

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 182 May 28, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **2023 International Memorial Day Blending Conference (cont., May 28–29)**

The 2023 International Memorial Day blending conference continues to be held from **May 28-29** in Chicago, IL. Live webcast and broadcast will also be provided. For those who are not able to attend the in-person conference, the church will broadcast the conference messages via Zoom in English, Spanish, or Chinese.

Conference Broadcast Schedule via Zoom (Cont.):

Message 4: 7:30 PM Lord's Day, May 28, 2023

Message 5: 10:00 AM Monday, May 29, 2023

Message 6: 7:30 PM Monday, May 29, 2023

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86894505938?pwd=c1c5aEF6YVR0eHJGcFVENkTa3ZFz09>

Meeting ID: 868 9450 5938 **Passcode:** 2023

One tap mobile: +19294362866,,86894505938#

- **2023 Northeast Teachers' Training (June 3)**

The Teachers' Training of the 2023 Northeast Summer School of Truth will be held **at Camp Penuel on Saturday, June 3, 2023**. We invite all the parents and saints who serve the young people from grades 6 through 12 to attend this day of fellowship. While the burden behind the Teachers' Training is more directed towards the Summer School of Truth, the fellowship can greatly benefit our shepherding and service of the young people in general. Therefore, we encourage all the parents and serving ones to attend, whether or not one can attend the Summer School of Truth. Our prayer and getting into the burden together also paves the way for the Lord to bless the Summer School of Truth based on our one accord.

Topic: Life--Knowing and Experiencing Life (lesson book will be Lesson Book, Level 4: Life--Knowing and Experiencing Life)

Registration: Register for the Teachers' Training at www.tinyurl.com/2023teacherstraining by **May 28**.

- **Service Office Hours**

Due to the many activities in the coming summer months, Service Office Hour will be suspended until September.

PRAYER BURDENS

- That all the saints would rise up to “build the wall” and that the faith of all the saints would be strengthened in the midst of the spiritual warfare

Nehemiah 2:18b And they said, Let us rise up and build; and they strengthened their hands for the good work.

Luke 22:32 But I have made petition concerning you that your faith would not fail; and you, once you have turned again, establish your brothers.

- The International Memorial Day Blending Conference being held in Chicago, IL this weekend—Let us pray for the Lord's anointing on the speaking of the messages, the speaking brothers, the travel of the saints, the atmosphere at the hotel where the conference is being held and the protection of all the saints, the services supporting the conference, particularly the audio and visual service, both in the hotel and in all of the localities viewing the conference remotely, the binding of the enemy and “that the word of the Lord would run and be glorified” (2 Thes. 3:1)
- The preaching of the gospel to the children in grade 5 in the next citywide gathering on Saturday, June 10, at Hall 3
- The Teachers' Training at Camp Penuel on June 3 for the preparation of the saints serving in the

upcoming Northeast Summer School of Truth (July 30-August 10)

- Thanksgiving to the Lord for His constant and all-inclusive care for the church in NYC and prayer for the church's further going on:
 - a. The strengthening of all the families and households
 - b. The shepherding of all the saints and new ones
 - c. The strengthening of the practical services in all nine halls of the church
 - d. The strengthening of the church meetings and small group meetings 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: 2022 DECEMBER SEMI-ANNUAL TRAINING - CRYSTALLIZATION-STUDY OF 1 & 2 CHRONICLES, EZRA, NEHEMIAH, AND ESTHER

Week 9: Building and Fighting- the Need to Engage in Spiritual Warfare for the Building of the Church

Portions from Days 1 and 4:

Those who love the Lord with a pure heart and who know something about God's eternal purpose in their spirit experience a kind of spiritual warfare. They realize from the depth of their being that every step of God's recovery involves His enemy, and every step requires warfare. Yet very few have seen that there is the need of spiritual warfare in order to realize the divine building.

Why would the Bible record such a small thing as "each had his weapon at his right hand" [Neh. 4:23b]?...The American Standard Version says, "Every one went with his weapon to the water." Even when they were going for water, the builders did not leave their weapons behind. This shows that there is warfare even in the smallest matters of our daily life.

Spiritual warfare is not an individual matter; it is a matter of the Body, a corporate entity to fight the battle against God's enemy...After we have been formed corporately into an army, we shall be able to fight against God's enemy. God's strategy is to use the church as His army to fight against the enemy. Therefore, it is very dangerous to be isolated from the army. Only by remaining in the army will we have the necessary protection.

Through the years we have seen that [spiritual warfare] is altogether a matter of the church as God's corporate army. If you separate yourself from the church, you will be defeated. Satan's strategy is simply to isolate you from the church as God's army...Spiritual warfare is a Body matter. If we realize this and stay with the church, we shall be victorious.

As God's warrior, the church does not fight by her own strength...On the contrary, we must be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength [Eph. 6:10]...To deal with God's enemy, to fight against the evil forces of darkness, we need to be empowered with the greatness of the power that raised up Christ from the dead and seated Him in the heavens, far above all the evil spirits in the air [cf. 1:19-21]. In the spiritual warfare against Satan and his evil kingdom, we can fight only in the Lord, not in ourselves. Whenever we are in ourselves, we are defeated. (*Life-study of Ephesians*, pp. 531-532, 815-816)

Corporate Reading: "*The Life-study of Romans*", messages 18-19

MINISTRY READINGS

Our Person Determining the Way We Read

The Bible we have in our hands is the same, but it seems as if we read different Bibles because we receive different things. You may receive one thing, and I may receive another. We receive different things from the same Bible. A brother with a deep knowledge of God and the Scriptures once said that the kind of person we are determines the kind of Bible we have. This is absolutely true.

What kind of Bible do we wish to have in our hands? Do we want a book on literature, science, arguments, filial piety, love for husbands, submission for wives, honesty, or lies? The kind of Bible we have depends on the kind of person we are. Different kinds of people have different kinds of Bibles. No one can change this principle.

Excerpts from "How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God", Chapter 13: ENJOYING GOD AS FOOD BY READING THE WORD (part 2)