

# CHURCH IN REGINA

*John 15:5 I am the Vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.*

## HWMR Week 4—The Recovery of the Subjective Truths in the Gospel of John

### A Miniature of the Church Life

#### Serving

In the church life there are different functions. There are **three kinds of functions** in the service of the church represented by the three persons in the house. Firstly is **the serving function** represented by **Martha** (12:2). Throughout all the centuries, Martha has been treated unfairly. Throughout history, Christians have looked down on her. Do not condemn Martha. It is unfair to condemn her. We should not think that Martha is no good, for this chapter says that Martha served. This is very good, for, in the church service, the business affairs of the church must be taken care of. How could we have the food taken care of without Martha? We need her to prepare the food. I appreciate Martha's service. We all must change our concept about her and not look down on her. We should encourage the sisters to be Marthas. Perhaps you sisters are still quite spiritual and religious, but I am rather practical. I do not want to be that spiritual. Suppose all the sisters are Marys sitting there quietly being spiritual. Who is going to prepare the meal? We must have some Marthas who are **diligent, capable, active, living, and practical**. Although we are spiritual, we must still serve practically. Martha's service was needed in that house. Likewise, **in the church service, the first function needed is to serve by doing certain things, by taking care of certain practical affairs.**

#### Testifying

The second kind of function in the service of the church is represented by Lazarus. It appears as if Lazarus did nothing. He just sat there at the table with the Lord, enjoying the feast with Him. But we must remember that Lazarus was the **living testimony of the resurrection life**. He did not testify by doing but by living in the resurrection life. His testimony was **not in labor or in works**; it was in **the enjoyment of the resurrection life**. He was a witness to the power of the Lord's resurrection life. Wherever he was, the testimony of resurrection life was there.

Martha's service was good, but it did not attract people. It was the testimony of Lazarus that attracted them. This does not mean that Martha's service was not good and was not needed, for certain things had to be taken care of. Even Lazarus had to be served by Martha. Therefore, we must realize that even when we have a good testimony of life, we still need the service of Martha. Otherwise, we will have nothing to eat.

The second kind of function in the church is the testimony of life. It is not by doing but by living. It is not a kind of work; it is a kind of life. **It is not by laboring; it is by enjoying the Lord**. It gives people the feeling of resurrection power, the manifestation of resurrection life, and the enjoyment of the Lord as life. This is a strong testimony that the Lord can make dead persons so living and enable them to feast with Him. In the church there must be such a living testimony, such a function of life. There must be not only the service of practical affairs but also **the ministry of life**.

#### **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:**

##### **October International**

##### **Training for Elders &**

##### **Responsible Ones**

October 8-10, 2021

##### **International Thanksgiving**

##### **Weekend Conference**

November 25-28, 2021

##### **Winter Training**

December 20-25, 2021

#### **Contact Information:**

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## **NEW LANGUAGE**

**Christ is the  
Word of life.**

## Loving

Mary represents the **third kind of function** (12:2-3). She represents the dear ones who **love the Lord very much and who pour out what they hold most precious upon the Lord**. They love the Lord so much that they give the best to the Lord. This is what Mary did. She poured the **costly ointment** upon the feet of the Lord and wiped His feet with her hair. In her heart nothing was so dear, so precious, and so costly as the Lord. She, along with many others like her, loved the Lord with the best she had. Her **estimate of the Lord** was that **He was more valuable and lovable than anything else**. For her, the Lord was the most precious and the most costly One.

Mary's pouring the precious ointment upon the Lord Jesus is a sign of the proper church life. Although you may realize that Mary anointed the Lord Jesus with the best ointment, perhaps you have not seen that this is a sign of the church life. **The main characteristic of the church life is anointing the Lord with our best love**. The main expression, aspect, and characteristic of the church life is that we pour out our ointment upon Him. The church here is likened to a house that is filled with the preciousness, the sweetness, and the pleasantness of the aroma of the ointment poured out upon the Lord Jesus. This ought to be the main expression of a local church. When you come into a local church, the first thing that you should smell is the loving ointment poured out upon the Lord Jesus. **It is not simply that Mary loved the Lord, but that she poured out her best upon the Lord**, and **this becomes a sign of the proper church life**. In the proper church life we all must love the Lord to such an extent.

