

## **Additional words, items suggested for fellowship: (week of 2/4/24)**

### **God's intent and desire is to shape us into the image of the lampstand:**

- He shapes us from one piece of gold.
- The shaping is by the hammering.
- 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!

His shaping is very meaningful

- It is His intention to shape us, to subdue us, and for us to be the testimony of resurrection.
- God's authority is in this testimony. It is the reality of life.
- Our goal, our aim, and our inspiration are for this testimony of the Lord, the golden lampstand.

### **We need the hammering work:**

- I want to help others, but what I need is a lot of hammering. God's hammering makes me into a certain kind of person who can help people.
- I want to serve the Lord, but I am really a wrong kind of person. I need God's shaping.
- When there is hammering, there is also a lot of grace.
- Lord, shape me as you will.

### **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!

### **How the church shines as a lampstand:**

- **Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of hosts.**

<u>Old Realm</u>	<u>New Realm</u>
Corruption	New life
Deceit	Eternal life
Sinful	New creation
Lust	Incorporation
Vainglory	The last Adam became a life-giving Spirit
Material	
Religion	
Man became a living soul	

**The only thing that works is the spirit.**

**How to be spiritual?**

- 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)

**How the church can be filled with the spirit?**

- Go out to preach the gospel.

❖ Further inspiration:

1. Our consecration for God’s purpose includes **receiving Him**, (lighting of the lamp) **putting the lamp on the lampstand**, and **experiencing God’s work**, his shaping and hammering to produce the shining lampstand! A city set on the hill cannot be hidden!
2. With this week’s further fellowship, we also see more. First, **we need to put our “lamp” on the lampstand** — this is outward, positional, and objective. **We also need to be filled with the Spirit in our spirit** — this is inward, dispositional, and subjective. Both are needed!

- For the lamp to continually give out light, there is the need of the burning of the oil. We need the flowing supply of oil from the olive tree.
  - If you want the continual supply of the oil, you need to connect to the branch of the olive tree. **We all need to connect to each other's spirit.**
  - How can you be the olive tree for the lampstand? Let's consider the eleven points of the section above, "How to be spiritual?"
  - How can the lampstand be the testimony? (1 Cor 14:24-25)
3. As we fellowshiped on the Lord's Day, 4 Feb 2024, we are looking forward to 2024. Let's consider:
- Strengthen the gospel.
  - Labor with a small group for our spiritual diet.
  - Make an effort to use our website.
  - Encourage participation in the church life.
  - Connect to one another.