

THE PATH OF LIFE FOR BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM

Meeting 1 – Renewing Our First Love to Our Savior King

I. As our Savior-King the Lord gave Himself completely for us in love (Rom. 5:8; 1 Pet. 2:24; Eph. 5:25)

- A. In order to redeem us with a high price (1 Cor. 6:19-20; 1 Pet. 1:18-19)
- B. In order to make us kings and priests (Rev. 1:5-6; 5:9-10)
- C. In order to gain our hearts in love – the kingdom of God is within us (Matt. 21:5; Zech. 9:9; Luke 17:20-21)

II. Our response – Stir up our first love to Him afresh (Rev. 2:4-5; Matt. 15:8-9; Rom. 12:11; Luke 24:32)

- A. We repent (meaning we direct our hearts toward Him) and cleanse ourselves from the love of this world (Jam. 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 Thess. 3:5)
- B. We are virgins for the Lord: pure, simple loving only the Lord (Rev. 14:4; 2 Cor. 11:2)
- C. We fully give ourselves to Him (Mark 14:3-9)
- D. We voluntarily obey Him in love (John 14:21-23; Ex. 21:2-6; Ps. 119:60)

Meeting 2 – Times of Refreshing

I. Daniel's repentance

- A. Daniel knew God's plan with His people (Dan. 9:2)
- B. Daniel knew the time for the return of God's people. He confessed the sins of the people and included himself in their transgressions (Dan. 9:3-19)
- C. He touched the reality of God and received light concerning the future (Dan. 9:20-10:21)

II. The repentance of the first Christians (Acts 2:37-41)

- A. From sin
- B. From this perverse generation
- C. In the name of Jesus

III. The forming of the church (Acts 2:38, 42-47)

- A. They received the Holy Spirit and became children of God
- B. They received the promise of the inheritance as children
- C. They continued steadfastly in doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread and in prayers
- D. They enjoyed times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord (Acts 3:18-20)

IV. Our repentance

- A. God accomplished all things in Christ (incarnation, crucifixion, resurrection and ascension)
- B. God conveyed us into Christ and gave us all things with His Son (Rom. 8:32)
- C. He builds us up into His body of Christ
- D. Touching Him gives us light and life
- E. Being touched by God's love (2 Cor. 5:14; 1 John 4:9-10)
- F. We cannot deal loosely with sin, because He died for us
- G. Recognizing our condition and the state of the church (2 Cor. 13:5)
- H. Renouncing sin (John 8:11; 1 Cor. 6:11; Rom. 6:2) and turning away from distractions (2 Cor. 11:3)
- I. He lives, so that we might live by Him (John 14:19; 2 Cor. 5:15)
- J. Our consecration for His purpose (Rom. 12:1-2)

V. A ministry in glory

Meeting 3 – Our Purification, Sanctification and Being Set Apart from the World, Sin, and Religion

I. God is holy (Dan. 4:8-9; Psa. 99:9; Isa. 5:16; Rev. 4:8)

- A. He wants man to be holy (1 Cor. 3:16-18; 6:18-20; Eph. 1:4)

- B. God's house is holy (Psa. 46:4; 48:1; Ezek. 20:40-41; 1 Pet. 2:5, 9)

II. God's desire for young people who are pure (Dan. 1:8)

- A. Pure in heart to see God (Matt. 5:8; Dan. 2:18-23; Psa. 139:1-6, 23-24)
- B. Honorable and sanctified vessels to be used for God's good work (2 Tim. 2:20-21)
- C. Good heart to bear fruit (Matt. 13:18-23)
- D. Not defiled to become firstfruits and overcomers (Rev. 14:4-5; 20:6; 1 Thess. 5:23; Rev. 19:7-9, 14; 20:6; 21:2)

III. Not to defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank (Dan. 1:8)

- A. Satan's strategy to defile man (Eph. 5:15-21)
 - 1. Sin to defile our bodies (1 Thess. 4:3-8)
 - 2. World defiles our hearts (Matt. 13:18-23; Heb. 12:15-16; Matt. 15:18-20; Mk. 7:20-23; James 3:6; Titus 1:15-16)
 - 3. Religion to compromise God's house (Dan. 5:1-4)
- B. A big party in the world and the church (Dan. 5:1-4)
 - 1. As in the days of Noah (Luke 17:26-30)
 - 2. Will end in utter destruction (Rev. 18:2-20)

