

CHURCH IN REGINA

"Prov.23:23 Buy the truth and do not sell it; buy wisdom and instruction and understanding."

HWMR Week 10—Living a Godly Life

The Absoluteness of the Truth

Many difficulties arise in the church today because God's children sacrifice the truth...We must **deny all forms of self** before we can serve the Lord. If there is any **pride, selfishness, or thought of receiving respectable treatment** as a condition for upholding God's word, we are putting ourselves above God's truth; we are saying that we are more important than His truth. This disqualifies us from His service. In our **service to the Lord**, we have to **deny ourselves absolutely**. Whether or not we like what is happening and whether or not we feel hurt about something have nothing to do with the issue. If something must be done one way, it must be done that way no matter how we feel. Even if we suffer greatly by doing so, we still have to do it. Even if others mistreat us, despise us, or count us worthless, we still have to do it. **We cannot force God's truth to go our way just because we want to go that way.** Man is too bold; he always forces God's truth to follow him.

We have to see the **glory of God's truth**. We cannot project our own feelings into His truth. When we stand beside God's truth, we should not just consider ourselves to be smaller than it; we should **consider ourselves to be non-existent**. If we involve the self **even a little**, we will end up with trouble immediately. A brother, who had been criticized in some quarters, came to the church and felt quite happy about the contacts he made. He felt that he had been unjustly criticized where he had been, but he did not really touch the truth before the Lord. He was merely impressed by a few of the brothers. Such a brother was very undisciplined in his conduct. Some time later another brother said to him, "Brother, you have been too loose," and he proceeded to point out some of the things that the new brother had done. This was a speaking of truth in love. But when the new brother heard this, he left, remarking in anger, "No wonder so many people are against this church. It should be criticized." Brothers and sisters, this brother was not absolute to the truth. If he had been absolute to the truth, he would not have said this when he was rebuked by others. Because he was not absolute to the truth, he changed his tone as soon as he was rebuked.

What does it mean to be absolute to the truth? It means to **set aside feelings, to ignore personal relationships, and to not stand for the self**. **The truth is absolute**. Our personal feelings, relationships, experiences, and encounters should not be mixed up with it. Since truth is absolute, what is right is right and what is wrong is wrong...We should never be careless; we should uphold God's testimony. This is a fact. Yet at the same time, whether or not this way is **the right way is based on truth, not on men**. Does this mean that when other Christians sin we are no longer Christians? Does this mean that when other children of God fall, we are no longer children of God? Does this mean that when many children of God lose their testimonies, we are no longer believers? No, brothers and sisters, truth is absolute. Even if many Christians have failed, the Lord is still worthy of our trust, and we must still trust in Him. Even if many of God's children have sinned, we remain children of God; there should be no change. This does not mean that God's children have license to sin or that Christians have license to fail. It does mean, however, that the truth is absolute. If it is right to believe in the Lord, we should believe in Him even when others do not believe. If it is right to be a Christian, we should be a Christian even if all others have fallen. The issue is not what others are doing. The issue is whether or not something is the truth.

Church Meetings:

Lord's Table Meeting

Lord's Day
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Prayer Meeting

Tuesdays
7:00 - 8:00 PM

College Meeting

Fridays
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Small Group Meeting

Fridays
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Young Peoples' Meeting

Saturdays
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Conferences & Trainings:

International Memorial Day Conference

May 28-31, 2021

July Semiannual Training

July 5-10, 2021

October International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones

October 7-9, 2021

Contact Information:

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NEW LANGUAGE

God sending
His own Son
condemned sin
in the flesh.

It is not a small thing to be absolute to the truth. We cannot be **indifferent** about this. If we are **loose in this**, we will be **loose in everything**. In order to uphold the truth, we have to **abandon ourselves completely**. If we do not have such a **heart** and **habit** for the truth, we will have problems sooner or later...**God demands** that we be dealt with to the extent that we set ourselves and our feelings aside in everything. It matters little whether we feel happy or hurt. **Our direction should never be affected by our own personal feelings**. If God says it is right, it is right. If God says it is wrong, it is wrong. If God says this way is right, we have to take this way even if everyone refuses to take it. We do not take this way because it is exciting or because a certain brother has taken it. If this way is right, we should take it, even if none of the brothers take it. Truth is absolute, and no human being should influence us in any way. If we bring in the element of human consideration, we have made man greater than the truth.

