Three Emphases of the God-Ordained Way

- 1. Working the truth into the saints
- 2. Working the church life into the homes
- 3. Working the gospel into the daily living

The Homes

1. The ISSUE of God's move

Life's ISSUE—A HOUSE of feasting (a miniature of the church life)---John 12:1-11

Psm 68:18 "You have ascended on high. You have led captive those taken captive, You have received gifts among men...THAT Jehovah God may dwell among them."

2. The BASE of God's move

The house of Bethany

Functions of the home (where 'joy is made full') Prayer (Jn 16:24) Care (Jn 17:13) Share(1 Jn 1:4)

Bear(Jn 15:11,8)

Home vs Hall

Which is better?		Home or Hall
1.	For mutuality	X
2.	For functioning	X
3.	For ownership	X
4.	For gospel	X
5.	For care and shepherding	X
6.	For students and YP	X
7.	For young working saints	X
8.	For language groups	X
9.	For spreading	X
10.	For being scriptural	X
11.	For God-ordained way	X

Home vs Hall

Which is better?	Home	or Hall		
12. For present burden of ministry X				
13. For economy	X			
14. For convenience	X			
15. For testimony		X		
16. For content		X		
17. For strength of prophesying		X		
18. For riches of ministry		X		
19. For training		X		
20. For children and YP MEETING		X		

20 Blessings of an open home as the dwelling of God--El-Bethel

- 1. Glory—Psalm 26:8
- O Jehovah, I love the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory abides.
- 2. Beauty—Psalm 27:4
- One thing I have asked from Jehovah; that do I seek/To dwell in the house of Jehovah all the days of my life/To behold the beauty of Jehovah, and to inquire in His temple.

- 3. Revelation—Psalm 73:17
- Until I went into the sanctuary, then I perceive their end.
- 4. Loveliness—Psalm 84:1
- How lovely are Your tabernacles, O Jehovah of hosts!/My soul longs, indeed even faints for the courts of Jehovah.
- 5. Vitality—Psalm 92:35
- The righteous man will flourish like the palm tree/He will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

- 6. Fruitbearing—Psalm 92:14
- Planted in the house of Jehovah/They will flourish in the courts of our God/They will still bring forth fruit in old age/They will be full of sap and green.
- 7. Springs—Psalm 57:7
- Then singing as well as dancing, they will say, all my springs are in you.
- 8. Worship—Psalm 99:9
- Exalt Jehovah our God, and worship on His holy mountain/For holy is Jehovah our God.

- 9. Our portion—Psalm 73:26
- Whom do I have in heaven but You? And besides You there is nothing I desire on earth./My flesh and my heart fail; but God is the rock of my heart and my portion forever. Note v.17 says "until I went into the sanctuary of God"
- 10. Fresh Oil—Psalm 92:10
- But You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox;/I am anointed (mingled) with fresh oil." See note 2. This is after Psa 90-91 in taking God as our dwelling.

- 11. Shelter and Hiding Place—Psalm 27:5a
- For He will conceal me in His shelter/in the days of trouble;/He will hide me in the hiding place of His tent.
- 12. Encouragement—Psalm 27:5b-6a
- He will raise me up upon a rock/And now my head is lifted up/Above my enemies who surround me.
- 13. Praise—Psalm 27:6b
- And I will offer in His tent/Sacrifices of shouts of joy;/I will sing and psalm to Jehovah.
- 14. Good—Psalm 34:8
- Taste and see that Jehovah is good;/Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him. See note 1 in verse

- 15. Satisfaction—Psalm 36:8a
- They are saturated with the fatness of Your house
- 16. Pleasure—Psalm 36:8b
- You cause them to drink of the river of Your pleasures.
- 17. Life—Psalm 36:9a
- With You is the fountain of life
- 18. Light—Psalm 36:9b
- In Your light we see light
- 19. Dancing—Psalm 30:11a
- You have turned my mourning into dancing
- 20. Rejoicing—Psalm 30:11b
- You have loosened my sackcloth/And girded me with rejoicing./That my glory may sing psalms to You...

