

Announcements

- After the Lord's Day meeting today, we need help to stack chairs, vacuum the first and second floors, and bring chairs downstairs.
- This Thursday we need the whole church to come at 7:30 pm and help set up the meeting hall (chairs, cleaning, etc.).
- This week we are reading *The Glorious Church*, chapter 4.
- 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.
- A property in Bern, Switzerland for the campus work is available for purchase and donations are needed urgently. Any saints who would like to participate can designate their offering for Switzerland.
- Puget sound blending conference in Bellevue and Seattle: May 12th-14th. Conference Schedule:
 - Friday night, 7:30 pm, Bellevue
 - Saturday morning, 10:00 am, Bellevue
 - Saturday night, 7:00 pm, Bellevue
 - Lord's day morning, 9:30 am, Seattle (Greenlake)

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
- Puget Sound conference
- Memorial Day conference
- The shepherding of all the saints

This Week: May 8 – May 14		
Morning Revival: <i>The Direction of the Lord's Move Today</i> , Week 4		
Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Central Bellevue Upstairs – Eastgate & Redmond		
Tuesday	10:00 am	Sisters' prayer meeting
Tuesday	7:30 pm	Corporate prayer at meeting hall
Saturday	-----	No Breakfast
Lord's Day	9:30 am	Lord's Table (at Greenlake)
May		
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 EIGHTEEN

FURTHER KNOWLEDGE OF THE FLESH

II. THINGS BELONGING TO THE FLESH

Now we want to see thirteen things belonging to the flesh.

A. Vainglory

In Galatians 5:26 Paul said, "Let us not become vainglorious, provoking one another, envying one another." Everything that is considered as a glory today, such as having a position or a name, is vain. It is vainglory. We should not seek for man's glory today. The real glory is the coming glory of God. Whatever is considered as a glory today is vainglory.

B. Outward Show

In Galatians 6:12 Paul spoke of those who desire to make a good show, an outward show, in the flesh. People like to make a show of

whatever they are, whatever they have, and whatever they can do. Such an outward show belongs to the flesh. Whenever you like to make a show, you have to condemn it. To say this is easy, but in our natural being we make an outward show all the time. Whenever we want to make an outward show, that is fleshly. Of course, this has much to do with vainglory.

C. Ambition for Leadership

It is also absolutely fleshly to be ambitious for leadership (Matt. 20:20-27).

D. Self-confidence

It is very difficult not to have self-confidence. If we did not have self-confidence, our will might be weak. But we have to realize that self-confidence is fleshly.

E. Self-righteousness

When we use the term self-righteousness, we do not mean self-justice. Someone who is self-righteous always considers that he is right. We use self-righteousness in the sense of someone thinking he is never wrong, but always right.

F. Self-justification

Self-justification is another characteristic of the flesh.

G. Self-vindication

The desire to convince others that we are right, to vindicate ourselves, is also of the flesh.

H. Self-exaltation

Self-exaltation is another characteristic of the flesh. Thus, we can see that self-confidence, self-righteousness, self-justification, self-vindication, and self-exaltation are all aspects of the flesh. We should not forget that this is a lesson concerning service. We must help the saints to realize that in the church service, we have to condemn self-confidence, self-righteousness, self-justification, self-vindication, and self-exaltation. There should be nothing of the self in the church service. When we have these aspects of the self, we are absolutely fleshly, and the Spirit, the holy anointing oil, has nothing to do with us. If we are so self-confident, self-righteous, self-justifying, self-vindicating, and self-exalting, we lose the Spirit. The Spirit is gone in our experience.

I. Being Opinionated

Being opinionated is different from having an opinion. You may have an opinion and not be opinionated. An opinion is a concept. Everybody has opinions, but we should not be opinionated. To be opinionated is fleshly. The friction and the dissension among us come from our being opinionated. These things belonging to the flesh are the roots of the problems in the church service.

J. Murmurings

Philippians 2:14 charges us to do all things without murmurings, which are of the flesh. Murmurings are of our emotion and come mainly from the sisters.

K. Reasonings

Philippians 2:14 also charges us to do all things without reasonings. Reasonings come from the flesh. They are of our mind and come mainly from the brothers. We do not care for finding out the reason for things; we simply desire to live Christ. The four Gospels tell us a number of times that the disciples of the Lord Jesus were trying to find out the reason for certain things. But the Lord Jesus would not let them know the reason. The disciples would ask "why," but the Lord Jesus would not tell them why. If He had answered them, He would have been taking care of their reasonings. To take care of people's reasonings is to take care of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The Lord Jesus always took care of the tree of life. He did not care for people's reasonings.

Murmuring and reasoning both frustrate us from carrying out our salvation to the fullest extent and from experiencing and enjoying Christ to the uttermost. In the church service, we must learn to reject murmurings and reasonings.

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Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Lord's Day, May 7 th	Eccl. 10:1 – 11:10
Monday, May 8 th	Eccl. 12:1-14
Tuesday, May 9 th	S.S. 1:1-8
Wednesday, May 10 th	S.S. 1:9-17
Thursday, May 11 th	S.S. 2:1-17
Friday, May 12 th	S.S. 3:1-11
Saturday, May 13 th	S.S. 4:1-8