

Note: **Bold type** and/or underlining have been added for emphasis in the above verses and quotations.

Suggested Supplementary Reading

None this week.

Our Experience in the Church Life

Prayer Burdens

1. Please pray for the young peoples' Gospel activities and Meeting this Saturday [Nov. 19] afternoon and evening. The young people will gather at Hall #3 at 3 pm for activities Supper at 6pm Gospel Meeting at 7:30 pm Pray for the young peoples' boldness to invite friends, for their friends to respond by coming and for their being touched by the Lord.
2. Please pray for the saints serving the young people, who need much encouragement from all the saints and much strengthening from the Lord to carry this heavy burden of caring for the young people in the church.
3. In Ajax, every Tuesday evening a number of young people gather at a fish and chip shop to hear the gospel from a number of saints among us. Let up pray for some hearts to be opened and for the penetrating word to be released.

Announcements:

The church in Toronto

Twelve Baskets Full Week 5

Novemember 12 - November 24, 2007

Two Kinds of Knowledge of the Lord — that which is According to Flesh and that which is According to the Spirit

Weekly Bible Reading:

John 20:11-18; Luke 24:13-32; John 21:1-14

Hymns:

594; 589; 711; Songbook - 165

Monday

Verses for Morning Revival

2 Corinthians 5:16

16 So then we, from now on, know no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him so no longer.

Galatians 1:15a-16a

? ...it pleased God...to reveal His Son in me.

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

“From the Lord Jesus' resurrection until now, there are two kinds of knowledge of Him. One kind of knowledge is according to the flesh, and the other kind of knowledge is according to the Spirit. ...2 Corinthians 5:16 ...[and] Galatians 1:15-16 show us the proper means by which we can know the Lord Jesus today. Let us see these two kinds of knowledge of the Lord Jesus by considering a few concrete examples from the Bible.

Mary the Magdalene's Knowledge of the Lord

“While Mary the Magdalene was weeping outside the Lord's grave, ‘two angels in white...said to her, Woman, why are you weeping? She said to them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him. When she said these things, she turned backward and beheld Jesus standing there, yet she did not know that it was Jesus’ (John 20:12-14). It is strange that when she turned and saw Jesus, the One whom she had seen and followed for years, she could not recognize Him. The reason that she did not know the Lord at all, even though she knew Him so well before, was because the Son of God who had been in the

flesh had been crucified on the cross and resurrected. The body which she desired to see was gone. All those who knew Him according to the flesh did not know Him any longer after His resurrection. He was no longer the Lord Jesus that she knew. He had become the Lord Jesus that she did not know. He was no longer a historical Jesus; He was living in the Spirit. He was no longer the Lord Jesus in the flesh but the Lord Jesus in the Spirit. She could no longer know Him by the same means that she did when she knew Him in the flesh.”

(The Collected Works of Watchman Nee, Vol. 37, Chpt. 1, pp. 1-2)

Tuesday

Verses for Morning Revival

2 Timothy 1:9

9 [God] has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given to us in Christ Jesus before the times of the ages

Hebrews 3:1

1 Therefore, holy brothers, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider...Jesus,

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

Mary the Magdalene's Knowledge of the Lord, cont'd.

‘Jesus said to her, Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking? She, supposing that He was the gardener, said to Him, Sir, if you have carried Him away’ (v. 15). Mary's senses were no longer very clear. Formerly, she knew Him by using her ears. Her ears had not changed, but they no longer worked when she tried to identify Him according to her ears. Formerly, her eyes could identify Him. Her eyes had not changed, but they could not identify the Lord Jesus anymore. She had not changed, but Jesus of Nazareth had changed. Mary was still the same Mary, but Jesus of Nazareth had risen from the dead. Her ears, eyes, and understanding had now become useless. According to the old ways it was possible to know the earthly Lord Jesus in the flesh. But it was no longer possible to know the resurrected, spiritual, and heavenly Lord Jesus, who now lived in the Spirit. Mary had not changed. The Lord Jesus had changed. Because the Lord had changed, there had to be a change on Mary's part before she

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

The Seven Disciples' Knowledge of the Lord, cont'd.