IV. Purposed in his heart to pursue holiness (Heb. 12:14)

- A. Repenting heart (Dan. 9:5-11; 5:22)
- B. Confessing our sins (1 John 1:9; Rev. 12:10)
- C. Exercise to have an excellent spirit (Dan. 6:3; 1:20; 1 Tim. 4:7b)
- D. Sanctified by the word (John 17:17; Eph. 5:26-27)
- E. Present your body (Rom. 12:1-2; Heb. 10:25)
- F. Possess your body to sanctification (1 Thess. 4:2-4; 2 Tim. 2:21-22)
- G. Separate ourselves from the world (1 John 2:15-17; 1 Tim. 6:3-11; James 4:4)
- H. No faults because he was faithful (Dan. 6:4)

V. Practical experience of purity (Dan. 1:9-16)

Meeting 4 – Our Relationship to God through the Word of God

I. The Word's nature

- A. The Word is God Himself (John 1:1)
- B. The Word is Christ (John 1:14; 1 John 1:1; Rev. 19:13)
- C. The Word is living and abiding (1 Pet. 1:23; Matt. 24:35)

II. The way we deal with the Word

- A. We eat and enjoy the Word (Matt. 4:4; Ps. 119:47)
- B. We lay hold of the Word's reality for our life through prayer (Jam. 1:22; John 1:16)
- C. The Word is a light to our path (Ps. 119:105; 2 Pet. 1:19)
- D. We work out our own salvation by holding fast (expressing) the word of life (Phil. 2:12-16; John 14:21)
- E. Let none of His words fall to the ground (1 Sam. 3:19; Is. 55:10-11)

III. The Word's purpose: To conform us and perfect us in Christ (2 Cor. 3:18; Ps. 119:1)

- A. For the expression of God's glory (2 Pet. 1:3; Matt. 5:48)
- B. For the building up of God's kingdom in the present age (2 Tim. 3:17)
- C. For reigning with Christ in the coming age (Rev. 20:6)

Meeting 5 – Absolute for God's Kingdom

I. God is looking for people today, who are absolute for Him and for His kingdom

- A. His eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth (2 Chr. 16:9a; Ps. 101:6)
- B. Daniel and his friends – they were only a few, yet very important for God (Dan. 1:6-8; 3:16-18; 6:11)

II. Being absolute so that God's purpose can be fulfilled with us

- A. We can only be faithfully follow the Lord to the goal if we are absolute (Rev. 14:4; 12:11; 17:14; 2:10)
 - 1. Today we live in the time of ripening – a good start does not suffice, we must reach the goal
 - 2. Encouraging examples from the Scriptures (Num. 32:11-12; Dan. 6:5; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)
 - 3. Solomon's example as a warning (1 Kings 11:4)
- B. The Lord can only build His kingdom with us, if we are absolute
 - 1. A kingdom divided against itself will not stand (Matt. 12:25; 1 Cor. 7:33)
 - 2. God receives the glory when His people are absolute for Him (Dan. 3:28-29; 6:26-28)
 - 3. God needs His people to be volunteers (Ps. 110:2-3)

III. Becoming absolute throughout our entire walk

- A. Caring for our relationship with the Lord and touching Him – He is the absolute One inside of us (John 2:13-17; Zech. 1:14; 8:2)
- B. Asking the Lord for a pure and absolute heart (Ps. 139:23-24; 51:10; Ez. 36:26)
- C. Our everyday walk (Eph. 5:15-16)
 - 1. Setting priorities (Matt. 6:33; Ps. 137:5-6)
 - 2. Not lagging (Dan. 6:4; Rom. 12:11)
 - 3. Not being distracted by anything but abiding and persevering in the Lord (1 Cor. 7:29-31, 35; 1 John 2:15-17)
 - 4. Trusting the Lord and experiencing Him in a living way (Ps. 125:1; Dan. 3:28)

