

Visions and Revelations Message 14: "The Apostle Peter (5)"

We were touched by Titus' words on the process of building up the church. Ephesians 1:23 tells us, "(The church) which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all". Based on this, we can see that the essence of the church is just Christ Himself. When we first believe unto the Lord, we need to grow up in the words of the Lord. The Lord's Word can come from teaching among brothers, it can come from spiritual books, but most importantly it comes from the Bible. When we read the Bible, we are able to drink from the "guileless milk of the word" (1 Peter 2:2). Dear brothers and sisters, being in God's Word is a necessity for us in order to grow in a healthy way. Oftentimes the reason why a believer's faith is not strong is because they are not in God's Word on a regular basis. If we are not taking in God's Word, then we could easily be swayed by the world's teachings and philosophies. Brothers and sisters, if you are in a place where you are questioning your faith in the Lord, we would ask you how often are you reading your Bible?

Once we have grown beyond a newborn babe, we should all realize that we each have our own unique portion in the Lord (Ephesians 4:16). After we realize our portion, we can begin to serve the Lord in a proper way. We are all individual members of Christ's body, but we are also one in His Body. We should all have the realization that we are unique and important within Christ's Body. At the same time, we should also have the realization that we need the other members of His Body. First Thessalonians 3:8 tells us, "For now we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord". Oftentimes as Christians, we could easily have one of two different bad conceptions. One is that we are valueless to the Lord, and that what we do is of no importance. The other is that we esteem ourselves as more important than other members of the Body. The reason why we could feel this way is because we have not grown up into the headship of Christ, meaning Christ is not totally in control over how we act. If we think we are unimportant, we may not hear the Lord speaking to us. If we think we are overly important, we may feel we are serving the Lord when in reality we are not listening to what He has to say. Brothers and sisters, we need the Lord so much! He is the source of everything good that is within us. We need him as the guileless milk of the Word, so that we can grow up healthily as members of the Body of Christ. When we operate as healthy members of His body, we must not forget that Christ is our head and we should do nothing outside of his direction. May the Lord make this a reality among all His children!