

important for all parties involved to learn how to disagree without being disagreeable. We can learn much about a person's maturity when their is disagreement.

For the community in worship to grow, we have to try harder in pleasing more people in more areas.

3. Seek the advantage of many (33)

This logically follows the above principle. Again the emphasis here is not my benefit or fulfilment.

Ground rule #3 is : Our goal is to promote the welfare of others in the Christian community.

4. Seek that many may be saved (33)

The Great Commission must be upheld and obeyed. We are never encouraged to be preoccupied with our own salvation. The thrust of life in the Christian community should be always outward. The emphasis of the Great Commission is Go. It has been said most organizations exist because of its own members but the Christian community exists for the people

outside the church.

Ground rule # 4: Go and seek the many may be saved.

5. Be imitators of Christ (11:1)

"Imitators" not in the sense of being fake or counterfeits but rather as followers of Christ who is our model. To be a Christian is to be like Christ.

Ground rule # 5: Let Christ shine through us, both corporately and individually. We are not to boost our own reputation.

CONCLUSION

One may ask why do we talk about rules when we have been freed from the bondage of sin.

The point is that we do not keep these ground rules to be saved. Rather, these ground rules help us to live out true Christian freedom: being freed from ourselves to glorify God by being like Christ. This is the key to victorious living as a Christ-centred community.



On September 17th, 1996, I read in the obituaries of The Philadelphia Inquirer about the death of Ms. Mary O. George, Christian teacher, 82. She

A Girl of Prayer

Dorothy C. Yang

taught kindergarten and the first three grades at Christ Memorial Christian Day School for 29 years. Friends called her their "girl of prayer",

because she prayed for so many people who were individually listed in her daily prayer's list.

Yes, my family knew Ms. George for over 35 years. When I first came to Philadelphia, my daughter, Ruth, age 7, and my son, Jim, age 5, went to Christ Memorial Day School. Their teacher, Ms. George was a tiny woman who spoke English very fast. She taught the children not only their lessons but also about the Bible and Jesus. She was a lovable and dedicated teacher who loved Jesus and the children. We became good friends with her and also with her sisters.

This was a Godly family. Their father, Isaiah George, had fled Armenia during the Turkish massacre, when many Christians lost their lives, and he had ultimately come to Philadelphia, in 1908, becoming the city's first diamond cutter. Over the years Isaiah George was the source of strength and encouragement of many immigrants. Their Christian love was extended to many in need. The parents left a wonderful legacy, expressed in the motto, "Home Blessings,":

"The crown of the home in godliness.

The beauty of the home is order.

The glory of the home is hospitality.

The blessing of the home is contentment.

'As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.'

When my daughter, Ruth, was graduated from high school, her whole family was invited to lunch with my family. Mary wrote on June 12th, 1970, "I want to tell you how much I appreciated having lunch with your family and friends in honor of Ruth's graduation. I enjoyed immensely the service that followed. I was very much impressed with Ruth's testimony. I rejoice to hear her give all the glory for the honors she received especially the Alumni award. I praise God that He has given me the privilege of seeing Ruth grow up into a sweet humble Christian. I thank Him for the small part I had in her spiritual life. I thank God for your friendship and all it means to me. I will continue to pray for your family daily."

Yes, Ms. George lived a beautiful life. She loved the Lord and she loved all those whose lives she touched. I can still see her smiling face and hear her talking very fast. From 1970 to 1996 she prayed for my family as she has stated in her letter.

I went to her Memorial service so that I could thank God for her love and prayers. My daughter, a physician, and my son, a lawyer are both serving the Lord with their God loving families. God did answer the fervent prayers from His beloved and faithful servant.

Countless lives were blessed by her prayers. She was truly a "girl of prayer" whom God honored and loved. △