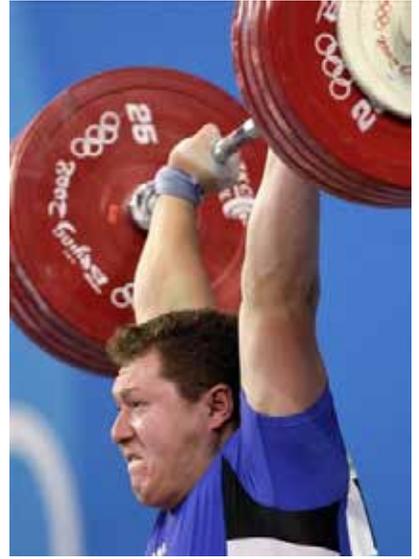


*"And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the Truth in Love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ." *Ephesians 4:11-15 KJV**



The 236kg, (520lb+) world record setting, gold medal “clean and jerk” of Andrei Aramnau required a perfect orchestration of training, coordination, and strength. He didn’t just “get lucky.” Years of training and practice stood behind that one shining moment in history. He probably had coaches to instruct him. Success is the end result of a well thought out and meticulously executed plan. God has had a plan for the success of His Church since before the foundation of the world. He has set in place apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers to facilitate that plan. The pinnacle of success for the Church of Jesus Christ is “*the unity of the faith*” where there is total unanimity of faith in the local body of believers and all concur on doctrine. Then there will be great achievements for the Gospel. Satan has learned the secret to defeating believers; discord. Not to mean we all trot blindly along after the doctrine of some man, but that we each diligently search out the Truth of God’s Word under the tutelage of the Holy Spirit and obey it; just knowing it is not enough. If one muscle had been neglected in training, Andrei would not have lifted the weight. If one member of The Body of Christ is weak, all suffer. Meditating on God’s Word “*day and night*” must be our daily endeavor. We must be obsessed about the Word of God. “Obsess for Success” should be the motto of every believer! There is hardly any more real fellowship around God’s Word. Oh, we fellowship, but it’s usually sports, work, family, or a current event that commands our conversation. Even the weather is preferable to God’s Word! Why do we not love God’s Word? Why is it not the uppermost thought in the mind of every believer? We have been waylaid by a cacophony of worldly distractions, because we have elevated wealth and earthly pleasures to the #1 priority in our lives instead of our faith and walk with God. Our faith is not our life, but simply an accessory to it; like the “good china” in the glass cabinet, proudly displayed, but seldom used. Faith merchants have so muddied the water that many believers consider watching a TV preacher, “going to Church.” Church is an assembly of believers in a fixed location, not a worldwide TV broadcast! Money and support are given to greedy evil men who market high sounding words and empty promises to those among us who are weak from lack of true fellowship with the real Church of Jesus Christ!

God the Mighty Three in One,
Has given us His only Son,
That we together might be one,
And have the Vict’ry He has won. -CGP

Perfect the Saints; Work the Ministry; and Edify the Church. One follows the next. Fellowship around God’s Word is vital to the sustenance of the saints. We each have different functions; cabinet makers, brick layers, or painters, without which, the house is unfinished!

"Ye also, as Lively Stones, are built up a Spiritual House, an Holy Priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 2:5 KJV