

WORKSHOP & FELLOWSHIP FOR THE FACULTY SAINTS

Topic Two

The Life-Pulse in the Practice of the God-ordained Way—the Homes

Scripture Reading: Acts 2:46-47; 5:42; Rom. 16:5; 12:5; Eph. 4:16; 2 Cor. 1:21; Eph. 2:19, 22

- I. The life pulse of the practice of the God-ordained way is the homes—Acts 2:46; 5:42; Rom. 16:5:**
- A. The God-ordained way is the way to practice God's New Testament economy—1 Tim. 1:4b; John 15:16:
 - 1. The God-ordained way to practice the New Testament economy is the unique way, the biblical way, and the most effective way; our going out to visit people is for this economy and should be linked with the divine economy —John 15:16; Luke 10:3-6.
 - 2. God's eternal economy involves and includes millions of sons of peace; these sons of peace need us to go to visit them in their homes—Luke 10:3-6.
 - B. In the age of the apostles, the churches were built up in the saints' homes—Rom. 16:5 and note 1.
 - C. The foundation of the church is the home meetings; if the church is to prosper today, the homes need to rise up; if the homes in the church are strong, the church will have a good prospect and a bright future.
 - D. We need not only to preach the gospel but also to open our homes and provide an outlet for the gospel of the Lord; in this way, the Lord's blessing will come not only to us but also to our sons and daughters for generation after generation—Acts 10:1-5, 21-24; Luke 5:27-29; Exo. 20:6.
- II. We have to realize that every home is a station for the Lord; the Lord can do many things through a home as His station; every home can be a station of the gospel, a station of the truth, a station of life, and a station of the church life—Acts 2:46; 5:42; Rom. 16:5:**
- A. The Lord is for His spreading, and His spreading is in the homes; the most effective way to preach the gospel is to open our homes for the gospel—Acts 2:46-47:
 - B. Acts shows that the early believers opened their homes and met from house to house immediately after they were saved; human beings are the mouthpiece of the gospel, and the homes are the channel of the gospel; every saint should open his home to preach the gospel:
 - 1. Acts 2 and 5 show clearly that the early believers first opened their homes for meetings (2:46), and then preached the gospel from house to house (5:42).
 - 2. In preaching the gospel we do not need any gimmicks; we should simply pray, preach the word, and open our homes.
 - C. In order to minister as functioning members, we have to learn to be related to others; in order to serve the Lord, to be a living member in the Body, we must realize that we need relatedness:
 - 1. The building is the members being rightly related; the proper phrase used by the Scriptures is joined together (Eph. 4:16); we need to be joined together with others in a practical way, not merely in doctrine.
 - 2. So that the Lord can build us up together, we must be definitely related with at least four, five, six, ten, or twelve brothers and sisters—Eph. 2:19, 22.

- III. The base for receiving the gospel work in the schools is the home, and the home unit is the most stable base; we must take the way of using the homes as the base for our work in the schools; once there is a stable base for the work in the homes, with little effort, whatever we do will achieve maximum result—Acts 16:31-34:**
- A. On the one hand, the freshmen in college are eager to leave home; on the other hand, as they live in the dormitories at school, they are often lonely and homesick; this provides an excellent opportunity to invite them into our homes; the young people in the church can invite others to the homes of the middle-aged ones and of the young couples; all these homes need to be open and ready to receive the young people.
 - B. We earnestly hope that several working saints will have homes near gates of every university; when we preach the gospel on a campus, immediately after someone is lead salvation, we can bring him to one of these homes; in this way the homes will become homes for the young people.
 - C. In every locality the church must also take up the burden to care for the young people, it is necessary to have many brothers' houses and sisters' houses in order to have the best communal life; we must give a strong testimony to society that the church life is the best communal life—Psa. 133:1.
- IV. We need to come together to pray specifically for the students' work that the Lord would open the door for us and raise up burdened ones to carry out this work; this is a desperate need; we all need to cry out to the Lord and ask Him to raise up more burdened ones—Acts 2:46-47.**