Church in Campbell Weekly News

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When a brother comes to see you, remember that Christ is within you as the barley. You have to apply Him in your fellowship with this brother. Sometimes you just forget this. When you meet the brother, you talk about Vietnam, about the world situation, or about the weather. You remember the weather, but you forget Christ. You fail to apply Christ in your fellowship with the brother. When he leaves, you feel hungry, and not only hungry, but sick — sick from not applying Christ. You have to grasp every situation as an opportunity to apply Christ. Apply Him and apply Him and apply Him. Then when you come to the meeting, it will be very easy for you to give praise or a testimony; you will have many loaves of barley to offer to the Lord.

Brother Watchman Nee once told us that when some young coworkers come to a meeting, they look around to see if any senior brothers are there. If not, if all the attendants are new believers, they have the boldness to pray and exhibit what they have. But if they see some senior brothers there, they shrink back with fear. This is not something of the resurrected Christ. If you have the resurrected Christ, even if the apostle Paul were there, you will say, "Praise the Lord, my brother has the resurrected Christ, and I have Him too. He may have five hundred loaves, but I have at least one loaf. Hallelujah!" As long as you have a little bit of the resurrected Christ, you have more than enough to meet every situation. He is the loaf of barley; He is the resurrected One. Nothing can hinder Him; nothing can limit Him.

When you come to the meeting with the brothers and sisters, you must realize your responsibility. You must share in the meeting with others. You must give some thanks and praise; you must offer some prayer. This is your responsibility. You say, "Oh, I am too weak!" In yourself you are weak, but in Christ you are not weak. You say, "I have nothing." Yes, you have nothing, but in Christ you have everything. You say, "Oh, I am too poor!" Yes, you are poor in yourself, but you are not poor in the resurrected Christ. Remember that Christ is the barley in you. When you come to the meeting, apply Him as the one loaf of barley to feed all the others by your prayer or by your testimony. Try it. Practice it. You will see how enriched you will be. Originally, you had only one loaf, but eventually, you may well have one hundred loaves. You will be enriched by practice. Never say that the meetings are not your business. If so, the meetings are finished. You must learn to apply Christ; you must make use of the Christ you have.

Jesus said to His disciples, "You give them something to eat" (Matt. 14:16). The disciples said, "There is a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are these for so many?" (John 6:9). The Lord replied, "Bring them here to Me" (Matt. 14:18). As long

as they are barley loaves, as long as they are something of the resurrected Christ, that is good enough; that will meet the situation, and there will be a surplus.

Brothers and sisters, if you will take my word, believe in the resurrected Christ, and apply Him, you will find that the remainder abiding in you is more than that with which you started. This is the barley. This is not just a teaching but something for us to experience and apply every day in every situation. Apply the resurrected Christ, the unlimited, inexhaustible One. Tell Him, "Lord, I cannot meet the need; I cannot face the situation. But how I praise You, You can. I go ahead trusting wholly in You, counting wholly upon You."

After a considerable time, perhaps five or six years, the sister who experienced Christ as a grain of wheat in her family testified of another experience. This time it was Christ as the barley. She testified that her mother-in-law and many of her relatives were brought to the Lord through her. She had become a barley loaf to feed many people. She had experienced Christ in resurrection.

This kind of experience not only causes you to know Christ inwardly as the wheat and as the barley, but by this experience you become a grain of wheat; you become a loaf of barley. Then you are food for others. You are able to feed others by what you have experienced. So many people were fed by this sister. Whenever she came to the meeting, even without opening her mouth, all the brothers and sisters sensed the ministration of Christ, the ministry of life. When she uttered a prayer, all the spirits and hearts were satisfied. She became a grain of wheat among the Lord's children. And she herself became a loaf of barley to satisfy and feed many people. She experienced Christ as wheat and as barley, so she herself became a grain of wheat and a loaf of barley.

The vine

Now let us see something concerning the trees. The first is a vine tree. What does the vine represent? In Judges 9:13 the vine said, "Shall I leave my new wine, which cheers God and men?" In one sense it depicts the sacrificing Christ, the Christ who has sacrificed everything of Himself. But this is not the main point. The main significance is that out of His sacrifice He produced something to cheer God and man — new wine.

