

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – April 30, 2017

Announcements

- Registration for the summer training is due today.
- A one-day college retreat will be held at the meeting hall of the church in Shoreline on May 6th starting at 9:30 a.m. Lunch and dinner will be provided. Please contact Daniel Menezes or Dexter Smith.
- Puget sound blending conference in Bellevue and Seattle: May 12th-14th.
- This week we are reading *The Glorious Church*, chapter 3.
- Registration for Bible camp is open until June 4th. Please see Izumi Miyake or Rose Wu for registration information.
- Please contribute to the care package for the full-time trainees.

Schedule

- Wednesday night ministry webcast 7:30 pm at the following locations:
 - Andy Wu - Redmond 206 617 7767
 - Lu - Kirkland 206 696 2543 (Chinese language)
 - Menezes - South Bellevue 425 499 5515
 - Lancaster - Bothell 425 482 4499
 - Horace Wang - Somerset 425 653 2249 (Chinese language)

Burdens for Prayer

- Present situation in Germany and Middle East
- Atlanta conference (May 5th - 7th)
- The shepherding of all the saints
- 6th grade retreat

This Week: May 1 – May 7

Morning Revival: *The Direction of the Lord's Move Today*, Week 3

Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Issaquah & Sammamish
Upstairs – Sammamish & Somerset

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| Tuesday | 10:00 am | Sisters' prayer meeting |
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| Tuesday | 7:30 pm | Corporate prayer at meeting hall |
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| Saturday | 8:30 am | Breakfast |
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| Lord's Day | 9:30 am | Lord's Table |
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| May | |
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| 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

Basic Lessons on Service

LESSON SEVENTEEN

KNOWING THE FLESH

VII. THE FLESH BEING ENMITY AGAINST GOD

Romans 8:7a says that the mind set on the flesh is enmity against God. This is because the flesh itself is enmity against God. When the mind is set on the flesh, it also becomes enmity against God. We have to develop this point when we share it with the saints.

**VIII. THE FLESH NOT BEING SUBJECT
TO THE LAW OF GOD**

Romans 8:7b says that the flesh is not subject to the law of God.

**IX. THE FLESH BEING UNABLE
TO SUBJECT ITSELF TO THE LAW OF GOD**

Romans 8:7c goes on to say that the flesh is unable to subject itself to the law of God. Even if it wanted to be subject to the law, it would be unable to do so. Romans 8:7 is the strongest verse in the Bible describing the flesh. The flesh is enmity against God, the flesh is not subject to God's law, and the flesh is not able to subject itself to God's law. It does not have the ability. To expect the flesh to keep the law of God is like expecting a cat to fly. Paul was very strong to say that we should not expect that our flesh can keep the law or can subject itself to the law. It does not have the ability.

X. THE FLESH BEING UNABLE TO PLEASE GOD

Romans 8:8 says that those who are in the flesh cannot please God. Because the flesh cannot subject itself to the law of God, it cannot please God. It is impossible for the flesh to please God. All these points need much development for our sharing.

XI. NOT TRUSTING IN THE FLESH

In Philippians 3:3 Paul said, "For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh." The religious ones may worship and serve God while always boasting and having confidence in the flesh, but we should not be like this. We should not have any confidence in our flesh for our worship and service to God.

XII. NOT SOWING UNTO THE FLESH

Galatians 6:8a says that if we sow unto the flesh, we will reap corruption of the flesh. To sow unto one's own flesh is to sow for one's own flesh, with the desire and purpose of the flesh in view, to fulfill what the flesh covets. We should not carry out any kind of spiritual endeavor by our flesh. I may go to visit a saint in my flesh and not in my spirit. That is the sowing unto the flesh that will yield a harvest of corruption. Corruption will eventually come out of visiting the saints or the churches in this way. We should not invest in any spiritual things by our flesh or unto our flesh. If we do this, we will reap corruption of the flesh.

XIII. NOT FULFILLING THE LUST OF THE FLESH

Galatians 5:16 says, "Walk by the Spirit and you shall by no means fulfill the lust of the flesh." Walking by the Spirit keeps us from fulfilling the lust of the flesh.

XIV. CRUCIFYING THE FLESH

Galatians 5:24 says, "But they who are of Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and its lusts." The flesh is good only for crucifixion. It must stay on the cross. In the church service, we must help all the saints to see that our motive and intention must be pure, without any element of the flesh. Ambition is of the flesh. No other work exposes our flesh as much as the church service. The secular work is absolutely according to the flesh, so this kind of work does not expose the flesh. But the church service is altogether a matter of the Spirit. Thus, whatever we do by our flesh is exposed.

In order to have the proper church service, every saint should know not only the Spirit but also the flesh. If we know the flesh and do nothing according to the flesh, there will be no jealousy, envy, or

ambition among us. I feel that this lesson on the flesh is crucial. All the saints need to know this. The flesh is a terrible "gopher." Most of the time it is hidden, but sometimes it comes to the surface. A gopher is a good illustration of this. The flesh is a great undermining factor that damages the church life.

LESSON EIGHTEEN

FURTHER KNOWLEDGE OF THE FLESH

**I. THE FLESH HAVING NO SHARE
IN THE HOLY ANOINTING OIL**

In Exodus 30:31 and 32 the Lord charged Moses not to anoint any flesh with the holy anointing oil. The holy anointing oil, the compound ointment, signifies the consummated and compound Spirit. This indicates clearly that the compound Spirit is absolutely not for the flesh. When we are living and acting in the flesh, we are through with the compound Spirit, the all-inclusive, consummated, life-giving Spirit. Because the Spirit has nothing to do with our flesh, we have to be in our spirit. This is a serious matter. Eventually, the ultimate consummation of the Triune God is the consummated, all-inclusive, life-giving Spirit. If we are through with Him, we are through with God. Therefore, we must condemn the flesh to the uttermost because it has no share in the all-inclusive Spirit.

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| Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes | |
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| Lord's Day, April 30 th | Prov. 30:1-33 |
| Monday, May 1 st | Prov. 31:1-31 |
| Tuesday, May 2 nd | Eccl. 1:1-18 |
| Wednesday, May 3 rd | Eccl. 2:1 – 3:22 |
| Thursday, May 4 th | Eccl. 4:1 – 5:20 |
| Friday, May 5 th | Eccl. 6:1 – 7:29 |
| Saturday, May 6 th | Eccl. 8:1 – 9:18 |