

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 20 April 19, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Northeast Young People's Spring Conference**
The online conference series continues for one more week with one more live session next Saturday. This session will be a gospel meeting, so the young people are encouraged to invite their friends to join this online gathering. The conference service Zoom is being used for all sessions. Recordings of prior sessions, pre-recorded messages, materials and updates are posted on the following website:

<https://pursuewiththose.org/>.

The general subject of the conference is *Redeeming the Time*.

Session Seven - Saturday, April 25th – 7:30pm

- The local children's meeting video for the week is now available on the website churchinnyc.org/cm-videos/. The families can view it during the week again with their children.
- Family Time video on the website thebibletellsmeso.com/familytime. A short new video will be posted daily from Monday through Friday for the next two weeks. The purpose of these videos is to foster a daily family time in each household.
- Website to help facilitate the Global Prayer for 30 days, beginning April 1:
<https://unceasinglypray.org/>.

PRAYER BURDENS

- Prayer -- The strengthening of the prayer ministry of the church and that all the saints in all the local churches and all the Lord's children all over the earth would rise up to pray for His will to be done in the midst of the current global health crisis (Luke 18:1; 1 Tim. 2:1).
- The word of God--That the Lord would "send a hunger into the land...for hearing the words of Jehovah," and that He would move within the hearts of both believers and unbelievers to seek

hope in the word of God during these uncertain times (Amos 8:11; Psalms 119:114).

- The going on of all the saints--That all the saints would be strengthened and encouraged to continue to meet together on the Lord's Day and throughout the week in small groups or groups of 2's and 3's, for prayer, Bible-study, fellowship and mutual shepherding (Acts 2:46; Matt. 18:20).
- The young people--The online Northeast young people's conference this upcoming Saturday
- The households--That the Lord would bless every family and every household with His grace and peace.
- Health care professionals--Pray for the health and safety of all the health care professionals; this includes a good number of saints among us in the church life in NYC, as well as in many other localities across the country.

MORNING WATCH

HWMR: *Crystallization-Study of Deuteronomy*
Week 9: Enjoying Christ with God on the Ground of Oneness

Portion from Week 9 – Day 2:

For convenience and practicality, we meet in the different cities where we live. Apparently we are divided by geography, for we meet in separate cities all over the world. Actually we remain in the oneness and are not divided, for wherever we may be, we meet in the Lord's name, in the spirit, and with the cross.

...The situation with most Christians today is very different from this. They meet not in oneness but in many different denominations. Even if Christians from various denominations meet together, they may have difficulty praying together... If the believers in Christ are to be one, they must give up all denominational things and simply come together in the name of the Lord Jesus, in the spirit, and with the cross. This is the oneness, and this is the proper ground for the worship of God. Many Christians...

even though they may live in the same city... will not meet together because they want to have their own preference. In the Lord's recovery, we care not for our preference but for the Lord's presence... Wherever we may be, in Anaheim or Taipei, in London or Tokyo, we should be gathered into the Lord's name [Matt. 18:20], and we should meet in our spirit and with the cross. If we all do this, we all will meet in the same place, although we meet in different localities. This one place is the ground of the unique oneness.

In the Lord's recovery, we have one name and one Spirit. We all meet in the name of Jesus Christ, and we all meet in the mingled spirit—in the regenerated human spirit indwelt by the Holy Spirit. We gather together in this spirit, not in our concept, desire, preference, or choice... At the entrance of the church there is the cross, and in order to meet as the church we must experience the cross. The flesh, the self, and the natural man cannot be in the church; they must be crucified. Therefore, we meet in the name of the Lord Jesus, in the mingled spirit, and with the cross. This is the place where we meet, and here we have the oneness which we endeavor to keep in the unique name of the Lord (*Life-study of Deuteronomy*, pp. 79-80).

Corporate Reading:

"The Christian Life" Chapter 13

A Ministry Portion from "The Overcoming Life"

BOASTING IN ONE'S WEAKNESSES

Second Corinthians 12:9 says, "He has said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is perfected in weakness. Most gladly therefore I will rather boast in my weaknesses that the power of Christ might tabernacle over me." Have you seen this? Weakness is not something that one should lament over or weep about. Weakness is something that one should boast in... The first thing you must do is realize that you cannot make it. The second thing you should do is give up trying to make it. The third thing you should do is thank and praise God for not being able to make it. Hallelujah! I cannot make it. Hallelujah! I cannot make it!

...The word "boast" is "glory" in the original language. Paul said that he considered his weaknesses to be his glory. This is because his

weaknesses afforded Christ the opportunity to manifest His power and the opportunity for this power to tabernacle over him...

...He shows you your inability in order for you to believe that He has an excellent opportunity to work in you... When you see that you cannot make it and that you are totally incapable of doing anything, and when you see that only the Lord can make it, you will thank and praise Him. You will realize that it is very natural to thank and praise the Lord. In the past, you might have grieved over your weakness or wept over your sins. But today, you can boast and praise...

WE CANNOT MAKE IT, BUT GOD CAN

...If we want to have the realization that we are crucified with Christ, we must realize that we cannot make it, and we must not try to make it. Finally, we should thank and praise God that we cannot make it... God has shown us that we cannot make it. In God's eyes we are worthy only of death. We should say, "Lord, I am worthy only of death. I do not intend to change or improve myself. I come to You just as I am with my weaknesses. I thank You because I cannot make it."

Brothers and sisters, our inability is not a hindrance but a help. The more we cannot make it, the more Christ will have the opportunity to manifest His power. He specializes in dealing with our inability and weakness. The more we become destitute, the more we fail, the weaker we become, and the more we cannot make it, the more opportunity there is for our Lord to manifest His power in us. Hallelujah! Jesus is the Savior! Hallelujah! He is our Lord. Hallelujah! He is our life. Hallelujah, His power is given purposely to tabernacle over our weaknesses. Our eyes should see Him and not ourselves.

- Excerpts from "The Overcoming Life", Chapter 4 (part 3)