“ ‘When they got out onto the land, they saw a fire of coals laid there, and fish lying on it and bread. Jesus said to them, Bring some of the fish that you have just now caught’ (vv. 9-10). None of the disciples dared to ask who He was, knowing that it was the Lord. Do you not feel that this word is quite ambiguous? If they knew that it was the Lord, they no longer needed to ask Him. They were not without questions; they were just too afraid to ask. They dared not inquire of Him. This means that they did not know, yet they dared not ask because they were afraid. Yet it says that although no one dared to inquire of Him, they all knew that it was the Lord. They did not know it outwardly, but they knew it inwardly. Outwardly they were still wondering who this man was. Yet inwardly, they knew that it was the Lord. They may have said, ‘I do not know Him when I see His face. I do not know Him when I hear His voice. In my mind, I want to ask Him who He is. But in my heart I do not need to ask Him because I already know that He is the Lord.’ Have you ever had this experience—on the one hand, you do not know anything, but on the other hand, you are very clear? This is the experience of many Christians. We are not clear about many things and are bewildered about many things. But at the same time, we are very clear. This is the meaning of revelation. Revelation makes a person clear within; it is knowing something within. Blessed are those who walk according to revelation! **Blessed are those who know the Lord according to revelation!** Only they have power before the Lord, and only they know what the Lord can do.

“Outward knowledge cannot replace inward revelation. We must have an inward knowledge of the Lord. Once we have inward knowledge, no one can shake us. May the Lord open our eyes to realize what we cannot realize otherwise. With our mind and our senses, we can only know Jesus in the flesh; this knowledge is not that useful to us and does not give us any strength. May the Lord truly reveal His Son in us so that we can be clear within, have inward knowledge and understanding, and have no doubt whatsoever within us.”

during the whole night. Even more strange is the fact that as the morning broke, when Jesus stood on the shore, they did not recognize Him. The resurrected Lord Jesus cannot be recognized by human eyes. Peter, John, and James had been with the Lord all the time. Nathanael was one of the earliest ones who knew the Lord. As for Thomas, the Lord even purposely manifested Himself to him in order to remove his disbelief of His resurrection. Yet now, they all failed to know Him. They needed another experience and another power before they could know Him. 'Then Jesus said to them, Little children, you do not have any fish to eat, do you? They answered Him, No. And He said to them, Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some. They cast therefore, and they were no longer able to haul it in because of the abundance of fish' (vv. 5-6). Then what happened? John, the disciple who reclined on the Lord's breast, recognized that it was the Lord, and he said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put his outer garment around himself and threw himself into the sea. A minute earlier they heard Him and saw Him, yet they did not know that it was the Lord. Now suddenly they knew; they knew in a mysterious way. This knowledge is Christianity. This knowledge is unshakeable; it is an inward seeing, an inward knowledge, and an inward strength. This knowledge gave Peter renewed strength."

(The Collected Works of Watchman Nee, Vol. 37, Chpt. 1, pp. 4-5)

Saturday

Verses for Morning Revival

Romans 8:5-8

- 5** ...those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the spirit, the things of the Spirit.
- 6** For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the spirit is life and peace.
- 7** Because the mind set on the flesh is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, for neither can it be.
- 8** And those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

could know the changed Jesus. She had to have a new revelation before she could have a fresh knowledge of the Lord.

" 'Jesus said to her, Mary! She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, Rabboni!' (v. 16). It is strange that as soon as the Lord mentioned her name, Mary recognized the Lord. This calling of her name by the Lord is a kind of revelation. What is a revelation? A revelation is not the Lord standing there and saying, 'I am Jesus.' A revelation is when a person suddenly and inexplicably comes to know the Lord. When the Lord Jesus called, 'Mary,' she did not come to know that her name was Mary. When the Lord called, 'Mary,' she realized that this was Rabboni. The Lord did not say anything to her; all He did was call her name, and she became clear within. She received inward knowledge. This is the meaning of a revelation.

