

# The Church in New York City

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 243 July 28, 2024

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **2024 Northeast Summer School of Truth (July 28 -August 8)**

The 2024 Northeast Summer School of Truth (High School -- Grades: 9th to 12th grade in September 2024) is being held today, July 28, through Lord's Day, August 4 in KPCC.

Middle School section (Grades: 7th to 8th grade in September 2024) will be held from August 4 through August 8.

**Topic:** Lesson Book **Level 5: The Church - The Vision and Building up of the Church**

- **2024 Church in NYC's Family Bible Camp (Aug. 15-17)**

This year the Family Bible Camp will be held in - person from August 15-17, Thur. to Sat, in KPCC, 288 Hickory Bush Rd, Kingston, NY 12401.

The Family Bible Camp is open to all families in the church in NYC who attend the gatherings in Halls 1-9 and Rosendale with at least one entering Kindergarten to 6th grade and their families.

Please register at

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLplhg41bF45Lfl2UIwxlwaZvJQ9pWyg6xOujzw6UJ6HQqUg/viewform> by Lord's Day, August 4.

For more details or questions, please contact the coordinators in your district.

- **Upcoming Church Events: details to follow**

1. **Sept 6 to 8:** Spanish-speaking Conference (KPCC)
2. **Sept 20 to 22:** Young Working Saints and Young Families' Conference (KPCC)
3. **Sept 27 to 29:** HS Junior/Senior Retreat

- **Service Office Hours**

Due to the many activities this summer, Service Office Hours will be suspended until after Labor Day.

### PRAYER BURDENS

- That the saints would not lose heart as they pass through various afflictions in their daily lives but rather experience the renewing of their inner man day by day  
**Corinthians 4:16-17** – *Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For our momentary lightness of affliction works out for us, more and more surpassingly, an eternal weight of glory*
- The Chinese-speaking Perfecting Training which concluded today (July 28)
- The Northeast Summer School of Truth which begins in the afternoon today at Camp Penuel (July 28-August 4 for high schoolers and August 4-8 for middle schoolers) – The topic of the lessons this year is *The Church – The Vision and Building Up of the Church*
- The strengthening of all the sisters in the church—That all the sisters of all ages would grow in life, be built up with other sisters and be brought into their full function in the Body
- Gospel outreach and Bible distribution at the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris; please pray:
  - a. That the existing churches in French-speaking Europe will be strengthened by the gospel teams
  - b. That the Lord will gain local French speakers along with their families for the church life
  - c. That the Lord will raise up new lampstands in Marseilles, Toulouse, Montpellier, Caen, Nantes, Lille, Mertzig (Luxembourg), and Geneva (Switzerland)
  - d. That many students, families, and mature saints will migrate to France within the next

couple of years for the Lord's interest

- 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 INTERNATIONAL CHINESE-SPEAKING CONFERENCE: Fighting the Good Fight, Finishing the Course, Keeping the Faith, and Loving the Lord's Appearing in Order to Receive the Reward of Christ as the Crown of Righteousness**

### WEEK 2: *Finishing the Course*

#### Portions from Days 1, 2 and 6:

The race we are running is actually Christ Himself. The Lord Jesus said, "I am the way" (John 14:6). A race is a way, a course. Christ is the race because He is the way. The way we are walking is the race we are running...Although Christ is our way, we should not take this way simply as a way; rather, we should take the way as a race to run. We should not take the time to consider, look around, stand still, or walk slowly. We need to run the race until we can declare, like Paul did in 2 Timothy 4:7, "I have finished the course." Paul began to run the course of the heavenly race after he was taken possession of by the Lord, and he continued to run (1 Cor. 9:24-26; Phil. 3:12-14) until he finished the course (Acts 20:24). Then at the end he triumphantly proclaimed, "I have finished the course." He also proclaimed that he would receive from the Lord a reward—the crown of righteousness (2 Tim. 4:8).

As the Pioneer and the Forerunner of faith, Jesus is also the Leader and Captain of faith. He has cut the way of faith and, as the Forerunner, has taken the lead to pioneer it. Hence, He, as the Captain, can carry us through the pathway of faith in His footsteps. As we look unto Him as the Originator of faith in His life and in His path on earth, and as the Perfecter of faith in His glory and on His throne in heaven, He transfuses and even infuses us with the faith that He has originated and perfected.

The saving faith is not of ourselves; it is the gift of God...Ephesians 2:8 tells us clearly that the faith through which we were saved is not of ourselves. We have received it as a gift from God. God is the source and Giver of faith, and we are the recipients of this divine gift. God has put something into our being

that becomes our faith. (Life-study of Hebrews, 2nd ed., pp. 538-540)

The most important task for each of us is to put ourselves into God's hand in a quiet, patient, prayerful, consecrated, and obedient way and wholeheartedly seek after His leading. We should be willing to obey Him and act only in accordance with His will. We should pray that He reveal to us the journey He has designated for us. After this, we should pay any price to wholeheartedly walk on it.)

**Corporate Reading:** *Life-study of Hebrews, msg. 42*

## MINISTRY READINGS

### Asking God for new things

If we drop our concepts and come to the Bible for its original meaning and color, we will see the central and crucial things. But if we come full of our concepts, we will only find what is already in our concept. The Bible may be full of weighty words, but they will not touch us, because there will not be an echo or a response within us.

For this reason we must learn not to quickly accept our feelings when we come to the Word. We must test whether these feelings were already within us or whether they are revelation from the Bible. Is it something from us or something given to us by God? If it is something that is already within us, we will lose nothing by rejecting this so-called inspiration. There is no need to even pray about it. We can simply let it go and continue with our reading. If we do this, God will give us something new, deep, weighty, and great. He will give us something that belongs to the trunk, the center. These will be the eternal, precious things that are according to God's view. Only these things can feed us and fill us.

*Excerpts from "How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God", Chapter 17: Practicing dropping our concepts to pick up the central thought of the Bible (part 4)*