EXCERPT FROM MINISTRY READING (THE KINGDOM CHAPTER 38): THE MANIFESTATION OF THE KINGDOM 3

THE REWARD

First Corinthians 9:24-27 continues the same concept. "Do you not know that those who run on a racecourse all run, but one receives the prize? Run in this way, that you may lay hold. And everyone who contends exercises self-control in all things; they then, that they may receive a corruptible crown, but we, an incorruptible. I therefore run in this way, not as though without a clear aim; I box in this way, not as though beating the air; but I buffet my body and make it my slave, lest perhaps having preached to others, I myself may become disapproved." In these verses Paul says that he feared he would become disapproved. Does this mean that he feared he might perish? No! This simply means that he feared he might lose the prize, the crown. Because of his fear, he exercised discipline to keep his body under subjection. The word disapproved actually means to be rejected. This means to be rejected from the prize, not from salvation. After we have been saved, we have to run the race properly, and we have to fight the battle in the right way.

The harvest of the seed was sown in Matthew 16; it grew and blossomed in the Epistles, and now it is harvested in Revelation 22:12. The Lord Jesus said that He was coming not with salvation but with a reward. Do not think that if you die or if the Lord comes back all your problems will be solved. If you have not learned the proper lessons and if you have not matured in the Lord, you will still have problems, and the Lord will deal with you. If you do not feed on the Lord today and let Him saturate you, you will have problems when the Lord comes back; He will deal with you. You must be matured and learn the lessons either before you die or after you are resurrected. Whether you learn today or you learn in that day is up to you.

According to the pure word of the Bible, we are told clearly that we must be saturated with the Lord, and we must be matured. If we are not matured and saturated in this age, we must be matured and saturated in the next. May the gracious Lord grant us to cooperate with Him, to let Him saturate us, so that when He comes back we may enter into the manifestation of the kingdom for the top enjoyment of Christ as a reward.

Annoucement:

- 1. District prayer meeting on the coming Tuesday 8/25 is scheduled at district prayer meeting on-line locations starting from 8 PM. We encourage the saints to separate time to attend.
- 2. Corporate pursuing this week: "The Kingdom" messages 37 & 38.
- 3. There will be a young people End of Summer Family Blending on Saturday, 8/29/2020, from 7:30-9:30 PM. Young people will present their summer projects, display the result of their guitar learning, and overflow with their enjoyment of the church life in the summer. We encourage all young people's families to attend household by household. This gathering is also open to all the saints. The meeting will be held on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 830 0625 9228 Password: 314159

4. On the coming Saturday, August 29 4 PM EST, there will be a gospel to all nations meeting held on zoom, the topic will be on John 4. All saints are encouraged to invite gospel friends to join. For more info and sign up please visit:

https://gospeltoallthenations.com/

Meeting Attendance:

Small Groups (8/14 \sim 8/15): 152 Lord's Table (8/16): 149

neeting Attendance.

Prayer Meeting (8/18): 56

Prayer Burdens:

Full-Time Training in Anaheim (FTTA) 2020 Fall Semester -

The training will start on 8/26 and will be remote. Three of this-year's Rutgers graduates (Jere Xu, Daniela Carpio, and Phoebe Lam) will participate in the corporate living at KPCC (Camp Penuel) while attending FTTA remotely. Pray that the Lord preserve and supply all the trainees and that they receive much benefit from the training and from the corporate living.

Gospel Preaching -

- A. Pray for all saints to pick up the burden for gospel preaching. Especially during the pandemic, may we seize every opportunity to spread the gospel of the kingdom.
- B. Pray that the Lord would use the current world situation to soften people's heart and open them up towards the salvation.
- C. While many Chinese new students that got accepted to Rutgers cannot come to the US in Fall 2020, pray that the Lord would still release the way for us to reach out to them.

Shepherding / Perfecting -

- A. Pray for more burdened shepherds to be raised up.
- B. In the current limited situation, pray that the Lord would give us the wisdom to care for people through technology.
- C. Many Chinese RU students have gone back to China, pray that they can still be contacted and shepherded.

Visiting RU Freshmen

Hallelujah! Jesus is getting us together! On Aug. 22nd, Saturday morning, a group of students and community saints (31 total) gathered at the meeting hall to enjoy the Lord with one another and put together care packages for the incoming freshmen. Afterwards, the saints went out in teams to visit each freshman at their home. May the Lord bless each brother and sister's transition into college with a companion, a shepherd and someone to shepherd.



2020 Summer Internship (Part 2)

Student's Testimony: This college internship has been an incredible experience for me! Before I joined, I didn't know what to expect; I wasn't sure if I would make it through the full month with several morning revival workshops in the schedule, but I was moved by the other college students in my locality to set this time apart for the Lord. Immediately I realized what a supply this internship was to my spirit!

It became clear to me that I had not been spending an intimate and affectionate time with the Lord, and this was the reason why I felt that my spirit would get quickly dried up after the weekly meetings. The interns and the serving ones who came together during our workshops to share on their experiences turning to the Lord watered me. My practice of simply reading the Word for context changed to learning how to be nourished and nourish others with the Triune God in an experiential way.

When we got into our workshops, I naturally wanted to gravitate towards something that had a scientific process, but somehow I was led to join the Children's group where we created and edited bible song videos for the children! Praise the Lord that it was through this experience that I was able to bear a burden for the young people! My prayer became "Lord, You will continue to build Your Kingdom through these younger saints! Present Yourself to them as their enjoyment and satisfaction. May they not be taken up by the fashions of this age. May we have shepherding ones among us who can carry them on and take You as the One Reality! Amen." I recommend this precious time to anyone who can set this month aside for next summer.

Student's Testimony 2: I went into the internship hoping that I could resolve some deep disconnect between me and the Lord. I still don't think I have resolved that disconnect. But along the way, I was able to see that many are going through/ have gone through a similar process that I can and can't relate to. "We are where we are", as Esther Hung said. While I would rather not be where I am right now, I guess it is all a process, if that's one thing I learned. Without the internship, I would never have had reason or circumstance to run into Paul Tso, James Chang, Joe Zhou, Jose Morales, Beracah Lam, (all of whom are awesome people) or others I saw in the morning during the morning revival workshop. So in a way, the internship did what it was supposed to- it took advantage of the virtual (and virulent) situation of COVID-19 to do something that was never done before and that was bringing together the students and slightly older ones in NY and NJ. In that aspect, "what more do you want?!" Success.