

CHURCH IN REGINA

Local Announcements

1. Combined Prayer Meeting— Sept 2 at RPL Sunrise Branch
2. Brothers' Meeting—Aug 31
3. Church Pursuit at Sis. Karen's Place at 4pm – Sept 1
4. Bible Distribution at the UofR—Sept 5
5. Welcome Dinner at the UofR—Sept 12

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

CONTACT US

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Chapters 5 Through 8 of Romans—The Kernel of the Bible—Week 3

Baptism

What is baptism? Baptism is not a ceremony for joining the church. A certain book containing questions and answers about the church tells people that baptism is a ceremony for joining the church. This kind of speaking has a “Babylonian” flavor and is from the spirit of error in man. This word is absolutely not from the Holy Spirit. The Bible says, “One faith, one baptism” (Eph. 4:5). **Baptism is not a ritual.** What then is baptism? Some people say that through baptism we are immersed into Christ's death. Although this is not wrong, there is a prerequisite to being immersed into Christ's death...

Many people when reading Romans 6 always miss one phrase. They read that they have been baptized into Christ's death and that they have been buried with Him, but they miss the phrase **baptized into Christ Jesus**. Verse 3 says, “Or are you ignorant that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been **baptized into His death?**” How can we be baptized into Christ's death? **Only those who have been baptized into Christ can be baptized into His death. Thus, to be baptized is to be immersed into Christ. Because we have been baptized into Christ, we are in Christ and are identified with Christ. Hence, when Christ died, we also died.**

In baptism we are baptized into Christ. What is baptism? **Baptism is to be immersed into Christ.** To believe in the Lord is to receive Christ, and when we open our heart to receive Christ, this is to believe in the Lord. Through baptism we are immersed into Christ; that is, we are baptized into Christ from our spirit. If a person who enters into the baptism does not have the faith to commit himself to the Holy Spirit, yet allows himself to be baptized into Christ through the church, his baptism is meaningless and worthless. **Baptism is an act of faith, and it is through this act of faith that we are baptized into Christ. It is neither an outward form nor an outward ritual.**

Many Christians truly have the presence and working of the Holy Spirit in their baptisms. In their baptisms they are filled with faith. In such a faith they have an outward action—they give themselves to the Holy Spirit through their faith. When they enter into the water, they are baptized into Christ. From that time on, they are baptized into Christ and are in Christ. Christ's death is their death, Christ's resurrection is their resurrection, and Christ's experience is their experience because they have been identified with Christ (Excerpts from The Crucified Christ, CWWL, 1952 vol. 1, ch 9).

PRAYER BURDENS

1. Lord, we identify ourselves with You through our baptism. We hate death in Adam, but we treasure and love Your death – for Your death separated us from all negative things and brought in resurrection.
2. Cause us to live and walk in the newness of life. Keep our daily living under the application of Your death and in the realm of Your resurrection. May we remain in this process of growing together with You in resurrection.
3. Lord, we believe that through our baptism, we begin to grow together with You in the likeness of Your resurrection. We treasure this organic union with You where all our negative elements are discharged, and our God-created faculties are transformed.
4. Thank You, Lord for this grafted life where we have a share in Your resurrection life. Have mercy on us to see such precious fact and gain experiences that would allow us to grow in and with You.
5. Lord, You are all and in all. Strengthen our faith to see that our baptism is our putting on Christ. May we have the realization that we have been baptized into the Triune God, into Christ, into Your death, and into the Body of Christ.
6. Lord, uplift our view and grant us proper understanding regarding baptism. May we endeavor to put You on day by day as our clothing and covering. We exercise our spirit to see that we are one with You.

North America/Europe/Other Burdens

1. Pray for the European University Training that will take place on September 6 to 10 at Woodland Camp in London. Please pray that the Lord will speak a personal word to the European university students and call them into a deeper experience and enjoying of the Lord by abiding in Him.

Church in Regina

1. Pray for the purchase of the meeting hall.
2. Pray for the Bro. Isaac's sister, Nancy and her husband, Jeff Heide. Pray for household salvation and that they would be open to having regular meetings and even be able to attend the Lord's Table Meeting in Regina.
3. Pray for the upcoming semester and the campus work. Capture new ones and may there be remaining fruits from the University of Regina.
4. 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)

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