"Here we see an important principle. Revelation does not come through the ears, the eyes, or any other power of perception. Revelation is a mysterious thing; it is a knowledge beyond the power of comprehension of the ears and eyes. It is a mysterious kind of knowledge. This is revelation.

"After Mary knew the Lord, she hurried to the disciples to tell them about it. Although the disciples heard it, they were still bewildered."

(ibid., pp. 1-3)

Wednesday

Verses for Morning Revival

Luke 24:25-27, 31a

- 25** And He said to them, O foolish and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!
- 26** Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and enter into His glory?
- 27** And beginning from Moses and from all the prophets, He explained to them clearly in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.
- 31** And their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him...
- a**

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

The Knowledge of the Lord of the Two Disciples on the Way to Emmaus

"After the Lord's resurrection, two of the disciples went to Emmaus. On the way they were talking to each other concerning all the

things which had occurred, that is, about the things concerning the Lord Jesus which Mary had related. At that moment, the Lord Jesus Himself drew near to them. Yet their eyes were kept from recognizing Him; they did not know the resurrected Lord. They knew the Jesus who was in the flesh. But they did not know the Lord who had resurrected. Resurrection was a mysterious thing to them, and they could not believe in it.

“The Lord conversed with them, taught them, and clearly explained to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself, beginning from Moses and from all the prophets. Yet they still did not know Him. Although they understood the teachings of the Scriptures and were touched and even burning in their hearts, they still did not know the Lord Jesus. This shows us that doctrines and revelation are two different things. They understood the Scriptures, but they did not know the Lord. They knew the teachings about Christ, but they did not know Christ.”

(The Collected Works of Watchman Nee, Vol. 37, Chpt. 1, p. 3)

Thursday

Verses for Morning Revival

Luke 24: 30-31a

30 ...as He reclined at table with them, He took the loaf and blessed it, and having broken it, He began handing it to them.

31 And their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him...

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

The Knowledge of the Lord of the Two Disciples on the Way to Emmaus, cont'd.

“When it was near evening and they were coming close to Emmaus, they constrained Him to stay with them. As they reclined at table, Jesus took the loaf and handed it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him. This shows us clearly that there are two kinds of knowledge of the Lord. One kind of knowledge is from the Bible, while the other kind of knowledge comes when the Lord opens men's eyes. Some are very familiar with the Scriptures and can even speak to others about them, but they do not know the Lord Jesus. Others know not only the scriptural teachings, but their eyes have been opened by the Lord and they know the Lord Jesus also. These are two very different things. We must realize that Christianity does not have only the

Bible but also personal revelations. It is true that without the Bible, there would be no Christianity in the world. But we have to remember that without revelation, we do not have a personal Christ.

“One problem among God's children is that much of their knowledge is ‘transmitted’ knowledge; it is transmitted from one's mouth to another's ear. One man understands with his mind and transmits it into another man's ear. Everything is transmitted, and hence everything is just a doctrine and teaching. We must remember that it is useless to have Bible knowledge without knowing the Lord. The two disciples that were on the way to Emmaus knew the Scriptures already, and while the Lord was talking with them and explaining the Scriptures to them on the way, their hearts were burning. Yet they still did not know the Lord. The only true knowledge of the Lord is inward knowledge. Do you have such an inward knowledge of the Lord?”

(ibid, pp. 3-4)

Friday

Verses for Morning Revival

Ephesians 1:18a

18 The eyes of your heart having been enlightened, that you may know...

Philippians 3:7,8b-9a, 10a

7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.

8 ...that I may gain Christ

9 And be found in Him...

10 To know Him...

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

The Seven Disciples' Knowledge of the Lord

“One day, ‘Simon Peter and Thomas, called Didymus, and Nathanael from Cana of Galilee and the sons of Zebedee and two others of His disciples were there together. Simon Peter said to them, I am going fishing. They said to him, We also are coming with you’ (John 21:2-3). It is strange that they were good fishermen, yet once they had followed the Lord, they could not catch anything when they went back to fish. They caught nothing