

Report of the Fall LMA Fellowship

The 2015 Fall LMA Fellowship was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, from October 27th to 29th. This was the 10th LMA Fellowship with around 160 local saints and responsible brothers from 21 overseas countries attending. This was also the 1st LMA Conference with a banner song. The general subject as well as the title of the banner song was "The Local Churches as the Testimony of Jesus".

In the very beginning of the conference, the speaking brother mentioned the dream of our dear Brother Watchman Nee:

"When the Lord called me to serve Him, the primary objective was not to hold revival meetings, help people hear more scriptural doctrines, or for me to become a great evangelist. The Lord revealed to me that He desired to build up local churches in various places to manifest Himself and to bear the testimony of unity on the ground of the local churches. In this way, each saint is able to function in the church and live the church life. What God wants is not individuals trying to be victorious or spiritual; He wants a corporate glorious church presented to Himself." (Watchman Nee—A Seer of the Divine Revelation in the Present Age, p. 33) Today, this is also the goal in all our labor: to build up the local churches as the Body of Christ and the testimony of Jesus all over the Asia.

There were a total of six messages. The first message "The Revealed Christ and the Testifying Church" shows us Christ as the testimony of the mysterious and invisible God and the church as the reproduction of the testimony of God in Christ. We are indeed very encouraged to see reports of churches being raised up in the LMA countries. Yet in the meantime, we have a heavy burden to ask if these churches bear the image, expression, appearance, and virtues of Christ. The most important function of a local church is to testify who Jesus is. On the negative side, we

need to escape the present evil age. On the positive side, we must love Him. The more we love Him, the more we will enjoy Him, be like Him, live Him, and be constituted with Him to become His testimony.

The second message "The Testimony of Jesus Being the Church as the Golden Lampstand" and the third message "The Golden Lampstand, a Living, Golden Tree" speak of the church in God's heart's desire as the golden lampstand. The lampstand is made of beaten work, meaning that we must be beaten together with others into one entity and blended together through the cross and by the Spirit for the building up of the Body of Christ. 1Corinthians 12:24 says, "God has blended the body together." To be blended means to be adjusted and harmonized. In the church life, all the saints come from different backgrounds. So we need to be blended until we lose our distinctions. In this way, we will shine forth the light of God for His corporate testimony. The book of Exodus also shows that the golden lampstand is actually a living and growing tree. All the local churches are the living trees, growing, branching, budding, and blossoming. If we would bear the burden to plant "church trees" everywhere, we need to set aside a definite time to preach the gospel and to have home meetings. We need to practice the God-ordained way in our daily living.

In the fourth message "Being Constituted with the Truth to Be the Testimony of Christ for the Expression of Christ", we come to the very fact that Christ is the living testimony of God and the function of the church is to be the testimony of Christ. Christ is the living word of God. The more we let the word of Christ dwell in us richly, the more we will be infused with the very substance of God to reflect Him for His glory. The highest profession on earth is to spend time being infused with God so that we can glow with God



and shine forth God. The work of creation was done by the objective word of God. Yet the work of building can only be done with the subjective, incarnated word of God. If we would be the testimony of Jesus, we need to allow the word of God to be incarnated within us again and again. Then there will be the tabernacle, and the testimony of Jesus will appear.

Message Five "Today's Ark, Rescuing Us Out of the Present Age" reveals to us how we could be rescued out of the present age and delivered out of both the material and the religious Babylon into the ark to live a pure church life. The term

"rescue" indicates a sense of urgency. Each day we need to be reminded to flee from the present evil age. Furthermore, God's desire is not just to save many individuals, but to build the church typified by the ark. For this, we must keep the oneness of the Spirit under the vision of the one Body as we live in the church life.

Message Six "One Unique Testimony and One Unique Expression" emphasizes again that we are here for the Lord's recovery and that the Lord's recovery is of the Lord's one move by His one ministry to produce His unique Body for His unique testimony. We must be focused on the Body in order to have a strong testimony. What separates us from Christianity is the unique oneness of the Spirit of the unique Body of Christ. We also need to see that all the churches on the earth as the golden lampstands should be identical in reality. The worldly concept is always to be different. However, according to the divine concept, the more identical we are, the more glory there is. When seeking ones come among us, they should see the same genuine and unique testimony of Jesus in every local church in Asia.

In this conference, each LMA country was given time for a PowerPoint presentation that the saints would be updated with the current situation in each country. Each country was asked to present 3 specific numbers: 1. The number of saints that attend the Lord's Table Meeting regularly; 2. The number of saints that go out for 2 hours weekly to preach the gospel; 3. The number of baptisms since the last LMA fellowship. For us to make progress in our service, we need to pay attention to these 3 items. We must not be satisfied with merely holding many meetings or conferences, but should take heed to the exercise and practice of



the God-ordained way. Statistics of these 3 items would point out our real situation and help us go on. The brothers encouraged us not only to preach the gospel, but also to practice having home meetings that new believers would remain. If a new one is unable to attend the meeting, we should bring the meeting to him. All the churches must enter into the practice of gospel preaching and home meetings in order to have the organic increase and multiplication. Our urgent need is to build up a structure of the God-ordained way. Brother Witness Lee handed to us a God-ordained model revealed in the Bible, a model for the organic building up of the Body of Christ. We need to be faithful to build according to this blueprint. If we bear the responsibility of building up such a model in our locality, we will not be put to shame when we meet the Lord. This will satisfy God's heart's desire.

One encouraging highlight in the countries' reports is that saints in many LMA countries are using various tools to approach people and promote the ministry, such as outdoor advertisement and Facebook. Communication applications such as Skype or LINE are also used for shepherding the saints or conducting trainings. Modern technologies indeed work for God's economy that His word would spread.

Another encouraging matter is that the church in Lahore was registered successfully with the government of Pakistan in August of this year, making it the first official local church recognized by the Pakistani government. Praise the Lord! He is the Ruler of the kings of the earth! Till now, there are still 13 countries in Asia with more than 171 million people that have no lampstand. May the Lord continue to open the door of the gospel that the gospel of the kingdom would be preached in the whole inhabited earth. We need to offer up our prayer, our whole being and our money to co-labor with the Lord in Asia.

The Lord has only one move by the one unique ministry to produce and build up the one Body of Christ for the one unique testimony. The Lord's Move to Asia is by no means a movement. We care not for any earthly authority or miraculous things; we care only for Christ, and we give ourselves to go in His going and move in His moving. May we labor with the Lord to raise up local churches, which are nothing but the testimony of Jesus for His corporate expression.