

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 230 April 28, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **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**.

- **Northeast Spring Middle School Conference (May 17-19)**

There will be a conference for the young people in grades 6-8 and their parents and serving ones from **May 17-19 at Camp Penuel**. Young people currently in grades 11-12 can sign up to serve, only after fellowship with and recommendation from their local serving ones. Please contact the district serving ones for more details. The saints can check in starting at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 17. The first session begins at 7:00pm. The deadline for registration is **Monday, May 6**.

- **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

- **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 blessing the Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference this past weekend with His speaking; the general subject of the conference was *Being Empowered in the Grace Which is in Christ Jesus to be Teachers, Soldiers, Contenders, Farmers, and Workmen*, based on 2 Timothy chapter 2
- The salvation of the children in grade 5—Let us pray for the ongoing, week by week citywide labor of the preaching of the gospel to the fifth grade children
- That the saints who are passing through various trials would not lose heart but rather experience “being guarded by the power of God through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed at the last time” (1 Pet. 1:5)
- Prayer for the preservation of the United States and for the leaders of this nation at every level of government (local, state and federal) so that the gospel would continue to be preached and that the Lord’s testimony would be strengthened and advance in every locality where it is established and spread to other areas of the country (1 Tim. 2:1-4)
- The care for the saints in Taiwan in the aftermath of the recent earthquake—A major earthquake occurred in Hualien, Taiwan, on April 3. The meeting hall and some of the saints’ homes were damaged. About 10 saints were injured and were discharged after being admitted to hospital. About forty saints were placed in temporary residences. Please pray for the comfort, care, and safety of the saints in Hualien and for the replacement of the meeting hall

MORNING WATCH

HWMR: 2023 DECEMBER SEMIANNUAL TRAINING: Laboring on the All-inclusive Christ Typified by the Good Land for the building up of the Church as the Body of Christ, for the Reality and the Manifestation of the Kingdom, and for the Bride to Make Herself Ready for the Lord's Coming

Week1: Fighting for the Good Land

Portions from Days 2, 3, 4 and 5:

The land is the crucial focus of the Old Testament. This is the reason that in the Old Testament the Lord spoke of the land again and again. He called out Abraham and told him that He would bring him into a certain land, which was the land of Canaan.The center of the Old Testament is the temple within the city built in the good land. If we know the Scriptures and have light from God, we will realize that the center of God's eternal plan, speaking according to the type, is the land with its temple and city. Beginning with the book of Genesis, the Old Testament takes the land as the center and mentions again and again something related to the land.The land is the figure of the all-inclusive Christ as everything to us. (Life-study of Colossians, second edition, pp. 164-165)

The good land for us today is the Triune God processed to become the all-inclusive Spirit.Through incarnation, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection, Christ, the embodiment of the Triune God, has been processed to become the life-giving Spirit to indwell His chosen people. Thus, the Triune God reaches us today as the life-giving Spirit.

The more we grow in the Lord, the more He will cut off the natural life. As long as the number of the children of Israel was rather small, there was the need for the pagan tribes to remain so that the land might be kept from the beasts. But as God's people increased, the Lord would cut off the tribes according to the degree of the numerical increase of His people. This signifies that as we grow in Christ, our natural life will be cut off gradually, according to the degree of our growth in life. God will not cut off the pagan tribes once for all, but He will do it "little by little" according to our growth. (Life-study of Exodus, pp.870-871)

If we study the typology carefully, we will see that Canaan has two features. On the one hand,

Canaan is a land of riches, as revealed in Deuteronomy 8.On the other hand, Canaan was a land full of evil persons and enemies, all of whom were to be eradicated by the children of Israel. This feature, or aspect, of Canaan signifies the most evil part of Satan's dark kingdom. As we consider these two features of Canaan, we see that whether or not we can enjoy Christ as the all-inclusive land depends on whether or not we defeat the enemies typified by the Canaanites. This indicates that the church as a whole, including all the members, should engage in the spiritual warfare revealed in Ephesians 6.

Corporate Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews, msg. 18-19*

MINISTRY READINGS

LEARNING TO BE SIMPLE IN ENJOYING GOD THROUGH READING THE WORD

For this reason, when we read the Word, we must learn to be simple; when we eat, we are simple. We do not need to have any concepts, we do not need to have the intention of learning something, and we do not need to seek for inspiration. We simply need to read.Then according to the condition in our spirit, the Spirit will use the words of the Bible to touch our inner being in an appropriate way, and we will receive something from the Bible. When we receive, we must still restrict our mind from thinking too much. We must exercise our spirit to turn the words that touch us into prayer. Then our reading will reach a higher plane, and we will always be richly fed when we read the Word.

We may wonder how a reading that does not pay attention to spiritual inspiration can help us understand the Bible. However, those with the best understanding of the Bible read in this way. If we would daily read with the sole intention of eating the Word and being nourished by God's riches, after some time we will see that the Bible is an open book to us. While the light of the Bible will shine brightly before us, we will also feel that no one can fully understand this book. It is inexhaustible. No matter how we approach it, it always yields fresh riches and brings new nourishment.

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 6)