

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 61 January 31, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **NYC Middle School & High School Retreat**
We will have an online retreat for the New York City young people in middle school and high school from **February 15-20, 2021 (Monday - Saturday)**. This is the annual retreat that we usually hold over the February school break. There will be fellowship and fun, recreational activities.

Registration is required at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/nycretreatform>.

The registration deadline is Monday, February 1. There is **no fee** for this retreat. Any questions can be directed to the young people serving ones in the halls or email to churchinnyc.yp@gmail.com.

- **2021 International Chinese-Speaking Conference**
The 2021 International Chinese-Speaking Conference will be held online **from February 13 to February 14 (Saturday and Lord's Day)**. Translation will be provided in English, Spanish and Korean.

Meeting Schedule:

Message One: 9:00am, Sat., February 13
Message Two: 11:00am, Sat., February 13
Message Three: 7:30pm, Sat., February 13
Message Four: 9:00am, Lord's Day, February 14
Message Five: 11:00am, Lord's Day, February 14

Zoom Meeting ID: 994 1661 5325

Passcode: 2021

Tel: +19294362866,,99416615325#

For more details, please visit the church website:

churchinnyc.org

- **Service Office Hours**

Service Office hours are available for saints to call in to fellowship or to pray with some serving ones.

Day & Time: Monday through Saturday (except Wednesday), 11AM-12PM.

Join via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/3785123114?pwd=dEpzN2ZGZ21aaGV5dTFob3AwQlBodz09>

Dial-in by Phone: +1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 378 512 3114 (Password: 3131)

The burden for holding these office hours is that the hearts of the saints can be comforted and that their souls would be restored.

PRAYER BURDENS

- The strengthening of the saints' personal fellowship with the Lord and their daily nourishment in the Word of God (1 Cor. 1:9; Matt. 4:4)
- Homecoming--That this year many who have not been with us recently would "come home" to the church and be warmly welcomed by us (Luke 15:4-7)
- The strengthening of the small group meetings and church meetings (1 Cor. 14:26)
- The service with the children and young people and all the practical services in the church
- The new term of the FTTA (which will begin on February 3 and conducted remotely) and the arrangements at Camp Penuel where a number of trainees will be housed
- The various needs of the saints both locally and in other localities (e.g. physical and emotional, health-related, job-related, family-related, etc.)

MORNING WATCH

HWMR: International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones—October 2020

Subject: The Christian Life, The Church Life, The Consummation of the Age, and The Coming of the Lord

Week 4: Being Faithful in Service in the Lord's Commission and in His Gifts for His Second and Imminent Coming

Portion from Day 4:

Matthew 25:14 says that [a] man delivered his possessions to his slaves. The slaves signify believers in the aspect of service...I believe that the possessions delivered to the slaves include the gospel, the truth, the believers, and the church...If you do not care for these things, you will not have any talents.

We should not wait in an indifferent way for the Lord to give us something. No, we must diligently seek the gospel and the truth. We should be eager to know the fall of man, redemption, regeneration, salvation, the cleansing of the blood, and the washing of the Spirit. All these are aspects of the full gospel...We need to [also know and] experience the truth concerning the church, God's eternal purpose, and God's economy. Eventually, these truths will become our talent. Then we shall be able to minister them to others. In this way, the Lord's possessions become our talent. Furthermore, we need to pray, "Lord, I want to take care of the saints and bear their burdens. My heart is for them." If we have a heart for the saints and are burdened for them, they, the Lord's possession, will be given to us as a talent.

Do not drop any burden that the Lord has given you...The Lord has a vast work in His recovery. For this work, He needs thousands of young brothers and sisters to be raised up to bear the responsibility.

The talent is not something of your natural birth; rather, it is altogether related to your burden. If you take up a burden, you will receive a talent.

Although the talents are not our ability, but the Lord's possession, they are delivered to us according to our ability. Our ability is constituted by God's creation and our learning. The capacity of our ability is based upon the willingness of our heart. If we do not have any willingness in our heart, then we shall not have the capacity to receive the talent.

Corporate Readings: "The Mystery of Christ" Ch. 10 The Riches in the Body & Ch. 11 The Ministry in the Body

A Ministry Portion from "The Prayer Ministry of the Church":

The Importance of Forgiving Others' Offenses

It is easy for Christians to fail in the matter of forgiving others. If any unforgiveness exists among God's children, all lessons, faith, and power will leak away. This is why the Lord is so strong and clear. This is a simple word. Yet God's children need this simple word. "For if you forgive men their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you also." It is so simple for us to receive the Father's forgiveness. However, "if you do not forgive men their offenses, neither will your Father forgive your offenses." There is no such thing as careless forgiveness. This word is simple, but the fact is not that simple. If we forgive others with our mouth but do not forgive in our heart, it is not considered as forgiveness in the Father's eyes. Forgiveness which is in the mouth only is vain and deceitful and does not count before the Father. We must forgive others' offenses from the heart. ...If Christians are irreconcilable and if they do not forgive others from their heart, the church will run into problems. ... If we do not forgive one another, it will be easy for us to give place to the devil. If we cannot forgive one another, we are not people of the kingdom, and we cannot do the work of the kingdom. ... Whenever we develop a problem with the brothers and sisters, we develop a problem with the Lord. We cannot pray to the Lord on the one hand and remain unforgiving on the other hand.

Prayer is the most important work of a Christian. The Lord shows us that there is reward for prayer because prayer is too great an issue; it is too great a matter. Those who are faithful to this work of prayer will receive a reward. Those who continue with this work in secret and who pay attention to this work will not be without reward. May God raise up those who would pray for God's work.

Moreover, the prayer that the Lord taught always mentions "we" and "us." This is the form of address used by the church. This is a prayer that is filled with a sense of the Body. It is a tremendous prayer. I do not know how many saints there are on earth who can pray this prayer. Brothers and sisters, may we consecrate ourselves afresh for this great prayer. Countless saints throughout the ages have become a part of this great prayer. May the Lord be merciful to us that we also may have a share in this great prayer.

- Excerpts from "The Prayer Ministry of the Church", Chapter 2: Pray in This Way.