Meeting 6 – The Battle for God's Kingdom against the Enemy

I. The enemy's indirect attacks in our personal life to obstruct the kingdom

(Gen. 3:1a; John 8:44; 10:10a)

- A. Temptation, deceitfulness of sin and accusations of the enemy (Rev. 12:10-11; Eph. 4:22)

- B. Fear and doubt from our mind and emotions
(Gen. 3:1; 2 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 6:16)
- C. Tempted by the world (1 John 2:15-17; Jam. 4:4; Rom. 12:2)

II. We overcome the enemy's attacks and fight together for God's kingdom

(Ps. 110:1-3; Eph. 6:10-20; Lev. 27:1-7; Num. 1:2-3)

- A. We confess our sins and cleanse ourselves from an evil conscience with the blood of Christ
(1 John 1:7, 9; Heb. 10:19-22; Rev. 12:11; 1 Cor. 10:13)
- B. We proclaim the Lord's Word with a spirit of faith and are not influenced by our emotions
(Rev. 12:11; 2 Cor. 4:13; Hebr. 11:1; 12:1; 2:14-15)
- C. We put to death our members which are on the earth and overcome the flesh by the Spirit
(Gal. 5:16-25; Rom. 8:12-13; Col. 3:5-7)
- D. We overcome the world through Him, who is in us
(1 John 4:4; 5:4-5; 2:14; 2 Tim. 2:4)
- E. We resist the enemy in our thoughts by bringing them into captivity and setting our mind on the Lord
(James 4:8; Jude 9; 2 Cor. 10:5; Col. 3:1-3; 2 Thess. 3:5)
- F. We put on the whole armor of God together and fight for His kingdom (Eph. 6:10-20)

Meeting 7 – Working Together with God through Our Prayers for the Restoration of Jerusalem

- I. God has predestined us, men, to carry out His reign on the earth** (Gen. 1:26-27; Rev. 5:9-10)

II. We can work together with God through our prayers

- A. God's fulfillment of His will is dependent on our prayers
(Matt. 6:9-10; Ezekiel 36:37)
- B. We ask in His name – our oneness with the Father and the Son
(John 14:13-14; 15:7, 16; 16:23-24, 26-27)
- C. We have the authority to bind and loose (Matt. 18:18)
- D. Releasing the burden given to us by God (Matt. 18:19)

III. The prayer towards Jerusalem

- A. Praying with open windows towards Jerusalem (Dan. 6:10; Ps. 137:5-6)
- B. Prayer is our response when God reveals His will to us in His Word (Dan. 9:1-3; Jer. 25:12-13; 29:10-23)
- C. We are one with His heart's desire to restore Jerusalem – the building up of the church today (Is. 62:1, 6-7; Zech. 1:14; Heb. 12:22-23)
- D. Praying according to the Lord's feeling – Daniel repented for the sins of God's people (Dan. 9:4-19)

Meeting 8 – Becoming Steadfast through Trials

I. Trials – Part of God's plan

- A. Entering the kingdom through tribulations (Acts 14:21-23)
- B. Understanding God's purpose (Dan. 12:10)
 - 1. Testing of faith (1 Pet. 1:3-7)
 - 2. Refining and purifying (2 Cor. 4:15-18; Zech. 13:8-9; John 15:2)
 - 3. Having a humble heart (1 Pet. 5:6-7; Deut. 8:16-18)
 - 4. Becoming useful for His kingdom
- C. Our joy is to gain Christ in every situation (Heb. 12:2-3, 4-11; Phil. 1:20-21; James 1:2-3, 12)

II. God needs faithful men for His kingdom

- A. God's faithfulness towards us (Deut. 8:2-6; 1 Cor. 10:11-13; 2 Tim. 2:11-13)
- B. Being faithful to the Lord in small things (Luke 16:10-13)
- C. Focusing on the Lord (Dan. 6:10; 2 Cor. 3:16-18)
- D. Resisting the devil and applying faith in Him (Acts 4:24-31; Luke 18:1-8; Dan. 3:16-18)
- E. Faithful till the end (Rev. 17:14)