All judgments are based on truth, not on individuals. Whenever the basis of judgment is shifted to an individual, we have compromised God's way and His truth. **The basis of judgment is the Word of God; its foundation is the truth.** We should act the same way, whether or not others treat us well. When we confront a situation, we should ask what God's truth is, not what our feelings are. Personal judgments and feelings should never come into play in God's work. If truth tells us that we should totally separate ourselves, we should sever ties with even our best friends. We may have been eating together and living together every day in the past. But when the absoluteness of truth calls for a separation, we should obey. **Human affection should not have a place.** If truth dictates that we should not separate, we cannot separate even if we are arguing with each other and irritating each other every day. **If we are together merely because of personal reasons, we do not know what the truth is, and we cannot go on.**

Brothers and sisters, this is a **very fundamental issue**. The way ahead of us is very much related to the dealings we receive from the Lord. If we focus on how great and important we are, the truth will be sacrificed. In order to uphold God's truth, our **self must go**; we must keep the self at bay. We all have our own temperament and feelings. We cannot alter God's truth because of our temperament and feelings. No minister of God can sacrifice or compromise His truth for his own comfort. If we consider God's truth to be so low, we do not have a spiritual future with God. When a judge presides in court, he must be absolute to the law. A crime must be pronounced a crime, and an innocent man must be pronounced innocent. The judge cannot pronounce a criminal not guilty just because the criminal is his brother or friend. If he does this, there will be disorder. The law is absolute, and personal sentiments cannot be taken into consideration. It would be terrible if a defendant were judged guilty just because the judge happened to be his enemy. A judge must uphold the law. **We must believe in God, serve Him, and maintain His truth.** Our personal feelings cannot come in. I hope that we will remember that all of our personal feelings have to be denied. We must all be dealt with by the Lord. We must all say to Him, "Lord, I am nothing, but Your truth is absolute." If we do this, there will be no more disputes or problems in the work.

Let us deal with this matter **conscientiously** before the Lord. It is a very **crucial** and **serious** matter. Let us remember that there is no place whatsoever for personal feelings and sentiments in the work of the Lord. Even if our personal sentiments can positively influence others to receive the truth, we should still keep them out of the work. We may influence a person to receive the truth by inviting him for dinner, but this is wrong. Truth is absolute. Out of the goodness of our hearts we may want to do something to uphold the truth, but **truth requires no human hand to uphold it**. It has its own standing, its own authority, and its own power, and it needs no human hand to uphold it. We do not have to lend truth a helping hand. We should not be afraid of anyone's rejection of the truth. We only need to learn to **honor God's truth**, to **take the way of the truth**, and to **not compromise the truth in any way** (The Character of the Lord's Worker, Ch. 10).

Announcements:

1. International Memorial Day Blending Conference on May 28 to 31.
 - > Message 4—May 30, Lord's Day at 10am
 - > Message 5—May 30, Lord's Day at 7pm
 - > Message 6—May 31, Monday at 7pm
2. Brothers' Meeting on May 30 at 6pm.
3. Sisters' Meeting on June 6 at 2pm.
4. LSM now has a website through which it can receive online donations from the saints: lsm.org/donations. This website may be used to make one-time donations, designated offerings, and fixed recurring donations.
5. The electronic edition of The Holy Bible Recovery Version (with outlines, footnotes, and charts) is now available for purchase through Google Play Store for Android users and through App Store for iOS users.

Prayer Burdens:

1. Grant us a governing, heavenly vision. May the divine light shine over the divine revelation that it may become our controlling vision. Take the veil away and enlighten the eyes of our hearts.
2. Lord, make us clear and absolute for the truth. We do not want to compromise the truth to justify our own deficiencies. We confess our lack regarding this matter. May we all endeavor to buy the truth day by day.
3. Thank You, Lord for our human spirit. We pray that we may no longer be persons living according to the flesh or the soul, but according to the mingled spirit. Shine in us and keep searching our inward parts. We open our entire being to Your shining.
4. Lord, we want to have a proper and pure heart. Give us a clear mind, a loving emotion towards You, a clear conscience, and a softened will. Recover and make home in our hearts.
5. Lord, have mercy on us. We want to have a renewed mind, an emotion filled with love, and a will one with Your will. May each one and each family really live a godly life not according to our standards but Yours alone.
6. Thank You, Lord for giving us a spirit of power, of love, and of sobermindedness. Conquer the degradation of the church with the spirit of love. May we learn to shepherd and cover others with Your divine love.

Other Burdens:

1. Pray for the upcoming term of the FTTA mid-August 2021 (tentative start date). Burden the college graduates to consecrate two years to be built up in Christ in the growth of His life, to be equipped in the realization of the divine truths and to be raised up, nourished, perfected for the building up of the local churches.

Church in Regina:

1. Goal of 50 meeting ones by end of 2021. Synchronized prayer for our contacts every day.
2. Strengthen and preserve our families. We thank You, Lord for revealing to us the real situation of our fallen human life. Continue to rescue us practically from the world unto You so that You can work out Your purpose on earth and have Your dwelling place.
3. Pray for Aitong Liu's immigration application. Select them in Your time that they may also come here, be saved, see the church and be Your testimony.
4. Pray for Sister Estela Miranda's upcoming shoulder surgery (rotator cuff repair) and complete recovery.