Have you had such an experience of Christ? I believe most of us have had some experience of this kind, but probably we have not paid much attention to it. Sometimes under the Lord's sovereignty we are put into a certain situation in which we must sacrifice ourselves to make others happy and the Lord happy. When in this situation we

come to contact the Lord, it is then that we experience Him as the wine-producing vine; we experience Christ as the One who gives cheer to God and cheer to others. Out of this experience we become the vine; we become the producer of something that cheers both man and God. I know you have had this kind of experience. There are different aspects of Christ to meet every need in every situation. Christ is so rich. He is not only the grain of wheat and the loaf of barley, but He is also all the trees, and the first is one that produces happiness for God and happiness for others. If all the brothers and sisters are happy with you, I am sure that to a greater or lesser degree you are experiencing Christ in this aspect; you are experiencing Christ as a wine producer. Christ as the sacrificing Lamb lives in you, energizing you to sacrifice yourself for others to bring them cheer.

Several years ago when I was in Taipei, Taiwan, a good number of brothers and sisters came and stayed with us to receive some spiritual help. One sister among them was always murmuring, always complaining. When she took a bath, the water was not hot enough; when she ate a meal, the food was too cold. All day long it was, "Why this?" and "Why that?" She gave all of those who were living with her a headache. No one was happy with her because she simply had not learned to sacrifice herself. She had never learned how to apply the sacrificing Christ to her situation. She herself was not a happy person, and she did not make anyone else happy. She was short of wine. She had no experience of Christ as the wine producer, sacrificing Himself to produce wine for others and for God.

If you experience Christ in this aspect, you yourself will have much wine to drink, and you will be drunk. Then you will be crazy with Christ. You should be a person who is drunk and crazy with Christ. You should be able to say, "I am so happy, Lord, I am so happy. I don't know what selfishness means; that is a foreign language to me. Day by day I am drinking the wine of Christ."

The most happy person is the most unselfish one. The most selfish people are always the most miserable. They are always crying, "Have pity on me; treat me a little better!" They are just like beggars, begging all the time. The sacrificing one is the happy one. How can we sacrifice? We have no energy to sacrifice, for our life is a natural life, a selfish life. Only the life of Christ is a life of sacrifice. If you contact this Christ and experience His sacrificing life, He will energize you, He will strengthen you to sacrifice for God and for others. Then you will be the most happy person; you will be drunk with happiness. This is the experience of Christ as the vine tree. By this experience you will become a vine to others. All of those who contact you will be happy with you, and you will bring cheer to God.

What must be done to the grapes to make them wine? They must be pressed. To make God and others happy, you must be pressed. You rejoice to learn that Christ is the barley, the resurrected Christ within you, and that He is enough to meet every situation. You say Hallelujah! But do not say Hallelujah too easily, for immediately

following the barley is the vine. The grapes must be pressed to bring cheer to God and man. You too must be pressed. The more you drink the wine of Christ, the more you will realize that you must be pressed. You must be broken in order to produce something in the house of the Lord to make others happy.

You see the order: first the wheat, then the barley, and then the vine. Our experience proves this. I say again, do not take these things just as a doctrine or teaching. Remember the ways whereby you may realize Christ in different aspects and apply Christ in your daily living.

Excerpt from: The All-Inclusive Christ, Ch 5

Burdens for Church Prayer

- 2024 renew our consecration and new beginning.
- Establish a prayer life individually and corporately to seek God's desire for all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.
- Building up a healthy life practices and opening our homes to raise up our next generation.
- Pray for the campus work and for the remaining fruit at West Valley College.
- Pray for our reaching out to Campbell community.
- Pray for the saints in Hua Lien, Taiwan, who were affected by the 7.4 magnitude earthquake, and their financial needs.

Announcements

- Life-study of Second Corinthians 15&16
- HWMR: 2023 Winter Training. Week 5
- 4/30 (Tue.) 7:30pm Prayer meeting at Campbell meeting hall
- 5/1 Semiannual Training (July 1-6) Registration by 5/1 Registration link:
 - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NeCFV45CB5IKbE3Abex5UrYrfyHRdgras7x-AxQ3h0/edit#gid=0
- 5/4, Sat, 10:00 am to 2 pm. "South Bay short and sweet college meet" Sign up Google form link: https://bit.ly/sscm-sp24
- 5/4-5/5 North America West Coast Korean-speaking blending conference

5/4 Sat.. 6:00pm-9:20pm. 5/5 Sun. 9:00am-12:30pm

[Zoom Link]

http://tinyurl.com/2024westcoast Meeting ID: 832 3050 1236

- 5/25-27 Memorial Day Conference will be held in Bellevue WA at Hyatt Regency Hotel (900 Bellevue Way NE). Registration is required for children service by 5/1.
- Financial Giving:

Church in Campbell on-line donation account: PayPal/Venmo/Zelle: churchincampbell@gmail.com Church in Campbell book room account (PayPal): churchincampbellbooks@gmail.com