

# The Church in New York City

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 148 October 2, 2022

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The 2022 Northeast High School Juniors and Seniors Retreat (Oct. 14-16)**

The 2022 Northeast High School Juniors and Seniors Retreat will be held on October 14-16 at KPCC. Since 1999, we have held a special gathering every year for our high school juniors and seniors to further equip them as they transition out of high school and into college. **Registration is open.** For more details, please visit [pursuewiththose.org](https://pursuewiththose.org).

- **Service Office Hours**

Service Office Hours will be suspended until October 10, 2022.

## PRAYER BURDENS

- Thanksgiving to the Lord for His faithfulness in answering the prayers for the Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference held this past weekend--The General Subject of the conference was Advancing in Our Experience of Consecration to Reach the Topmost Consecration, the Consecration to the God of the House of God (El-Bethel--Gen. 35:7); let us pray that as the Spirit of reality the Lord would guide all the saints into the reality of what was spoken and thereby strengthen all the churches in the Northeast
- Thanksgiving to the Lord for His faithfulness in taking the church on over these past years and prayer for the church's further going on:
  - a. The strengthening of the church's testimony and the increase of the church in life and in numbers
  - b. The shepherding of all the saints of all ages through personal contact, visitation and the home meetings, and a homecoming for those who have not been meeting regularly

- c. The strengthening of the church meetings and small group meetings this week
- Puerto Rico, Eastern Canada and Florida:
    - a. Pray for the saints and the people of Puerto Rico and Eastern Canada in the aftermath of Hurricane Fiona; give thanks to the Lord that there was no loss of life among the saints and pray that the Lord would grant all the saints His superabounding grace and meet their every need in Christ Jesus (1 Tim. 1:14; Phil. 4:19)
    - b. Pray for the saints in the churches in Florida, as well as all the population of the state, as they prepare for the impact of Hurricane Ian
  - The Lord's move in Europe:
    - a. Conference and first Lord's Table meeting in Lisbon, Portugal over this weekend of October 1-2--Let us praise the Lord for the establishing of His testimony in Lisbon and pray for this blending of over 200 saints from 25 nations, including many new ones
    - b. Upcoming gospel trips in Germany and Switzerland (October 10-23)
  - The International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (ITERO) to be held over the weekend of October 7-9 in Anaheim, CA--Let us give thanks and pray for all the leading ones in the churches throughout the whole earth
  - 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: 2022 Memorial Day Weekend Conference Taking The Way of Enjoying Christ as The Tree of Life**

*Week 3: Loving the Lord with the First Love, Enjoying the Lord as the Tree of Life, and Being the Golden Lampstand as the Testimony of Jesus for the Building Up of the New Jerusalem as the Goal of God's Eternal Economy*

**Portion from Days 1 & 4:**

The goal of the Lord's recovery...is to recover Christ Himself as the unique Husband for us to love. We should belong only to Him. As long as we have been brought as a pure virgin to this Husband and love Him, appreciate Him, and belong to Him, we shall be preserved. This will keep us, sanctify us, saturate us, and transform us...We are for Him, and we should be attracted to Him, loving Him, appreciating Him, and treasuring Him.

Eating the tree of life, that is, enjoying Christ as our life supply, should be the primary matter in the church life. The content of the church life depends on the enjoyment of Christ. The more we enjoy Him, the richer the content will be. But to enjoy Christ requires us to love Him with the first love. If we leave our first love toward the Lord, we will miss the enjoyment of Christ and lose the testimony of Jesus; consequently, the lampstand will be removed from us. These three things—loving the Lord, enjoying the Lord, and being the testimony of the Lord—go together. (*Rev. 2:7, footnote 6*)

We need to remember these four words that begin with the letter I—love, life, light, and lampstand...We must give the Lord Jesus the preeminence in every way and in everything to recover the first love. Then we will enjoy Him as the tree of life, and this life right away becomes the light of life (John 8:12). Then we will be shining in our daily life and corporately as the lampstand. Otherwise, the lampstand will be removed from us individually and from the church corporately. If today we take Christ as the first in everything, we will have love, we will enjoy Him as life, we will shine forth with Him as light, and we will become the shining lampstand as the testimony of Jesus. (*CWWL, 1991-1992, vol. 4, "The Overcomers," pp. 204-206*)

**Corporate Reading:** *"The Meaning of Human Life and a Proper Consecration" Ch. 1: Exercising the Spirit, the Heart, and the Mind*

## MINISTRY PORTIONS

### **The Lord's Desire Being for Us to Live Him Through Eating and Drinking Him**

God wants man to eat and drink Him. This is because everything we eat and drink is assimilated into us and becomes a part of us.

**Man's Concept Being to Work,  
Not to Eat and Drink**

When man considers Christianity, his first thought is that he should do good or achieve some work. People often say that Christianity is a good religion and that it teaches people to do good. Then they claim that they are good and do not need Christianity. They say that only those who are evil and poor need Christianity. Some friends have said to me, "I know you are trying to convert me for a good reason. But I cannot give up my drinking or my gambling; therefore, it would not be good for me to join Christianity." These statements show that people's concepts are based on behavior.

What about the concepts of Christians who are saved by grace? Although our gospel proclaims that we are not saved by works but by grace and although we readily acknowledge and confess this with our mouth, when we become a Christian we immediately place ourselves under a kind of bondage. ...Tonight, I am being baptized. As soon as I rise from the baptism, I will be a new person and will act like a new person." However, no one can produce this kind of "newness." After only a few days the old man will resurface. Because this is our situation, we never have the concept that God is for us to eat, drink, and enjoy. I have never seen a person on the day of his baptism prostrate himself before the Lord and say, "Lord, I thank and praise You. You do not want me to do anything or behave in any way. You simply want me to enjoy You, receive You, eat You, drink You, and take You into me." I am afraid no one who is baptized has ever uttered such a prayer. Rather, everyone has the concept that following his baptism he should make a resolution to refrain from certain things. As Christians, we focus on acts and behavior. Rarely do we think about eating and drinking God. We can say that Christianity knows nothing about eating and drinking. It only knows about work and behavior. Christianity is a work and a walk with an empty stomach. But this concept is far from the record of the Bible.

*Excerpts from "How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God", Chapter 8: Eating and Drinking – the Focus of God's Salvation (part 1)*