

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – April 16, 2017

Announcements

- A new Holy Word for Morning Revival is available in the bookroom, *The Direction of the Lord's Move Today*.
- Immigration Training, Anaheim, July 12 – August 4.
- Registration for the summer training is now open; the deadline to sign up is May 1.
- We will have an overflow from our enjoyment of *The Economy of God* on April 30.
- We will begin reading *The Glorious Church*, chapter 1 this week.
- We have received an invitation to the conference in Spokane with brother Ed Marks, April 28-30; all saints are encouraged to attend.
- Sister Sun's memorial will be held on April 22 at 10:30 am.

Schedule

- Morning revival this week, *The Direction of the Lord's Move Today*, week 1
- Main Hall cleaning (Korean saints)
- Second floor cleaning (Overlake)
- Wednesday night ministry webcast 7:30 pm at the following locations:
 - Andy Wu - Redmond 206 617 7767
 - Lu - Kirkland 206 696 2543 (Chinese language)
 - Miyake - Central Bellevue 425 451 7294
 - Menezes - South Bellevue 425 499 5515
 - Lancaster - Bothell 425 482 4499
 - Horace Wang - Somerset 425 653 2249 (Chinese language)
- 6th grade retreat, May 6-7
- Puget Sound conference with brothers Ed Marks and Albert Lim, May 12-14
- Memorial Day conference, New York City, May 26-29
- Bible Camp, July 24-28
- Summer School of Truth, August 7-12
- Camp Canby, August 10-13

Burdens for Prayer

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| • Bible distribution at Bellevue college | • Gospel to the nations in Europe and North America |
| • Building up an atmosphere of reading the ministry | • Prayer and petition for all who are in a high position in this country (1 Tim. 2:1-3) |
| • Present situation in Germany and Middle East | • The shepherding of all the saints |

This Week: April 17 – April 23**Morning Revival:** *The Direction of the Lord's Move Today*, Week 1Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Korean saints
Upstairs – Overlake**Tuesday** 10:00 am Sisters' prayer meeting**Tuesday** 7:30 pm Corporate prayer at meeting hall**Saturday** 8:00 am Breakfast**Lord's Day** 9:30 am Lord's Table**April****28-30** Conference in Spokane**May****6-7** 6th grade retreat**12-14** Puget Sound conference**26-29** Memorial Day Conference, New York City**July****3-8** Summer Training**Jul. 12 – Aug. 4** Immigration Training**24-28** Bible Camp**August****7-12** Summer School of Truth**10-13** Camp Canby

Ministry Reading Portion

BECOMING WHAT WE READ

After attending a conference or a training, when we return to our locality, we may resolve to never be the same. However, after two months we may be worse than before. This kind of resolution does not work. In Romans 7 Paul wrote, “What I will, this I do not practice; but what I hate, this I do...To will is present with me, but to work out the good is not” (vv. 15, 18). We should never make up our mind to be different from what we are now. This kind of resolving is religious, and it does not work. We may wonder what does work. In Revelation 22:10, at the end of the whole Bible, the apostle John wrote, “Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this scroll, for the time is near.” After everything of the divine revelation had been completed, the Lord charged us not to close the book of Revelation but to keep it open. To close the book is simply to put it aside, whereas to keep it open is to read all the crucial verses day after day. We should not make up our mind to have any kind of change but should read the Lord’s Word each day. We do not need to explain or expound the Word; we only need to read it in a prayerful way. After reading a portion of the Word a number of times, we will never be the same. We become different from what we are, not by making up our mind but by keeping the revealed Word open all the time.

Dietitians say that we are what we eat. If we make up our mind to be a certain kind of person, yet we do not eat, eventually, we will not be that kind of person. There is no need for us to make up our mind to be a certain kind of person. Actually, we will be what we eat. We need to keep the revealed Word open to us by reading it again and again without making up our mind. If we read a certain verse and then pray, “Lord, You know that I cannot make it. O Lord, please help me to be strong,” the more we pray in this way, the more we will be weakened. To read the Bible, to make up our mind, and then to ask the Lord to help us is the way of religion. In John 6:63 the Lord Jesus said, “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words which I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.” The more we simply read the divine Word day after day, in the morning, at noon, and in the evening, the more we will receive the Spirit of life, and the more we will be like what is written in the Word.

Again I say, making up our mind does not work. Moreover, we do not need to be merely convinced by the spoken or written word, because after two weeks we may need another convincing. What we need is to see the divine revelation and the divine vision, and the way to continue our seeing is to read the holy Word. If we do this, we will become what we eat, or to say it another way, we will become what we

read. Reading the Word again and again nourishes us, transforms us, and swallows up our old being.

My burden is to pass on to you this gate and this stairway. First, we need to drop our concepts, and second, we should not make up our mind but should read the divine Word. We should forget about whether we can or cannot make it. Whether you can or cannot means nothing. If I cannot make it, I am still myself, and if I can make it, I am still myself. We will be what we read. If we simply drop our concepts and read the Word, the light will come to us, and gradually we will become another person. We do not need to make up our mind to be another person; that will never work. That is the religious way. Through all the years, in our ministry we have never given a so-called altar call in which we invite people to come forward and vow to be different. Through all the years the ministry has unveiled to the saints a vision of the real things in the divine Word so that they can touch and see these things. I encourage you to keep touching and keep seeing by reading the holy Word. Eventually, you will become what you read.

*The Collected Works of Witness Lee, 1977, Vol. 1, pp. 6-7, Published by Living Stream Ministry.
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Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Lord's Day, April 16 th	Prov. 7:1 – 8:36
Monday, April 17 th	Prov. 9:1 – 10:32
Tuesday, April 18 th	Prov. 11:1 – 12:28
Wednesday, April 19 th	Prov. 13:1 – 14:35
Thursday, April 20 th	Prov. 15:1-33
Friday, April 21 st	Prov. 16:1-33
Saturday, April 22 nd	Prov. 17:1-28