Meeting 9 – The Importance of Oneness in God's Kingdom, the Church

I. In the time of the Old Testament

- A. God is one, His kingdom cannot be divided
(Deut. 6:4; Zech. 14:9; Matt. 12:25)
- B. Oneness – the foundation for God's rich blessings of life
(Ps. 133)
- C. God's choice and command for the building up of His house
(Ex. 25:40; Deut. 5:32; 12:8, 11; Ps. 132:13-18;
1 Chron. 28:9-12)

II. In the time of the New Testament

- A. The oneness of the Spirit (Eph. 4:3-6)
- B. The last and most important prayer of the Lord – for the oneness of the church (John 17:11, 21-26; 10:16)
- C. All believers were by one Spirit baptized into one body
(1 Cor. 12:12-13, 25)
 - 1. Experiencing Christ as the Head over all things
(Eph. 1:22-23)
 - 2. In Christ and by what every joint supplies the whole body is joined and knit together (Eph. 4:15-16)
 - 3. The body grows and edifies itself in love (Eph. 4:16)
- D. God's absolute reign in the church, His kingdom
(Matt. 28:18; Acts 2:36)
- E. God's word testifies: one city, one church
(Acts 8:1; 11:22; Rev. 1:11)

Meeting 10 – The Glory of the Church

I. The church being glorious and comes out of God

- A. Just as Eve came out of Adam, so as the church from Christ
(Gen. 2:21-24; Eph. 5:25-31; 1 Cor. 15:45)
 - 1. Whatever is not of Christ is not the church
 - 2. It is holy, without spot or wrinkle
- B. It is hidden (2 Cor. 4:3-7; Matt. 13:44)
- C. It is visible and shall manifest the glory of God (John 17:23)
 - 1. The influence on the world shall be noticeable
(Matt. 5:13)
 - 2. The city that is set on a hill and its light shall be visible
(Matt. 5:14-16)

II. What we can do for the glory in the church

- A. We keep ourselves undefiled – without spot (Matt. 5:8)
- B. We do not want to be old but want to turn away from dead traditions and routines and seek the touching and leading of the Lord (Phil. 3:7-15)
- C. We keep the oneness
 - 1. Christ has already given us the glory (John 17:22)
 - 2. We are sensitive to the reaction of the Spirit in us (John 16:13)
 - 3. We bring our thoughts, judgments and speaking under the reign of the Lord (2 Cor. 10:5-7)
- D. We learn to know our spirit better and to turn to Him
 - 1. We strengthen our spirit through spiritual nourishment (1 Cor. 3:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:1-3)
 - 2. We actively and regularly take care of the fellowship with the Lord and with the saints (1 Cor. 1:9; 1 John 1:3; 2:27)
 - 3. We get to know the Lord better and hear His voice: In His word, in our conscience, in the intuition of the Spirit, in the saints (Rev. 2:7, 11)
 - 4. We serve in the Spirit (Rom. 12:11)
 - 5. We bring wood and build the house (Haggai 1:8; 2:9)

Meeting 11 – Zion, the Practical Church Life, Is Our Salvation Today

- I. For the Lord has chosen Zion and desired it for His dwelling place** (Ps. 132)
 - A. It is good to be where God dwells (1 Sam. 3:3; Luke 2:49, 52)
 - B. Christ dwells in us, but we have to learn daily to abide in Him in all things (1 John 2:27)
- II. Zion, the practical church life, is our salvation today** (Ps. 51)
 - A. You have come to Mount Zion (Heb. 12:22-29)
 - B. The church is heavenly but very practical (Rom. 12:1-2)
- III. Zion, the church life, the kingdom where God is expressed**

IV. Our consecration for the church life

- A. Exercising our spirit for the service in the house of God (1 Cor. 6:17; 12:4-7; 1 Tim. 4:12-16; 2 Tim. 1:6-7)
- B. Willing and bold to release the Spirit (Jer. 1:6-7, 9; 1 Cor. 14:31; Matt. 14:16; Ps. 22:23; 138:3)
- C. Your portion is important for the building up (1 Cor. 14:3-4, 26; Prov. 11:24-26; Eph. 5:18-19; Songs 2:14)
- D. Actively helping to build the house of God (Matt. 24:45-47; Malachi 3:10; Ps. 68:26-27)

Meeting 12 – The Joy to Serve Practically in the Church; Our Portion in the Body of Christ

(Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 12)

I. Being conscious of having received the kingdom and the priesthood (Heb. 12:28, Rev. 5:10; 1:6)

II. The joy of serving (Ps. 122)

- A. The practical service comes from joy (Ps. 100:2; 16:3)
- B. Having a vision, for what we consecrate ourselves to
- C. A testimony for God's people (Deut. 12)
- D. Seeking the best for the city of Jerusalem (Ps. 122:9)

III. Present your body – for the church life (Rom. 12:1; 6:13)

- A. For the King (Col. 3:17, 23; 1 Cor. 10:31)
- B. For our brothers and sisters (Rom. 12:10-16)
- C. As a testimony in the world (1 Cor. 9:19-22; 26-27; Phil. 2:14-15)
- D. Serving in the Spirit (John 4:23-24, Rom. 15:13; 1:9; 7:6)
- E. Serving is a protection – for example, how we redeem our time (Eph. 5:15-16, Col. 4:5)
- F. My portion in the body of Christ (Rom. 15:2)
- G. Giving with joy (2 Cor. 9:7; 8:2; Prov. 11:24)
- H. Being an example to the believers in practical things is effective (1 Tim. 4:12)

Meeting 13 – The Excellent Spirit

I. Receiving the Spirit in our spirit by regeneration

(John 3:5-6)

- A. The spirit of power, love and a sound mind (2 Tim. 1:7)
- B. The spirit of wisdom and revelation (Eph. 1:17)
- C. The Spirit, who raised Jesus from the dead (Rom. 8:11)
- D. The Spirit of the living God (2 Cor. 3:3, 6)
- E. The Spirit of faith (2 Cor. 4:13)
- F. The Spirit of glory (1 Pet. 4:14)

II. Diligent to use the Spirit – the entrance into the eternal kingdom (2 Pet. 1:3-11; Matt. 25:14-30; Luke 19:11-27)

- A. Obeying the Lord and fully following Him
(Num 14:24; Rev. 14:4)
- B. Walking in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16, 24-25)
- C. The expression of the excellent Spirit in all our conduct
(Dan. 6:3-4; Gen. 41:38-40; Acts 6:3; Titus 2:6-8)
 - 1. Faithful and without error or fault
(1 Tim. 4:12; Ps. 50:23)
 - 2. Not lagging in diligence but burning in Spirit
(Rom. 12:11; Heb. 6:11-12)
 - 3. Not speaking corrupt words (Eph. 4:29-30; Col. 4:6)
 - 4. Using the rest of our time (1 Pet. 4:2; Eph. 5:15-16)
 - 5. Cleansing oneself from all filthiness of the flesh, the world and religion (2 Cor. 7:1; Rom. 8:13; Jude 1:23)
 - 6. Let your conduct be worthy of the gospel – walking worthy of the gospel (Phil. 1:27)

Meeting 14 – Spreading God's Kingdom through the Gospel

I. God's definite will (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Cor. 5:19; 2 Pet. 3:9)

- A. For all men to be saved
- B. And come to the full knowledge of the truth

II. Our training through the Spirit

- A. Fishers of men (Matt. 4:19)

- B. Light in this world (Phil. 2:15-16)
 - 1. Jesus Himself is the Light of the world
(Luke 1:79; 2:30-32; John 1:4-5, 9; 8:12; 9:5; 12:46; Matt. 4:16)
 - 2. Being regenerated, the believers become light
(John 12:36; Matt. 5:14-16; Eph. 5:8; 1 Thess. 5:5; 1 Pet. 2:9)
- C. Witnesses of the Lord Jesus (Luke 24:46-49; Acts 1:8)
- D. Partakers of the gospel (Phil. 1:5, 7, 12-18, 27-30)
 - 1. From the first day until now
 - 2. In the defense and confirmation of the gospel
 - 3. Using all our circumstances for the furtherance of the gospel
 - 4. Being bold and courageous, not ashamed of the gospel
(Phil 1:14; Rom. 1:16)
 - 5. Living a life worthy of the gospel
 - a. Standing fast in one spirit, striving together with one soul
 - b. Willing to suffer for Him
- E. Fruitful branches of the vine (John 15:1-8)