**...Some people may be naturally gentle, modest, uncontentious, caring, willing to shed tears for others, sympathetic, and self-sacrificing. They have many good points and virtues. After they become Christians, they bring these natural virtues into the church. They think that these virtues are of life and that Christians should have them, but they do not realize that their inner eyes have not been opened. They are blind and do not realize that these virtues are false. From the point of view of morality, people should have these virtues, but from the point of view of life, these virtues are false. **Life is God Himself, life is Christ, and life is the Holy Spirit.** **Anything that is not of God, Christ, or the Holy Spirit is not life.** Hence, regardless of how much a person can meet—and even go beyond—the standard of morality, this is still not necessarily life...

The **third problem** that life encounters in us is **rebellion**. Christ operates and moves in us in order to make us clear about His will and requirements for us and about His leading and dealing with us. However, if we do not obey but go against the feeling within, not accepting His leading or paying the price, this unwillingness and opposition are rebellion. In this case we may have our freedom and choice, but we will not have the way of life...

The **fourth problem** that life encounters in us is our **natural capability**. Our natural being, disposition, and self are all problems that prevent God's life from coming out of us. However, the problem of our natural capability and ability is even more serious, and it is a strong obstacle that prevents God's life from flowing out of us. Many brothers and sisters truly love the Lord, are zealous for the Lord, and are very godly. Nevertheless, their greatest problem is the strength and greatness of their capabilities and abilities. Consequently, Christ has no ground or way in them.

The Solution to the Problem

May the Lord have mercy on us so that we would be enlightened to see how many obstacles there are in us and how much these obstacles restrict God's life. Actually, the obstacles in us are not limited only to these things. Nevertheless, there is **one solution** to all these obstacles in us—we must pass through **the cross** and **let the cross break us**. If we want Christ's life to be unhindered in us, we must experience the breaking of the cross and allow these obstacles to be dealt with and removed. This will allow Christ's life to be lived out from us (Excerpts from Knowing Life and the Church, CWWL, 1953, vol. 1, ch.3).

PRAYER BURDENS

1. Thank You for imparting Your life into us and giving us everything related to life. May this life continue to grow within us, saturating, transforming, and building us together as God's dwelling place.
2. Lord, transform us from clay to precious living stones useful for Your building. You are the foundation stone and the cornerstone that we build upon. Continue to grow in us that we may experience You as the stone living in us.
3. Lord, cause us to love You, to take heed to our spirit, and to guard our heart with all vigilance that we would grow in life for Your building. Through the cross remove anything that would hinder our growth.
4. Have mercy on us that we would put away all malice and refrain from evil speaking. We long for the guileless milk of the word that transforms us and turns us to stones. Grant us more experiences of You as the milk and stone.
5. Thank You, Lord for calling us out of darkness into Your marvelous light, and for choosing us to be Your royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a people acquired for a possession. We are Yours and we are for the building of Your spiritual house.
6. Lord, operate and move in us according to the measure You have apportioned us. Deal with our flesh by limiting us and restricting us. We are willing to be subjected to Your measuring.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Please pray for a meeting hall in Riga, the capital of Latvia. Recently, the church in Riga acquired a four-story building that needs renovation. The current financial need is 500,000 Euros (about 550,000 USD). Please pray that the Lord will meet this need through His Body.

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 purchase of the meeting hall.
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 permanent resident immigration papers:
 - > Alforte Family (Radam and Rosalina)
 - > Orolfo Family (Wilson and Jenny and their three children)
 - > Jerome Family (Pravin and Abinaya and their two children)
 - > Temonio Family (William and Melanie and their two children)

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—Mondays 7:15-8:15PM
- College Meetings—Fridays 7:30-8:30PM
- YP Meetings—Sundays 4:00-5:30 PM
- Children's Meeting—Saturdays 10:00-11:00AM
- Small Group Meetings—Fridays/Saturdays 7:00-9:00PM