

The Church in New York City

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 247 August 25, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **2024 Northeast Churches Spanish-Speaking Conference (Sept. 6-8)**

The Spanish-Speaking Conference of the churches in the Northeast that will take place at Camp Penuel from **September 6 to 8, 2024. The deadline for registration is the Lord's Day, Aug. 25.**

- **Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference (Sept. 20-22)**

The registration has opened for the upcoming Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference for the churches in the Northeast. The conference will be held at Camp Penuel on **September 20-22, 2024. The registration deadline is September 2, 2024.**

We strongly encourage the saints who will stay overnight to register as soon as possible to secure accommodation at the camp due to limited onsite housing. Please see the registration link and more information on the conference: tinyurl.com/24fallyws.

If you have any questions, please email northeastyws@gmail.com.

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

1. **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

- The ongoing truth pursuit this year in the book of Hebrews—That the love for the Word of God

would increase daily in all the saints and that as a result, more and more, the church would have the reality of being the pillar and base of the truth (*1 Tim. 3:15*)

- Thanksgiving to the Lord for His blessing on the Family Bible Camp held two weeks ago
- The children and the young people and the new arrangements in the children's meeting and young people's services for the upcoming school year
- The fall term of the Full-Time Training in Anaheim (FTTA) and the training extension in Boston (FTTA-XB)—There are currently 5 trainees from NYC in Anaheim: Esther Chai, Lily Fang, Michelle Quin, Miguel Carbajal, Michelle Wang, and 1 trainee in Boston: Benjamin Cooley
- The follow-up of the gospel outreach and Bible distribution at the Summer Olympic Games in Paris; please pray:
 - a. For the strengthening of the churches in French-speaking Europe
 - 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 by summer 2025 there will be a team of 20 full-time serving ones in Paris to take care of the Lord's needs throughout France
 - e. 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 MEMORIAL DAY BLENDING CONFERENCE: The Christian Life

WEEK 1: *The Intrinsic Significance of the Christian Life*

Portions from Days 1 and 4:

We Christians should keep a clean conscience but the main point of our Christian life is to live Christ. To live Christ should be our goal...Living Christ should be primary. All the troubles in our Christian life come because of our not living Christ.

If we do not love Christ, we cannot live Him, and loving Him is the best way to concentrate our entire being on Him. When a young mother delivers a child, her whole living is that new baby. For her, to live is her new baby. This is because of her love for her child. When we love Christ to the uttermost, our entire being is occupied with Him, and we live Him. This was Paul's experience...To Paul, to continue to live was Christ, and if he should die, it was gain [Phil. 1:21].

Living Christ requires that we love Him to the uttermost. Sometimes when we have been very captivated by something, that night we would have a dream about that thing...Christ needs to captivate us to such an extent. (CWWL, 1989, vol. 3, "The Experience and Growth in Life," pp. 30-31)

To be filled in spirit (v. 18) is to be filled in our regenerated spirit, the human spirit indwelt by the Spirit of God. Our spirit should not be empty but should be filled with the riches of Christ unto all the fullness of God (3:19). All the items in 5:18—6:9 are related to the one matter of being filled in spirit. Many readers of this chapter pay attention to such details as wives submitting to their own husbands or husbands loving their wives, but they fail to see the source of all these virtues, that is, being filled in spirit. When we are filled in our spirit with Christ unto all the fullness of God, then wives will be subject to their husbands, husbands will love their wives, parents will care for their children, slaves will obey their masters, and masters will treat their slaves in a proper way. All these things are the issue of being filled in spirit. (Life-study of Ephesians, 2nd ed., pp. 419-420)

If our spirit is flat, it needs to be filled with pneuma. We need to go to the heavenly "filling station" and get our spirit filled with pneuma. In this way we will be filled in spirit. According to Ephesians 3, we are to be filled with the riches of Christ unto all the fullness of God. If our spirit is filled with the riches of Christ, we will have no problems in our Christian life.

Corporate Reading: *Life-study of Hebrews, msg. 48*

MINISTRY READINGS

Reading the Peripherals of the Bible but missing the Center

Man's concepts are occupied with finding solutions to sufferings, building up virtues, solving the problems of the human life, and having religious zeal. Therefore, when he comes to the Bible, he cares to receive something only from these four categories of things—comfort in trials, building up human virtues, the secrets of human living, and religious zealotry. It has not occurred to him that God wants to enter into him to be his life. God wants to be everything to him. He grasps only the superficial things in the Bible; he cannot understand the central things. Brothers and sisters, there is comfort from God in our trials according to His promises. He is able to build up our virtues and teach us the secrets to human living. He even wants us to be faithful to Him and zealous for Him, but these items are peripheral. They are skin and feathers, branches and leaves. God primarily wants to enter into us to be our life. He wants to be our food and satisfaction. When we are satisfied, He becomes our inner strength that guides us through all our trials and difficulties. When we are satisfied, He becomes our inner wisdom and our secret to human living; we will spontaneously live out His virtues. When we are satisfied, we will be on fire for the Lord, and we will be faithful to Him. The Bible is focused on the central matter. If we have the central matter, we will spontaneously have the peripheral branches and leaves.

Excerpts from "How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God", Chapter 18: Identifying the Central and Peripheral Matters in the Bible (part 4)