

Additional words, items suggested for fellowship: (week of 2/11/24)

The lampstand, bearing the image of an almond tree, testifies that Christ is Life, Resurrection, and Authority.

- Christ bears the image of God (John 14:9).
- Christ is life, resurrection, and the authority; as typified by the appearance of an almond tree.
 - Life (John 14:6)
 - Resurrection (John 11:25)
 - Authority (Num 17:5, 8)
- The lampstand testifies God through Christ.
- God's intent is that we are to be conformed to the image of His Son.

²⁹ For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren (Rom 8:29).

- We are also being transformed into the same image.

¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit (2 Cor 3:18).

We, as vessels containing His life as light, are being put on the lampstand to shine.

- Just as it pleases Him to put us in His body (1 Cor 12:18), we are put on the lampstand.
- We are also to be built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit (Eph 2:22).
- John turned to see the voice and he saw the seven golden lampstands (Rev 1:12). This shows that the Lord and the churches are one.
- The Son is one with the Father; we are also one with the triune God (John 17:21). We are one with His good pleasure.
- The Lord is the light of the world (John 9:5).
- We are the light of the world too (Matt 5:14; Eph 5:8; 1 Thes 5:5).
- We should not neglect our function.

God's intent and desire is to shape us into the image of His Son, the lampstand

- He shapes us from one piece of gold
- The shaping is by the hammering.
- He is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6).
- The hammering process may not be what you want, but through grace, how happy we are when we begin to see the result, the lampstand testifying God!

The lamp shed light on the space in front of the lampstand:

- Light enables us to see the lampstand, Christ.
- Light enables us to see the showbread table and the bread as the supply.
- With light, we see how we can enjoy Christ.
- Each church should be a lampstand shedding light on the showbread table. This means the church should be shining on the enjoyable, edible, Christ!
- We need to realize the light comes from the burning of the oil. We each should minister our Christ, the lifegiving Spirit, to the saints beside and around us! Dispense your oil into the lampstand for the light to shine forth!

The lampstand is a work of the Spirit

It is a matter to be in the spirit.

- Declare “Jesus is Lord” in spirit. (1 Cor 12:3)
- Do not grieve the Spirit. (Eph 4:30)
- Pray in spirit. (Eph 6:18)
- Love in spirit. (Col 1:8)
- Hear truth ... sealed in spirit. (Eph 1:13)
- Walk in spirit (Gal 5:16)
- Fervent in spirit (Rom 12:11)
- Be filled in spirit (Eph 5:18)
- Speaking in spirit (Eph 5:19)
- Witness in spirit (Acts 1:8)
- Ministry of the spirit (2 Cor 3:8)

The oil is supplied by the sons of oil and by the people

- By being olive branches, connecting to the olive tree and the lamp.
- Be in a “channel of blessing” in reality.

The gathering of God’s people should be a testimony of God’s presence and a testimony of the dwelling of God in spirit

- By being in the spirit
- Overcome all obstacles; **not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit**, says the Lord of hosts.

⁶ Then he said to me, “This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel saying, ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the Lord of hosts (Zech 4:6).