

# The Church in New York City

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 262 December 8, 2024

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The 2024 December Semiannual Video Training Registration**

Registration for the 2024 December Semiannual Video Training remains open. Please submit your registration for the video training by filling out the online form: <http://bit.ly/nycregistration>.

- **Service Office Hours**

Service Office hours are 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 His speaking in the International Thanksgiving Blending Conference held in Atlanta last weekend and prayer that the burden of the word released on *Living a Christian Life and Church Life under the Government of God for the Economy of God* would reach and strengthen all the saints in His recovery
- That the saints who are passing through various trials would not lose heart but rather experience “the God of all grace” (1 Pet. 5:10) in the midst of their sufferings
- The strengthening of all the families and households in the church life—Let us pray for the strengthening of the relationships and the oneness in every household
- The Lord’s move in the Southeastern United States:

- a. That the Lord would provide the funds for the construction of the new meeting hall in Atlanta, GA
  - b. The need for a new meeting hall in Orlando, FL
  - c. The strengthening of all the local churches in the Southeast
- The Lord’s move in Europe:
    - a. That a number of saints will receive the Lord’s burden to serve in French-speaking Europe for one to three months to meet the urgent need for continued shepherding of the new ones contacted over the past several months
    - b. The migration of burdened saints to nine cities throughout Europe in 2025 and 2026 — Paris, Geneva, Brussels, Belfast, Dublin, Vienna, Prague, Rome, and Athens
  - 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: 2024 JULY SEMIANNUAL TRAINING: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (1)**

**WEEK 2: Christ as the One with the Heavenly-ruled Deeds, Our Shepherd, Our Rest, and the Sower**

### Portions from Day 1:

According to Numbers 15:38-40, Israelite males had to wear a blue fringe on their garments, a ribbon in the color of blue. (Blue signifies heavenliness.) This meant that their lives, their walk, were restricted by a heavenly limitation. They were ruled, governed, and restricted by heavenly regulations...Garments signify virtue in human behavior. The Lord’s garments signify His perfect behavior in His humanity, His human virtuous perfection. In the human virtue of the Lord Jesus there was healing power. Therefore, when the sick woman touched the fringe of His garment, the power of His virtue went out to her, and she was healed. Out of Christ’s heavenly-ruled deeds comes the virtue that becomes the healing

power (Matt. 14:36). (The Conclusion of the New Testament, pp. 2789-2790)

To touch the fringe of the Lord's garment was to touch the Lord Himself in His humanity, in which God was embodied (Col. 2:9). By such a touch His divine power was transfused into the touching one through the perfection of His humanity and became her healing. God, who dwells in unapproachable light (1 Tim. 6:16), became touchable in Christ through His humanity for her salvation and enjoyment.

As a pleasant person, Christ is...the One with healing power in the beauty of His human virtues. We who believe in Him, love Him, and read His word have been healed by His human virtue. The more we contact Him in prayer, the more we are healed...As we see Christ in His heavenly-ruled deeds and activities and contact Him, we are healed, transformed. This is our experience when we touch the fringe of the Lord's garment. This fringe is the totality of all the Lord's human virtues, and this totality issues in healing power. In this healing power there is a transforming element that changes our character.

[The woman said], "If I touch even His garments, I will be healed. And immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she knew in her body that she was cured of the affliction." [Mark 5:28-29]...Sickness is an oppression exercised over the sick by the devil. Hence, the Slave-Savior's healing was a saving service rendered to the suffering victim so that she might enjoy relief and release from the evil one's oppression (Acts 10:38).

## MINISTRY READINGS

### LEARNING TO RESTRICT OURSELVES AND TO TURN TO OUR SPIRIT IN PRAYER

Some brothers and sisters may be clear concerning praying in the Holy Spirit, but they might not know how to enter the Spirit. Every person who learns to pray encounters this problem. We often have distracting thoughts when we kneel down to pray. When we try to reject one thought, another comes. While we are dealing with the second thought, another one invades our mind. The thoughts come like a swarm of bees. They buzz around in our mind and prevent us from praying. If we are unable to control our thoughts, we may become angry and declare that we will not pray any more. In this situation we have failed. Many times our distracting thoughts are a frustration to our

prayers. They cause us to turn away from our spirit so that we cannot pray.

Our thoughts distract us because we are loose persons before the Lord. An undisciplined and loose person has distracting thoughts. If we are undisciplined and loose before God, we will be unable to be calm. We will have wandering and distracting thoughts if we are loose before the Lord. The looser we are before the Lord, the more distracting our thoughts will be. By the Lord's grace, if we learn to control ourselves, our thoughts will come under control. When we stop to pray, we will immediately be calm, and it will be easy for us to turn to our spirit.

This illustration should help us to see that if we want to learn to pray, we must learn to control ourselves before God. If we control ourselves in ordinary things, it will be easy for us to control our thoughts when we pray. Our thoughts will be submissive, and it will be easy for us to stop, be calm, and turn to our spirit. We will easily be disentangled from our thoughts in order to turn to our spirit. A person who wants to learn to pray in spirit must learn to control himself at all times.

*Excerpts from "How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God", Chapter 19: Exercising to Pray in the Holy Spirit (part 3)*

## SELECTED VERSES

### Psalm 23:1-6

**23:1** Jehovah is my Shepherd; I will lack nothing.

**23:2** He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside waters of rest.

**23:3** He restores my soul; He guides me on the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

**23:4** Even though I walk Through the valley of the shadow of death, I do not fear evil, For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, They comfort me.

**23:5** You spread a table before me In the presence of my adversaries; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

**23:6** Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me All the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of Jehovah For the length of my days.