

CHURCH IN REGINA

Local Announcements

1. Prayer Meeting— Aug 12 Grp 1 in person; Grp 2 by Zoom
2. Love Feast—Aug 10
3. Sisters' Meeting—Aug 10
4. Filipino-Speaking Conference in Lloydminster—Aug 17
5. Home Meeting at Sister Karen's home—Aug 23
6. Brothers' Meeting—Aug 31
7. Next HWMR: Chapters 5 through 8 of Romans - the Kernel of the Bible - 2025 ICSC

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—Klang, Malaysia
6. Thanksgiving Blending Conference—Nov.27-30, Indianapolis, IN
7. Winter Training—Dec.22-27, Anaheim, CA

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Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (2)—Week 24

From the day we were saved, our Christian life has been a life of warfare. The same was true of the children of Israel after they made their exodus from Egypt. After eating the passover, they marched like an army out of the land of Egypt. This indicates that their eating of the passover lamb was a preparation for war. They were saved in an atmosphere of warfare. As soon as they came out of Egypt, the fighting began. Pharaoh and his chariots pursued the children of Israel, but God came in to fight for them. After the children of Israel had passed through the Red Sea and Pharaoh's army had been overthrown, God's people triumphantly praised Him for His victory over the enemy. The Israelites proceeded to fight their way through the wilderness, and they continued fighting in the good land. Their history thus reveals that the life of a saved one is a life of warfare.

We have seen that as the new man the church should walk according to reality and by grace and that as the bride the church should live in love and in light. However, **not only must God's eternal purpose be fulfilled and the desire of Christ's heart be satisfied, but God's enemy must be defeated.** For this, the church must be a warrior. Even in the Song of Songs we see that **as the seeking one enjoys the Lord's presence, the fighting is going on.** Therefore, we walk according to reality and by grace, we live in love and light, and we fight to subdue the satanic will. **Our walk is for the fulfillment of God's purpose, our living is for the satisfaction of Christ, and our fighting is for the defeat of God's enemy.** Hence, for these three things the church must be the new man, the bride, and the warrior.

Empowered

Ephesians 6:10 says, "Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength." The Greek word here rendered "empowered" has the same root as the word power in 1:19. **To deal with God's enemy, to fight against the evil force of darkness, we need to be empowered with the greatness of the power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the heavens, far above all the evil spirits in the air.** The fact that we are to be empowered in the Lord indicates that in the spiritual warfare against Satan and his evil kingdom, we can fight only in the Lord, not in ourselves. **Whenever we are in ourselves, we are defeated.**

The charge to be empowered implies the need to **exercise our will.** If we would be empowered for spiritual warfare, **our will must be strong and exercised.** We should not be like jellyfish, those who are weak-willed and vacillating. Actually, it is those with a strong will who are most able to repent. Consider Saul of Tarsus as an example. As he was traveling to Damascus with the intention of arresting all those who called on the name of the Lord Jesus, he was apprehended by the Lord. Because Saul had such a strong will, he could have a strong repentance.

In addition to preserving our conscience, **God has sovereignly preserved our will.** If He had not done so, the preaching of the gospel could have no effect on people. We may mistakenly think that it is difficult to preach the gospel to one with a strong will. According to my experience, most of those who were saved through my gospel preaching were those with a strong will and a definite intention. Such a will is able to function positively in repentance. Repentance requires the exercise of the will. In like manner, **to be empowered also involves our will...**

In chapter 4 we see that we must **be renewed** (v. 23), and in chapter 5, that we must **be submissive** (v. 21). **For the new man** we need to **be renewed**; **for the bride** we need to **be submissive**; and **for the warrior** we need to **be empowered.** As the warrior, we must go into battle not as a gentleman or as a lovely bride but as a lion. Therefore, for the new man, the bride, and the warrior, let us be renewed, submissive, and empowered.

The fact that we need to be empowered in the Lord indicates that we cannot fight the spiritual warfare in ourselves; we can fight only in the Lord and in the might of His strength. In 6:10 Paul refers to power, might, and strength. First, we are empowered by the power that raised Christ from the dead and gave Him to be Head over all things. Then we know God's might and strength (Excerpts from The Life-Study of Ephesians, ch 63).

PRAYER BURDENS

1. Conquer us and subdue us that You can have a way to move within us. We give You the ground to establish us as gifts to the Body. Keep ascending and descending, "travelling" within us to capture us and constitute us with Yourself.
2. Lord, make us living, functioning members of Your Body. Perfect us until we all arrive at the oneness of the faith and of the full knowledge, at a full-grown man, and at the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.
3. Lord, cause our daily living to be according to the principle of truth and up to the standard of the truth. We exercise our will to cooperate with You and put on the whole armor of God. Strengthen us with truth to stand against all opposition.
4. Thank You, Lord for Your blood that overcomes the accuser - not through our perfection but by putting on the breastplate of righteousness. Grant us the standing to fight with and in peace as our firm foundation.
5. Lord, keep increasing our faith in You, in Your heart towards us, in your faithfulness, ability, word, will and sovereignty. We exercise our faith to shield our entire being and be able to quench the flaming darts of the evil one.
6. Lord, strengthen us to fight the warfare through prayer - through experiencing You as the constituents of the divine armour and be empowered in You and in the might of Your strength.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. The 2026 Winter Olympic Games will be held in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy. Please pray:
 - > That the Lord will be wisdom to His Body on how to take advantage of this opportunity to sow Christ as the seed of the kingdom into many who attend this event;
 - > That the Lord will use the upcoming months to prepare the hearts of many seeking people to receive Christ in His word and be added to the Lord's testimony in Italy and other parts of Europe.
 - > That the Lord will grace the serving saints to prepare the most effective ministry publications for distribution to the seeking ones;
 - > That the Lord will blend the saints together for the spreading of the lampstands in Italy and will advance His move in His recovery.

Church in Regina

1. Pray for the purchase of the meeting hall.
2. Pray for the continuing of the Chinese-Speaking Bible Reading. Remember Bro. Nathan and Jack Wong, Sisters Cassie, Ann Margarette, Doris Di, Julie Cao, Wendy Wang, and Tina Huang.
3. Pray for positive and immediate approval of all the permanent resident immigration papers:
 - > Alforte Family (Radam and Rosalina)
 - > 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—Fridays 7:30-8:30PM
- 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—Wednesdays/Fridays/Saturdays 7:30-8:30PM