

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 10

February 9, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- NYC Middle School & High School Retreat, Feb. 16-18, 2020, in KPCC
- Northeast College Conference, Feb. 21-23, 2020, in Connecticut
- Regional Sisters' Blending, Feb. 29, 2020, Hall 1

PRAYER BURDENS

- Shepherding--the shepherding of all the saints in the church, the strengthening of the small group meetings and the increase of the visitation of the new ones and of those who have not been attending the meetings recently
- Gospel--the strengthening of the burden for the gospel among the saints of all ages and of all languages, particularly on all the campuses for the new semester
- Families/Households--the covering and strengthening of all the families and all the households in the church including all the corporate living arrangements among the single brothers and sisters
- Young people--the upcoming NYC young people's retreat at KPCC (February 16-18)
- FTTA gospel trips--over 230 trainees are participating in gospel trips to various cities throughout the United States and Canada

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Regional Spanish-speaking Conference, Mar. 13-15, 2020, in KPCC
- Young Working Saints and Young Families Blending, Mar. 20-21, 2020, in KPCC
- International Training for Elders & Responsible Ones, Mar. 27-29, 2020, in Anaheim, CA
- NY/NJ Regional Conference, Apr. 3-5, 2020, in Franklin, NJ
- Northeast Spring Young People's Conference, Apr. 9-12, 2020, in KPCC
- Gospel to the Nations Conference, Apr. 17-19, 2020, in Atlanta, GA

REGIONAL SISTERS CONFERENCE

There will be a one-day Regional Sisters' Blending Conference on Saturday, Feb. 29, 2020 in Hall 1. Please register online by Feb. 17. Sisters' blending 2020 sign-up form: <https://tinyurl.com/yx6qqvh>

MORNING WATCH

HWMR: *Knowing and Experiencing the All-Inclusive, Extensive Christ - Week 5: "Knowing and Experiencing the All-Inclusive, Extensive Christ as the Mystery of God"*

Corporate Reading:

"The Christian Life" Chapter 6

LORD'S DAY ATTENDANCE – FEB. 2

HALL 1	Jamaica Estates, Queens	308/37
HALL 2	Midtown Manhattan	75/10
HALL 3	Flushing, Queens	135/15
HALL 4	Downtown Brooklyn	34/5
HALL 5	The Bronx	59/15
HALL 6	UWS, Manhattan	72/11
HALL 7	South Brooklyn	80/27
HALL 8	Elmhurst, Queens	81/19
HALL 9	Staten Island	37/9
	TOTAL	881/148 (1,029)

**Adults including YP/ Children and Infants*

REVIEW OF THE PARENTS AND SERVING ONES CONFERENCE

On Saturday, February 1, the church held a conference for all parents and serving ones in line with the church's banner of "The family life for the church life and the church life in every household."

The Battle Over Our Children. Deuteronomy 30:19b "...I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life that you and **your seed** may live..." Our *seed* refers to our children, our next generation. Even as early as the second generation of mankind in Genesis 4, we already see the tactic

of Satan working to kill the next generation (Cain's murder of his brother Abel). In Exodus, Pharaoh felt threatened by the increase of the children of Israel. Satan's scheme was two-fold: 1) **tire out the older generation**—so that they would have no energy to worship Jehovah, and 2) **death and mixture to the younger generation**—to wipe them out by killing the boys and bringing in mixture through the girls having to marry Egyptians.

The same battle over our children is ongoing today. Satan is threatened by our children standing with God, and his scheme is to wipe out the second generation and attack the fabric of the family. We should be alert and pray. All our decision-making concerning our children should be according to Christ (Col. 2:8), not according to our culture, philosophy and worldly trends.

The Family Being the Unit of Salvation. The family is the unit of salvation (Acts 16:33), the unit of service (Josh. 24:15), the unit of rejoicing (Deut. 12:7), and the unit of the church life (Acts 2:46). We need to recover the families. Noah saved his entire family by building the ark. It was not only his own children, but the daughters-in-law as well. Noah inherited the godly ways of his forefathers and passed it to his sons. The Passover was also by household, and if the household was too small, they would share a lamb. In every household, the parents should be the "priests" to their children.

Basic Principles of a Proper Family Life. Some principles were covered concerning fostering a godly and healthy family life. We were encouraged to consider one or two principles at a time before the Lord: **Atmosphere**—Our homes should have an atmosphere filled with love. Even the way we carry out discipline should be full of love in the Lord and not out of fleshly anger. **Communication**—We should establish a friendship with our children and gain their hearts by being good listeners. **Show Interest**—Whatever our children are involved in, we should try to enter into their world by doing things with them and by having personal times with them.

The Lord walked many miles on the road to Emmaus with two disciples (Luke 24); He helped restore the disciples by helping them catch fish after they went back to their worldly ways (John 21). **Sanctification**—We must maintain a standard of sanctification for the sake of the children (John 17:19), especially in the matter of our speaking and attitudes. **Sowing seeds**—We are sowing tiny seeds by our actions all the time (Gal.6:8), such as the way we spend our money and plan our vacations. **Priorities**—As we make decisions concerning our children, our "tent" needs to be pointing in the right direction toward the tabernacle (Christ and the church) (Num. 2:2). **Pattern**—it's not a matter of preaching, but rather a matter of example. Our children may not remember so much what we say, but what we do stays with them. **Oneness**—A house divided will not stand (Matt. 12:25). If there is any disagreement, a couple should exercise to go to the Lord and be brought into one mind. Where there is oneness, the Lord commands the blessing.

Inspiring and Infusing a Sense of Identity and Community. We should **inspire** our children and **infuse** into them a sense of **identity** (that they are for God) and a sense of **community** (church-life family). When Daniel and his friends were taken captivity into Babylon, separated from their parents, Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself (Dan. 1:8). Others were emboldened too. Together, they refused the King's provision. From where did young Daniel get the boldness to take such a stand? It must have been from his family practicing according to the pattern in Deuteronomy 6:5-9; the word of God must have pervaded their household. If we have a family time at home, it should be age-appropriate and interesting to the children. It can be as simple as singing some children's songs and memorizing the verses together for a few minutes a week.

Recommended Resources:

1. www.biblestorysongs.com
2. www.thebibletellsmeso.com
3. www.biblestorysongradio.com