

Announcements

1. **M/P/R Sisters blending** will be held on April 21 (Saturday) from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm at Plano meeting hall. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up at the service office.
2. **Ministry book reading** - Our next ministry booking reading is "The Knowledge of Life" (14 messages). If you would like to have a hard copy of this book, please place your order at book room.
3. **Summer Training Registration** -- The deadline for the live training registration is April 29. The registration fee for the training is \$200. Including the outline fee of \$5, the total cost is \$205.
4. **Bible Camp** - Please use the following link to register children : <http://churchinrichardson.org/biblecamp/>. For serving ones, please sign up at service desk. Registration Deadlines: For Serving Ones - April 29, 2018 For Children - May 20, 2018
5. **Cleaning** --Chinese-speaking District

Nourishment

•**Holy Word for Morning Revival:** *Crystallization-Study of Leviticus, vol.1, Week 10 - Christ as the Peace between God and God's People for Their Co-enjoyment in Fellowship to Have the Vital-group Church Life and to Consummate in the New Jerusalem as the Ultimate Peace Offering*

•**Ministry book reading:** *The Economy of God - Chapter 23 The Church—God Manifested in the Flesh*

Questions:

1. Why is the church mentioned together with the manifestation of God in the flesh? How is the church the manifestation of God in the flesh? (Hint: EG: p. 199 Paragraph 3—"Why is the church mentioned together..." and p. 203 Paragraph 1—"This is the right meaning of...")
2. What is truth and what is the real thing? What does it mean that the church bears the truth, the reality? (Hint: EG: p. 200 Paragraph 2-3—"This church is not only the house of God..." and "What is the real thing?" and p. 202 Paragraphs 2-3—"The church must bear the truth..." and "In the church God dwells...")
3. What is the church not built by? (Hint: EG: pp. 203-208 Paragraph 2 of p. 203 to the end of the chapter—"We are burdened because we fear...")

•**Scripture Reading**

	L.D.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
OT	Isa. 1:1-31	Isa. 1:1-31	Isa. 1:1-31	Isa. 1:1-31	Isa. 1:1-31	Isa. 1:1-31	Isa. 1:1-31
NT	1 Thes. 1:1-10	1 Thes. 1:1-	1 Thes. 1:1-	1 Thes. 1:1-	1 Thes. 1:1-10	1 Thes. 1:1-10	1 Thes. 1:1-10

Regular Meetings

Date	Time	Meeting	Place
Lord's Day	09:30AM	Lord's Table and Prophesying	meeting hall
	04:00PM	PSRP	meeting hall (by language)
Wednesday	07:30PM	Prayer and Service	meeting hall
Thursday	10:00AM	Chinese Speaking Sisters	meeting hall
Saturday	06:30PM	Young People	Homes or meeting hall

Prayer Burden

1. Please pray for the practice of God-ordained Way through the small groups in 2018. Pray for the new ones recently moved to Richardson or came to our meetings that they could fully enter into the church life.
2. Pray for the saints' job and health situations so that the saints will be freed from distractions to take care of God's move in Richardson.
3. Pray that all the saints will spend adequate time before the Lord everyday to build an intimate relationship with the Lord to live an overcoming God-man living.
4. Pray for the building project in London to take care of the urgent need for perfecting saints for God's move in Europe.
5. Pray for God's move in Frisco.

Attendance Last Week

Group	E1	E2	E3	E4	C1	C2	C3	C4	Total	Wed. Prayer (E)	Wed. Prayer (C)	Young People	LD Children	Lord's Day (Joint)	Total
#	-				10	9	15	10		13	11		22	95	105

Hymn 626 THE WAY OF THE CROSS-GAIN BY LOSS

- 1 Olives that have known no pressure
No oil can bestow;
If the grapes escape the winepress,
Cheering wine can never flow;
Spikenard only through the crushing,
Fragrance can diffuse.
Shall I then, Lord, shrink from suff'ring
Which Thy love for me would choose?
- Chorus**
Each blow I suffer
Is true gain to me.
In the place of what Thou takest
Thou dost give Thyself to me.
- 2 Do my heart-strings need Thy stretching,
Songs divine to prove?
Do I need for sweetest music
Cruel treatment of Thy love?
Lord, I fear no deprivation
If it draws to Thee;
I would yield in full surrender
All Thy heart of love to see.
- 3 I' m ashamed, my Lord, for seeking
Self to guard away;
- Though Thy love has done its stripping,
Yet I' ve been compelled this way.
Lord, according to Thy pleasure
Fully work on me;
Heeding not my human feelings,
Only do what pleases Thee.
- 4 If Thy mind and mine should differ,
Still pursue Thy way;
If Thy pleasure means my sorrow,
Still my heart shall answer, "Yea!"
'Tis my deep desire to please Thee,
Though I suffer loss;
E' en though Thy delight and glory
Mean that I endure the cross.
- 5 Oh, I' ll praise Thee, e' en if weeping
Mingle with my song.
Thine increasing sweetness calls forth
Grateful praises all day long.
Thou hast made Thyself more precious
Than all else to me:
Thou increase and I decrease, Lord-
This is now my only plea.

Brief Background of the Hymn

This hymn written by Watchman Nee shows a strong burden brother Nee had in his resumed ministry after 1948: the breaking of outer man and the release of the spirit.

"He frequently shared that though the Holy Spirit dwells in our spirit, if our outer man is not broken, our spirit could never be released. The Holy Spirit dwelling in our spirit is confined and imprisoned by the outer man. For this reason the outer man must be broken that the inner man (the human spirit with the Holy Spirit) might be released. The scriptural basis for this reality is 2 Corinthians 4:16, "Though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day." ("Watchman Nee—A Seer of the Divine Revelation in the Present Age" by Witness Lee, Ch. 16)

In John 12:24 the Lord Jesus said, "Unless the grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Life is in the grain. However, there is a shell outside of the grain, a very powerful shell. As long as this shell does not break open, the grain cannot grow. ...Therefore, it is not a matter of whether or not the grain has life, but whether the outer shell is broken. The very next verse says, "He who loves his soul-life loses it; and he who hates his soul-life in this world shall keep it unto eternal life" (v. 25). According to the Lord the outer shell is our own life, and the inner life is the eternal life that He dispenses. In order for the inner life to be released, the outer life must suffer loss. If that which is outward is not broken, that which is inward cannot be released ("*The Breaking of the Outer Man and the Release of the Spirit* " by Watchman Nee Chapter 1)

"In order for our outer man to be broken, we need to consecrate ourselves to the Lord. Consecration, ...is only an expression of our intention to willingly give ourselves unconditionally, unreservedly, and unequivocally to God. ...After consecration there is still the need of discipline from the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit does not deal with our outer man by strengthening our inner man. ...This does not mean that the inner man does not need to be strengthened. It means that God has a different way of dealing with the outer man. ...It is hard for the inner man to bruise or crush the outer man. The nature of the outer man corresponds to the nature of outward things; the outer man is easily affected by the outward things. The outward things can crush, inflict pain and bruise the outer man much better than the inner man can. Therefore, God deals with our outer man with outward things." ("*The Breaking of the Outer Man and the Release of the Spirit* " by Watchman Nee, Chapter 6)