

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP – October 1, 2017

Announcements

- Saints burdened to financially support Puerto Rico, Mexico, or Houston, can designate a check for “Puerto Rico,” “Mexico,” or “Houston.”
- There is no Wednesday night ministry meeting scheduled this week. It will resume the following week.
- Parents need to sign in and sign out their children for children’s meetings. Third through sixth grade signs in at the multi-purpose room. Please sign out your children immediately after the meeting ends.
- The reading schedule for the book *The Experience of Life* is now available on the church in Bellevue website (<http://churchinbellevue.org>). Over the next two weeks we are reading chapter 5, “Dealing with the World.”
- Next Lord’s Day, we will have a joint table meeting.
- Late registration for the junior high boys retreat is due today. Payment can be handled at the bookroom.
- Early registration for the junior high girls retreat is due next week. Payment can be handled at the bookroom.
- Saturday, October 28th, there will be a lunch and fellowship for younger saints (early 20’s to mid-40’s). Please sign up to RSVP. Location will be announced later.

Burdens for Prayer

- Mexico and Puerto Rico
- Situation in Houston
- ITERO
- Present situation in Germany and Middle East

This Week: October 2 – October 8

Morning Revival: *The Crystallization-Study of Ezekiel*, Week 5

Hall Cleaning: Downstairs – Issaquah & Sammamish
Upstairs – Overlake

Tuesday	10:00 am	Sisters’ prayer meeting
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Tuesday	7:30 pm	Corporate prayer meeting
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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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October	
13-15	JH Boys Retreat, Easton, WA
20-22	High school Retreat, Lakeside Bible Camp
27-29	JH Girls Retreat, Easton, WA

Ministry Reading Portion

The Experience of Life

CHAPTER FOUR

DEALING WITH SINS

In conclusion, the purpose of our dealing with sin is that we might have a clean conscience, void of offense, and also that our will might be subdued. Whenever God enlightens us, we should be willing to deal with our sin, whatever it may be, not caring for our face or counting the loss. When we have reached such a stage, we can say that the purpose of God in having us deal with sins is accomplished. If at the time the environment does not permit, if we cannot possibly afford the financial burden, or if there is no value in dealing with the matter, we need not be too harsh on ourselves or adhere too much to the letter of the law. There is no harm if we do not deal with it. However, when we first begin to practice dealing with sins, it is better to be as thorough and severe as possible. Even if we overdo somewhat and afterward regain our balance, it is still well. This overdoing is also helpful in making our conscience clean and sensitive and our will subdued and tender.

VI. DEALING WITH SINS AND LIFE

If we have studied every point with regard to dealing with sins, we know that it is not an ordinance in the law, but a natural demand and urge of God's life within us. If we live in fellowship and obey the feeling of this demand of life to deal with sins, our spiritual life and service will be strong and released, we shall constantly receive light to know spiritual things, and God's life in us will be free and far-reaching in its growth. Conversely, if the spiritual condition is abnormal, light is absent, and the inner feeling is weak, miserable, and suppressed, whether it be in an individual saint or a corporate church, the reason is found largely in the lack of dealing with sins. This is a very accurate measurement.

Since dealing with sins has such a close relationship with our spiritual life, we should endeavor to experience this lesson continuously. Although this experience is not a deep one, yet no one can be so spiritual as to say that they have no need to deal with sins.

It is difficult to graduate from this lesson. We should not only ask ourselves, therefore, if we have ever had these experiences, but we should also ask ourselves if we are now living in such an experience. We not only have to wash our face, but we need to wash it every day. If we washed our face three years ago and have not washed it since, it must be a dreadful looking face! In the same manner, unless we are free from committing sins every day, we need to deal with sins daily.

There was a young believer who came to inquire of a servant of God concerning how to grow in his spiritual life. The servant of God asked him: “How many days have gone by in which you have not dealt with sins?” How true it is that if we desire our spiritual life to grow, we need to deal with sins. The day that we do not deal with sins, our spiritual life does not grow. By dealing with sins daily, our spiritual life will grow daily. This is an ironclad principle. May God have mercy upon us so that we may continue to go forward.

Witness Lee, *The Experience of Life*, Published by Living Stream Ministry.
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Bible Reading Schedule with Footnotes	
Sunday, October 1 st	Ezek. 31:1–32:32
Monday, October 2 nd	Ezek. 33:1-33
Tuesday, October 3 rd	Ezek. 34:1-31
Wednesday, October 4 th	Ezek. 35:1–36:21
Thursday, October 5 th	Ezek. 36:22-38
Friday, October 6 th	Ezek. 37:1-28
Saturday, October 7 th	Ezek. 38:1–39:29