Christ-House-City-Earth in Romans 12-16

I. Christ:

The gospel of Jesus Christ in His incarnation, death, resurrection, becoming the life giving Spirit and the law of the Spirit of life to enter into us when we call to make us vessels of mercy and honor—Chapter 1-12:2

II. House:

The church in the house—16:5

Christ-House-City-Earth in Romans 12-16

III. City-Kingdom:

"The Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit"—14:17

IV. Earth:

"And that the nations (Gentiles) should glorify God...I will extol You among the nations, and I will sing praise to Your name."—15:9

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*Mutuality—"one another"
   "Members one of another"—12:5
   "Love one another"—12:10; 13:8
   "honor one another"—12:10
   "same mind one toward another"—12:16;
   15:5
   "Not judge one another"—14:4,13
   "Building up one another"—14:19
   "Receive one another"—15:7
   "Admonish one another" — 15:14
   Greet one another"—16:16
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- ." Mutuality expresses the nature of the Church, for all the relationships among believers are of one member to another...The whole life of the church, and all its activities, must be stamped by this characteristic of mutuality.
- Everything in the meeting is governed throughout by the principle of "two or three" (vv. 27, 29).That such assemblies are assemblies of the church is seen at a glance, because the stamp of mutuality is clearly upon all the proceedings.
- A church meeting has the stamp of "one another" upon it.

--from Normal Christian Church Life Chapter 12

Body Life as Kingdom Life

- Chapter 12—Mutual Coordination
- Chapter 13—Mutual Submission
- Chapter 14—Mutual Receiving
- Chapter 15—Mutual Blending
- Chapter 16—Mutual Greeting

Perfecting others by

- 1. Recognizing the gifts:
 - 12:4-6: "Having gifts that differ...let us.."
- 2. Supporting the gifts:
 - v.10:"take the lead in showing honor"
 - 13:8:"Owe..love.."
 - 14:19:"Pursue(persecute)...building up"
- 3. Allowing others to make mistakes:
 - 12:19,20:"Do not avenge..give place
- 4. Confine oneself:
 - 12:3,4:"Do not have the same function...not to think more highly of himself...as God has apportioned to each a measure."

How God Gains the Earth— Gospel to the nations

Gentiles=Nations=Ethnos

4:17—"Father of many nations"

15:9-11 "And that the Gentiles(nations)should glorify God...I will extol You among the Gentiles(nations)...Rejoice, Gentiles(nations), and let all the people speak praise to Him...He who rises to rule the Gentiles(nations), on Him will the Gentiles(nations) hope."

- 11:13 Apostle of the **nations** (Gentiles)
- 15:16 Minister and Priest of the **nations** (Gentiles)
- 15:16 Gaining offering of the nations (Gentiles)
- 15:27 Fellowship among the nations (Gentiles)
- 16:4 Establishing churches of the **nations** (Gentiles)

Matthew 24:14

This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth (oikoumene) for a testimony to all the nations (ethnos), and then the end will come.

Appendix

10 principles for opening up homes according to Luke 10

- 1. Pray (Beseech—v.2)
- 2. Look for the need (Lift up your eyes and look—Jn 4:35)
- 3. Go as lambs, not lions (with needs—Luke 10:3)
- 4. Do not have preconceived ideas, 'bags'. Drop all concepts, all 'tricks' (not carrying a purse, a bag—v.4)

- 5. Bless others ('Peace to this house'—v.5)
- 6. Identify sons of peace (v.6)
- 7. Take hospitality ('Eat and drink from them','in that house **remain, do not move from house to house**'—v. 7)
- 8. Take whatever is available ('Eat what is set before you'—v.8)
- 9. Take care of the needs of the people in the house ('heal the sick'—v. 9)
- 10. Speak the word ('The kingdom of God has drawn near to you'—v.9)