

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 119 March 13, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Spanish-speaking Conference of the churches in the Northeast and Eastern Canada (Mar. 18-20)**

The Spanish-speaking Conference of the churches in the Northeast and Eastern Canada that will take place over Zoom from March 18 to 20, 2022. The meetings Zoom link and the outlines of the messages will be available in English and Spanish at www.churchinnyc.org on the day of the conference.

Conference Schedule:

Session 1: Friday	March 18 at 7:30pm
Session 2: Saturday	March 19 at 4:00pm
Session 3: Saturday	March 19 at 7:30pm
Session 4: Lord's Day	March 20 at 4:00pm

- **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 link:

<https://zoom.us/j/3785123114?pwd=dEpzN2ZGZ21aaGV5dTfob3AwQlBodz09>

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

- The conference for the young working saints and young families concluded today at Camp Penuel

- The church in Sacramento in the aftermath of the tragedy which took place in their meeting hall last week:
 - a. Pray for all the saints, particularly the family of our dear brother Nathaniel Kong, who was killed in the tragedy, that none would be shaken in their faith and that they all would experience the comfort of the Holy Spirit
 - b. Pray that the saints would be strengthened and that the testimony of the church would shine even brighter to the community surrounding them
- The Russia-Ukraine conflict:
 - a. Pray for the safety and well-being of all the saints, both those who remain in Ukraine and those who have evacuated the country
 - b. Pray for the saints in the churches in Europe, particularly in Poland and in Germany, who are receiving some of the displaced saints and other Ukrainian refugees
 - c. Pray that the Lord would exercise His sovereignty over the entire situation for the sake of His purpose, that none of His children would be stumbled and that even such a situation may turn out to salvation for many
- The strengthening of all the meetings and practical services in the church, particularly the children's meeting service in each hall
- 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: The Holy Word for Morning Revival on Colossians

Week 4: Christ, the Life of the saints and the Constituent of the new Man (Colossians 2:18-3:11)

Portion from Days 3&4:

Paul wrote the book of Colossians in a very concise way. In only four chapters he presents many riches. In 1:12 he indicates that Christ is the portion of the saints. The One who is our portion is the image of the invisible God, Firstborn of all creation and also

the Firstborn from the dead (1:15, 18). Paul also tells us that Christ is the mystery of God (2:2) and that the fullness of the Godhead dwells in Him bodily (2:9). As the mystery of God and the embodiment of the Godhead, He is the reality, the body, the substance, of all positive things (2:16-17). The more we enjoy Him as this reality, the more we hold Him as the Head of the Body and thereby become Body-conscious. Then we shall experience Him as our life (3:4) and as the constituent of the new man (3:10-11). In the new man, Christ is all the members and in all the members. ...Those of us who enjoy Christ and partake of Him, those who are being constituted into members of the new man, have our life hidden with Him in God. Now we should seek the things which are above and set our mind on them [3:1-3].

In 3:1 and 2 Paul tells us not only to seek the things which are above, but also to set our mind on them. This means that we need to forget earthly things—culture, religion, philosophy, and the natural human virtues. Instead, let us lift up our eyes to the heavens and set our mind on the wonderful, excellent things, the things that are above. These are the things which can cause us to be transformed, for they transmit a heavenly element into us. Let us learn to open our spirit and our whole being to the heavens and keep the “switch” turned on so that the transmission from the divine power plant may flow into us unceasingly. Do not be distracted by religion, philosophy, or anything else. Focus your attention on the things above and stay open to the heavenly power plant. Then the riches of Christ’s heavenly ministry will be transmitted into you, and you will be transformed and constituted of Christ.

In God’s economy there is one Person, Christ, and one way, the cross. ...Today both Christ and the cross are in the all-inclusive Spirit. Therefore, to be recovered to Christ and the cross is to be recovered to the all-inclusive life-giving Spirit. In our daily Christian experience we need to know the difference between practicing asceticism and taking the way of the cross. To take the cross is certainly not to cause ourselves to suffer in some way. ... If we would apply the cross to our situation, we need to contact the all-inclusive Spirit. This [Spirit] includes the effectiveness of Christ’s death and the power of His resurrection. Furthermore, Christ’s resurrected and uplifted humanity is also in the all-inclusive Spirit. ...If we would apply the cross of Christ, we need to open ourselves to the Spirit, contact the Spirit, and allow the Spirit to have a free way within us. Then the Spirit

will spontaneously apply the effectiveness of the death of Christ to us. ...Furthermore, when we open to the Spirit and allow Him to apply the death of Christ to our situation, this experience of Christ’s death will bring Christ to us in resurrection. Hence, through the experience of Christ’s death, we also experience His resurrection. The more we experience this, the more we can say with Paul, “To me to live is Christ” (Phil. 1:21).

Corporate Reading: *“How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God” Ch. 17: Practicing Dropping Our Concepts to Pick Up the Central Thought of the Bible*

MINISTRY PORTIONS

GOD BEING ENJOYABLE

Psalm 23 is a favorite psalm among God’s children; hence, it is difficult to find a Christian who does not know the words the Lord is my Shepherd. God, however, is not merely a Shepherd who leads us, protects us, and cares for us. God is more intimate than a shepherd. If He were merely a shepherd, He could care for us and shepherd us only in an outward way; He would be unable to enter into us to become a part of us. He could not become us. However, the Bible shows that God gives Himself to us for our enjoyment and works Himself into us. He can enter into us to be our life, our strength, our food, and our living water. He can meet the need of every part of our being. Those who have experienced God know that He is truly our enjoyment. We can enjoy God in His sovereign arrangements and provisions, and we can enjoy Him as the varied supply to our inward being.

Man is composed of a spirit within, a body without, and a soul between his spirit and body. When God is within us, He can supply the needs of our spirit, soul, and body. God can satisfy the needs of our spirit by supplying us from within our spirit. He can satisfy the needs of our soul, or our psyche, from within our soul. He can also satisfy the needs of our body by supplying us in our body. Although our God is invisible, untouchable, and intangible, those who have experienced God can testify that they enjoy Him in their spirit, in their soul, and even in their body. What a glorious blessing this is!

Excerpts from “How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of”, Chapter 1: Enjoying God (Section 1)