

## Guidelines for the Exercise of the Lord's day Prophesying

### Message Three: Living Christ by Walking according to the Spirit for the Body Life

#### I. Overview:

The central thought of the Bible is that God desires us to live Christ for the building up of the Body of Christ. The climax, the highest point, of the divine revelation in the entire Bible is to live Christ. If we would live Christ, we must take Him as our person and be one person with Him. He and we must be one in a practical way. The practical way to live Christ is to walk according to the spirit, according to the mingled spirit. Our gospel preaching and shepherding should be the issue of our walking according to the spirit. The way to walk according to the spirit is to pray unceasingly, just as we breathe unceasingly; our walking according to the spirit is our spiritual breathing.

#### II. Truth and Enlightenment:

Day 1 —

A. Describe Paul's life was to live Christ.

Paul's life was to live Christ. In Galatians 2:20 Paul declares, "It is Christ who lives in me." For Paul, this was not a mere doctrine; it was a fact. To live Christ is not merely to have a holy life or to live holiness. To live Christ is to live a person; that is to let Christ Himself live from within us.

B. What exercise do we need to live Christ?

In order to live Christ, we must practice being one spirit with Him, and in order to practice being one spirit with Him, we must exercise our spirit to pray unceasingly. Apart from unceasingly praying, we cannot live Christ. Moreover, the foundation for us to pray is our love for the Lord. Part of the secret of living Christ is telling the Lord again and again that we love Him.

Day 2 —

A. Sketch out four main verses that reveal the matter of living Christ.

John 6:57 is the first verse in the New Testament that directly touches the matter of living Christ. The second verse is John 14:19. The clause because I live, you also shall live indicates that because He lives in resurrection, we also shall live with Him and by Him. The third verse is Galatians 2:20. It says, "I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith." The fourth verse is Philippians 1:21, which says, "To me, to live is Christ."

B. What is our real shortage of a practical living today?

According to the vision that we have seen in Paul's Epistles. We are often distracted by outward things, such as our work or the problems in the local churches. Actually, such problems are mainly due to a lack of living Christ. Our daily walk does not correspond to our vision concerning the central lane of Paul's completing ministry. Our primary concern should not be anything outward but whether we are living the self or living Christ.

Day 3 —

A. Explain we often pray in difficulty, but lack of walking according to the spirit.

When we face serious problems, we often pray desperately to seek the Lord's leading. Before we give a message, it is easy to pray. However, walking according to the spirit is different from praying in difficult situations or before spiritual activities. To walk according to the spirit is to do everything in our

daily life according to the spirit. We need to walk according to the spirit moment by moment not only in big things but also in small things, such as talking with our family at the dinner table.

B. Why is Rom. 8:4 the practical way to live Christ?

According to Paul's word in Romans 8:4, we should walk according to the spirit. The word walk in this verse denotes the general walk in our living, including how we speak, think, act, and move. This verse indicates that we need not only to walk but also to have our entire being according to the mingled spirit.

Day 4 —

A. Expound our living being not according to the spirit is according to the flesh.

According to Romans 8:4-9, anything that is not according to the spirit is according to the flesh. There are only two sources and two conditions of our living—the spirit and the flesh. Outward behavior, such as whether we are loving or hating others or praising or criticizing others, does not determine whether we are living according to the spirit or the flesh. Even our love is according the flesh if it is not according to the spirit.

B. Why is our spiritual action the result of walking according to the spirit?

Our gospel preaching and shepherding should not be activities but should be the issue of a daily life of walking according to the spirit. All such aspects of the Christian life should be part of our living. In order to exhibit Christ, we must gain Christ in our daily life by walking according to the spirit. We need a clear view to see that what the Lord wants is a group of people who walk according to the spirit.

Day 5 —

A. Why's corporate church life need to be balanced by a personal daily life?

The saints in a local church may experience a high corporate life for a time, but if they do not enter into the practice of walking according to the spirit, their enjoyment will eventually diminish. Many of us have experienced a high corporate life in the past. Today we need to enter into the actual practice of walking according to the spirit, and as leading ones, we need to help others to balance their corporate enjoyment of the Lord with a personal daily life of walking according to the spirit.

B. What is the way to walk according to the spirit?

The way to walk according to the spirit is to pray. When we pray in sincerity, we are in the spirit. The kind of prayer is that we need to practice in order to walk according to the spirit. We need to pray unceasingly, just as we breathe unceasingly. Unceasingly prayer keeps us in our spirit. We must practice unceasing prayer by calling on the Lord's name no matter what else we are doing.

Day 6 —

A. Explain the Body life in Romans 12 depends on walking according to the spirit in Romans 8.

The Body of Christ in Romans 12 issues from the experience of walking according to the spirit in Romans 8. According to Paul's view of God's economy, all the members of the Body of Christ should be persons who walk according to the spirit. In principle, if we do not walk according to the spirit, we cannot practically have the Body of Christ. All the believers are members of the Body of Christ, but the practicality of the Body depends on the believers' walk.

B. What thing does count in the eyes of God?

The one thing that is real and that counts—the Triune God living in us so that we may live Him. The goal of the Lord's recovery is to recover Christ, who is the embodiment of the Triune God to be our life and who is the Spirit to live within us and make us His living members so that His Body will be built up on the earth.

III. Conclusion:

The real impact of Lord's recovery comes from our daily living. Our gospel preaching and shepherding should not be activities but should be the issue of a daily life of walking according to the spirit. All such aspects of the Christian life should be part of our living. For instance, a daily life of walking according to the spirit will issue in our functioning with a released spirit in the meetings. If we do not live Christ in our daily life, we will have no surplus of Christ to bring to the meetings. When we face serious problems, we often pray desperately to seek the Lord's leading. Before we give a message, it is easy to pray. However, walking according to the spirit is different from praying in difficult situations or before spiritual activities. To walk according to the spirit is to do everything in our daily life according to the spirit. We need to walk according to the spirit moment by moment not only in big things but also in small things. Brother Lee had experienced this matter deeply; he confessed, repented thoroughly when he was not enough living Christ out and could not declare boldly like Paul did, "For to me, to live is Christ."