

I believe that the Lord needs many of us to pray a particular prayer. Without this kind of prayer nothing will happen regarding the reality of the Body of Christ, and the prayer is this: **'Lord, cause the desire of Your heart to become the desire of my heart.'** When the desire of His heart becomes the desire of our heart, we can cooperate with Him. What is the desire of the Lord's heart? The Lord wants to come back and marry His bride. He gave Himself up for her. He is the Savior of the Body. Before He comes back to turn the age to the kingdom, He will come for His Counterpart. But in order for Him to have His bride He must see in the local churches the living out of the reality of the Body of Christ.

Man looks on the outward appearance, God looks upon the heart. Right now as we are in His presence, He knows how much reality has been wrought into us. So let me just give you a very brief statement of the essence of this burden. Reality is the Triune God Himself. The reality of the Body of Christ is the Spirit of Reality saturating our being with all-inclusive Christ. From our point of view, how does this take place? It actually is very simple. In our love for the Lord, we need to live all the time as vessels open to Him. He needs open vessels, not open to know things, not open to do things, but open in this way in two aspects. The first is that we open our entire being to receive the divine dispensing. Every day, everywhere, at every time we live before Him as open vessels. Praying for Him to work Himself into us. Whether or not you are an open vessel, it is up to you. Alone with the divine dispensing we need to be open to something else. God solves all problems by the cross. All of us, no matter how different we are outwardly, we have the same inner problems: the flesh, the self, the natural constitution and culture wrought into our being. We need to be open for the Spirit to apply the cross of Christ to everything in us. Please don't be afraid of this, rather be afraid of being untouched. Let's just love the Lord, be open to Him, receive His dispensing and receive the cross working little by little. But let's all do this not for our own spirituality. Let's tell the Lord: **'Lord, do this in me for the Body.'** Then we will learn to live in this reality and this is to live in the mingled spirit, the life of the corporate God-man.

How did Jesus live in His physical body? He lived by every word out of the mouth of God. He lives because of the Father. He denied His natural life. He did everything with God, in God, and by God. Now He wants to live the same way again in His mystical Body. The reality of the Body of Christ lived out is Jesus living again corporately and we do this by learning to walk according to the spirit. As I am sharing this with you, the Lord knows I share not as a teacher but as a learner. Learning to live according to the mingled spirit, then spontaneously we will begin to keep the principles of the Body. The principles are spiritual organic laws. I mention just two of them. The first is this realization and you will be able to say to the Lord: **'Lord Jesus, I can not live without You; and Lord, I can not live without the Body of Christ.'** I am a member. How can a member in our body live apart from the body? And one other matter, we will do everything in the fellowship of the Body. As we gather here now, there is both joy and pain in the organic Body of Christ. There is joy because so many gather together to be seeking the Lord for His desire, but the Body suffers pain whenever the members do things apart from fellowship. The reality of living in the Body of Christ is to live in the fellowship of the divine life.

May the Lord have mercy on us, causes His heart to become our heart, causes the desire of His heart to become the desire of our heart. And I end by telling you this that something will take place in your being similar to Psalms 42:2. The psalmist said, **'My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.'** You will be able to say my inner being thirst for reality. I thirst for the reality of the Body of Christ. It is a blessing to have such thirst. This will motivate us day after day and this will cause us to open ourselves to the Lord and allow Him to do with us whatever is in His heart. **'Lord, in our lifetime, gain the reality of the Body of Christ in the local churches all over the earth'.**—R.K.