

# The Church in New York City

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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## 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**.

- **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](https://tinyurl.com/24fallyws).

If you have any questions, please email [northeastyws@gmail.com](mailto: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

- Thanksgiving to the Lord for all the middle school, high school and college age young people, and prayer for each one during the upcoming school year; let us pray specifically for all the

college freshmen, that they would go on in the church life wherever they are and that they would let their light shine before men from the beginning of their college years (Matt. 5:16)

- The burden for the gospel on the college campuses during the new academic year both in NYC and throughout the country
  - a. The release of a campus room at NYU for the students' Bible study
- The blending conference for the churches in the Mid Atlantic states being held in Philadelphia, PA concludes today
- The Lord's move in Australia and New Zealand— This past Friday there was a Teachers' Training in Sydney, Australia for all the churches in Australia and New Zealand in preparation for the summer schools of truth (which will be held at the end of this year); then there is a conference for the parents and serving ones of the children and young people which concludes today
- The Spanish-speaking conference for the churches in the Northeast to be held at Camp Penuel over the weekend of September 6-8
- 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 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 2: *A Grafted Life*

#### Portions from Day 2:

In order for one kind of life to be grafted to another, the two lives must be very similar....Because our human life was made in the image of God and according to the likeness of God, it

can be joined to the divine life. Although our human life is not the divine life, it resembles the divine life. Therefore, these lives can easily be grafted together and then grow together organically.

In the matter of grafting, there are two main aspects: cutting and joining, or uniting. Without the cutting, there cannot be any grafting. If the branch from one tree is to be grafted into another tree, the branch must first be cut. After the cutting occurs, the joining, or union, takes place. This union is organic. Therefore, in grafting we have the cutting, the joining, and the organic union. The cutting corresponds to the death of Christ, and the uniting, to the resurrection of Christ. In the death of Christ our old life was cut off, and in Christ's resurrection we were united to Him for further growth. The experience of the death of Christ causes us to die to the law, whereas resurrection enables us to live to God...Only by being grafted into Christ can we be one with Him in His death and resurrection.

In ourselves it is not possible for us to die to law or live to God. However, when the preciousness of the Lord Jesus was infused into us and we began to appreciate Him, we were grafted into Him. On the one hand, we were cut; on the other hand, we were joined to Christ in His resurrection life. After this union took place, we were organically united with Christ. Now we should simply live in this organic union. On the negative side, we have been cut in Christ's death; on the positive side, we have been united to Christ in His resurrection. In this cutting we died not only to the law but to everything other than God. According to Galatians 6, we are dead to the world, particularly to the religious world, through the crucifixion of Christ (vv. 13-14). By the all-inclusive cutting of Christ's all-inclusive death on the cross, we are dead to everything other than God. Because we have been grafted into Christ, His experience has become our history. When He died on the cross, we died in Him. When He was crucified, we were cut off from the wild olive tree. This means that we were cut off from the self, the flesh, the world, religion, and the law with its ordinances. Furthermore, because we have been grafted into Christ, His resurrection has also become our history. Therefore, we can strongly declare that with Christ we have been crucified, buried, and resurrected. What a wonderful history we have!

**Corporate Reading:** *Life-study of Hebrews, msg.49-50*

## MINISTRY READINGS

### **Practicing to Move from Peripheral Matters to Central Matters in Our Bible Reading**

We should not be discouraged. Even if we do not find the central things in our reading, we should continue reading. We need to read the Bible. We can still be fed even if we only find words of comfort.

Nevertheless, we should all gradually move from the peripheral things to the central matters. ....We must realize that the Bible contains central words and peripheral words. The central words are God's goal, and the peripheral words meet our needs. If we stand only with our needs, feelings, and psychological cravings, we can receive only the superficial things from the Bible. However, if we are delivered to stand on the side of God's goal and His heart, we will find the central things. Until then we should continue with the peripheral matters so that we can maintain a proper life before the Lord to contact, absorb, and digest Him a little every day. We should not consider the central matters to be unattainable. We should never become discouraged to the point of giving up reading the Bible. We should never take this attitude. Instead, we should do our best to continue reading, even if we cannot find the central things now. We should still learn to read with our spirit, to deny our own thoughts, and to turn all the words that touch us into prayer. We should learn to receive nutrition, even from the superficial things. Then we will gain some help. If we are faithful, God will open our eyes, and we will gradually discover the central things. May the Lord be gracious to us so that we become clearer, sharper, and more skillful in our reading of the Word, and may we be able to get into the deeper things.

*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 5)*