

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 199 September 24, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference (cont.)**

The Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference for the churches in the Northeast concludes in Camp Penuel today.

- **2023 Northeast High School Juniors and Seniors Retreat (Sept. 29-Oct. 1)**

The 2023 Northeast High School Juniors and Seniors Retreat will be held from **September 29 to October 1** 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. For registration and more details, please visit www.pursuewiththose.org. **Registration is due today.**

- **The Fall College Retreat (Sept. 29-Oct. 1)**

The Fall College Retreat for the students in Eastern PA, NJ, and NY will be held on the weekend of September 29 to October 1 at KPCC. **Registration is due to today:** <https://tinyurl.com/m8mykj>.

- **2023 Church in NYC College Scholarship Application**

A number of generous donations from some elderly saints over the years were given to award scholarships for young people in the church in New York City. We thank the Lord for their generosity and for His practical care demonstrated to us through His Body. This year, the Board of Trustees has made available funds for the award of the 2023 Church in New York City Scholarship for Academic Excellence and for Financial Need.

For the scholarship application requirements and application form, please visit the church webpage: [2023 Church in NYC Scholarship Announcement – The Church in New York City](#).

Scholarships are awarded through an application and review process. The submission of an application does not guarantee that you will be awarded a scholarship, but each application will be given careful consideration. The deadline for submitting your application is **Lord's Day, October 15, 2023**. If you have any questions, please feel free to send an email to churchnycscholarship@gmail.com.

- **2024 International Chinese-speaking Blending Conference Application (the church in New York City)**

Living Stream Ministry will host the 2024 International Chinese-speaking Blending Conference in Taipei in February 2024. According to the organizer, brothers and sisters need to register for the conference through their local churches (no individual application is accepted). Below is the registration form for the church in New York City: <https://tinyurl.com/3y8myu9w>. **The deadline for registration is November 30.** For any questions, please contact the serving brothers who are collecting the registration fees in the corresponding meeting hall.

- **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

- That all the saints would put on “the breastplate of faith and love and a helmet, the hope of salvation” (1 Thes. 5:8) and “not lose heart” as they face the “momentary lightness of affliction” (2 Cor. 4:16-17) in their daily lives
- The Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference which concludes today at Camp Penuel
- The Northeast High School Juniors & Seniors Retreat which will be held at Camp Penuel over the weekend of September 29-October 1
- The Fall college retreat for the students in New York, New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania which will be held at Camp Penuel over the weekend of September 29-October 1
- The International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (ITERO) to be held in Manila, Philippines from October 5-7
- The strengthening of all the church meetings and small group meetings this week

MORNING WATCH

HWMR: 2023 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND CONFERENCE – KNOWING, EXPERIENCING, AND ENJOYING CHRIST AS REVEALED IN PHILIPPIANS

Week 3: Being One in Soul to Enjoy Christ by Thinking the One Thing, by Being One with Christ in His Inward Parts, and by Allowing God to Operate in Us the Willing and the Working for His Good Pleasure

Portions from Days 3 & 4:

In Philippians 2 Paul was encouraging the Philippians to think the one thing and to be one in soul. The one thing is not merely the objective Christ but the subjective experience of Christ as our enjoyment for the church life. This one thing should occupy our mind all the time. We should constantly be thinking about how to experience Christ as our rich enjoyment so that we may have the proper church life. The Body life is the issue of the experience and enjoyment of Christ. When we enjoy Christ, the church life spontaneously issues forth.

Thus, the church life comes out of our experience of Christ.

In longing after the saints, the apostle was one with Christ even in the bowels, the tender inward parts, of Christ. This indicates that for Paul to enjoy Christ meant that he was one with Christ’s inward parts. (Phil. 1:8, footnote 1)

Since we are the members of the Body of Christ, we should have a feeling for the Body...We must take the feeling of the Head as our own feeling...[According to Philippians 1:8], Paul took the inward parts of Christ Jesus as his own inward parts in caring for the church. This also means that he took care of the Body of Christ by taking Christ’s feeling as his own feeling...We all should be like Paul, taking the feeling of the Head as our own feeling. This is most necessary for our living the Body life.

Corporate Reading: *“The Life-study of Romans”, messages 44-45*

MINISTRY READINGS

God Being Food in His Relationship with Man

When we realize that God’s relationship with man is based on His being food to man, our reading of the Bible will be greatly affected. In order to enjoy God when reading the Bible, we need to understand that God’s way is to satisfy man as food. In this way He can be fully mingled with man and be life and everything to man. This is a very basic matter.

We read the Bible in order to pursue God so that we can have a proper relationship with Him. Our reading of the Bible calibrates and adjusts our relationship with God. In His relationship with man, God is food to man. Hence, in our relationship with God, we should receive Him as food. We have said this many times. Strictly speaking, God does not want us to worship Him or to serve Him. He does not want us to do anything for Him. Worshipping Him, serving Him, or doing things for Him are secondary. His primary desire is to be food to us. He wants us to be filled with Him before we do anything for Him. He wants to be our food in order to fill us before we engage in any work. We must understand this point. Many people do not know how to read the Bible because they do not have a proper understanding of this basic concept.

Excerpts from “How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God”, Chapter 15: RESTRICTING THE MIND AND EXERCISING THE SPIRIT IN READING THE BIBLE (part 1)