

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 227 April 7, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Northeast Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference (April 19-21)**

A Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference for the saints in the Northeast will be held from **April 19-21 in Camp Penuel**.

Registration form and more details can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/springyws>. The deadline for registration is **April 8**.

We strongly encourage the saints who will stay overnight to register as soon as possible to secure accommodation at the camp due to limited onsite housing.

We also encourage the saints to arrive on Friday night, **April 19**. Dinner will not be provided and there will be no formal meeting on Friday evening, but saints who arrive early can get settled in, spend time together, and fellowship before the conference starts.

- **Registration for the July 2024 Semiannual Training**

Registration for the July 2024 Semiannual Training has begun. Please submit your registration for both the live training in Anaheim, CA and the video training by filling out the online form: <http://bit.ly/nycregistration>. The due date for registration is **May 1, 2024**.

- **2024 International Memorial Day Blending Conference (May 24-27)**

The 2024 International Memorial Day Blending Conference will be held in **Bellevue, WA** from **Friday, May 24 through Monday, May 27**.

- **Upcoming Church Events: details to follow**

1. **May 10-12 (Fri. to L.D.):** Chinese-Speaking

Conference in KPCC

2. **May 17-19 (Fri. to L.D.):** Northeast Middle School Conference in KPCC

- **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), 10:30AM-11:30AM

Zoom Meeting ID: 378 512 3114

Passcode: 3131

One tap mobile: +19294362866,, 3785123114#

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

- Thanksgiving to the Lord for all the senior saints in the church in NYC and in all the local churches and prayer for the Citywide Senior Saints' Conference held this past Saturday, April 6, in Hall 1
- Thanksgiving to the Lord for His faithfulness in blessing the Northeast Spring Highschoolers' Conference held two weekends ago and prayer for the going on of all the young people, that they all would grow in life, be more built up in the church life, and shine as luminaries in the midst of a crooked and perverted generation
- The salvation of the children in grade 5—Let us pray for the preparation of the hearts of the children, for the attendance of the children over the next several weeks, for the families of all these children, and for the serving ones; there are 36 fifth graders among all the nine halls of the church

- The International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (ITERO) being held in Anaheim, CA over the weekend of April 12-14
- The strengthening of the church meetings, the small group meetings and all the practical services in all nine halls this week
- 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: 2023 INTERNATIONAL THANKSGIVING BLENDING CONFERENCE- THE ENJOYMENT OF CHRIST AND OUR GROWTH IN LIFE UNTO MATURITY

Week 4: Knowing the All-inclusive Christ and Growing with the Growth of God

Portions from Days 1, 5 & 6:

It is crucial for us to realize that we can see Christ in all the items of creation. We need to drop our concept of the heavens, the earth, and the physical things; We need to see that Christ is the Firstborn of the old creation and the Firstborn of the new creation. Hence, Christ is everything; He is all-inclusive. Seeing that Christ is everything, we need to have the realization that this Christ is in us to be our hope of glory. What we need today is to grow in Him unto maturity. (Life-study of Colossians, second edition, pp. 286-288)

The Body grows out from the Head, for all the supply comes from the Head. In one sense, Christ is the Head; in another sense, He is the soil. As we absorb the riches of the soil, we hold the Head. Likewise, to receive the supply from the Head is to absorb the riches from the soil. We grow with the increase from the soil; we also grow as the Body with the supply out from the Head. (Life-study of Colossians, 2nd edition, pp. 376-377)

First, we grow individually, then corporately. Individual growth becomes corporate growth. Hence, not only are the members built up individually, but the body is built up corporately.

After a church has been in a locality for a certain period of time, friction may develop between the saints...The growth in Christ [cancels] out all this friction. Therefore, we can be happy together and truly one. The shortages among us are This is the genuine building of the church. The building up of

the church is based members depends on their growth, which, in turn, depends upon being rooted in Christ and absorbing the riches of Christ to become the very element with which the members grow. (Life-study of Colossians, second edition, pp. 450-451)

Corporate Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews, msg. 13*

MINISTRY READINGS

DROPPING OUR CONCEPTS

Ten years ago, a young brother was offended by an elder. Daily he was bothered by the thought that an elder, who should be compassionate toward others, could offend a person in such a way. This thought took root in him so that when he came to the Bible, he subconsciously looked for passages that spoke of elders being compassionate to others and of older ones being sensitive to younger ones. Although he was not looking for such passages intentionally, this concept was hidden in him. For many days his reading of the Bible was influenced by this concept. He spent much time reading the Bible but did not receive anything. Then one day he read 1 Peter 5:3, which speaks of elders not lording it over the flock but being patterns. His eyes lit up, and he said, "This is so good! I have seen a great light! I did not realize that the Bible is so clear about elders not lording it over others." Dear brothers and sisters, did he really see light? If that was light, then he did not receive it from the Bible; he had this "light" before he came to the Bible. This is what it means to read the Bible with the glasses of our concepts. The result of such reading is but a projection of one's own concepts.

Excerpts from "How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God", Chapter 16: Learning to be Simple to Pick Up the True Meaning of the Bible (part 3)