We all must be a triangular member of the church. We must have three corners. In the past I heard some sisters say to me, "Brother, I am not a Martha. By the Lord's mercy, I am just a little Mary." Once a brother who was very living said to me, "Brother, in the church some are Marthas and only a very few are a Lazarus. By the Lord's mercy, I am just a Lazarus. I can do nothing. I just sit here testifying of the Lord Jesus." I doubt that he was a real Lazarus. We all must be Martha, Lazarus, and Mary. When someone asks you your name, you should reply, "My name is Martha-Lazarus-Mary." This is the proper name for us all to have.

...[I]n the church life there must be at least three items: the diligent service for the Lord, the living testimony of the resurrection life of the Lord, and the absolute love poured out upon the Lord. If we are **truly practicing** the church life, we must have the service, the testimony, and the love toward the Lord. **We all must be Martha, Lazarus, and Mary**. Such a church is the result and issue of the Lord being life to us. Chapter twelve is the issue of chapter eleven. This kind of service, testimony, and love comes out of the Lord being resurrection life to us. With these functions, there is the genuine church life. **In the real church life, the service to the Lord is rendered, the testimony of the Lord is seen, and the love toward the Lord is poured out**. Here we can enjoy the Lord with other saints, and the Lord Himself can dwell, rest, and feast in satisfaction. This is the real expression of the Body of the Lord, which is a vessel to contain the Lord and to express Him (Excerpts from LS of John, chapter 25).

### Announcements:

1. Love Feast on October 10.
2. Church Pursuit at 4pm on October 11 via Zoom.
3. Western Canada Christian Students Ministry Series on October 15 at 7:30pm via Zoom. The topic will be "A Life Fully According to and for God's Purpose". All saints are welcome to join but registration is required. The link will be sent via GroupMe.
4. 2021 Canada Brothers Conference on November 13 via Zoom. The deadline for registration is October 31.

**Prayer Burdens:**

1. Thank You, Lord for redeeming us and positioning us to take You as the fattened calf. Continue to grow in us regardless of our stage in life. We want to enjoy You as our salvation inwardly.
2. Lord, we want to fully experience the organic aspect of Your salvation. Be our subjective righteousness, qualifying us to put on the second garment. We want to participate in Your full salvation.
3. Lord, we receive You by eating and drinking You. Flow as the fountain of life in us through Your speaking, spreading, and dispensing. Thank You we are in the process of becoming the New Jerusalem today.
4. We praise You Word of God. Thank You for making God contactable, touchable, receivable, experienceable, enterable, and enjoyable. Continue to dispense Yourself into us, making us materials for Your building.
5. Lord, You are the grain of wheat who died and grew to become many grains. Though we are many, we declare that we all share Your life. You are the Vine, and we are the branches. Keep spreading and growing in us.
6. Make us triangular members of the church. We want to be diligent in our service for You, living in our testimony of Your resurrection life, and absolute in our love towards You.

**Other Burdens:**

1. International Blending Conference in Baarlo, Netherlands on October 29 to 31. We pray for the blending of the saints in Europe into the reality of the one Body through the Lord's up-to-date speaking.
2. Pray for Brother Steven Hou, who migrated from the USA and has been serving in Berlin, Germany. He is in serious condition after being infected with COVID-19 some weeks ago. Please pray that the Lord will spare our brother's life and function for His move in Germany. Pray also for all the saints in Europe who have been infected with the COVID19 virus.

**Church in Regina:**

1. Pray for our new contacts—Sister Tina Huang and Brother Mike Zhou. May the Lord enlighten them fully to see Christ and gain them fully for the church.
2. Pray for the purchase of a lot property and meeting hall.
3. Pray for the small group meeting and that the brothers and sisters in the church to be vitalized. Whatever we bind on the earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever we loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven. Release this burden, the prayers and the one accord.
4. Pray for a regular bible distribution and the continual preaching of the gospel. May our living be a testimony for the gospel.
5. Lord, we did not choose You but You chose us and You have set us that we should go forth and bear fruit. We believe that whatever we ask the Father in Your name, He may give us. We pray for more fruit and more shepherding so we can all be revived and have remaining fruit.
6. Lord, we pray for our individual pursuit of the Life-study messages. May we see Christ in Exodus and speak the same thing—the new language.
7. Pray for Antonio Miranda and Cecil Miranda who recently completed their medical exam. Pray that the officer will find no issues and that their permanent residence visa will be issued as soon as possible.