

THE CHURCH IN HAMILTON NEWSLETTER

18 October 2020

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Morning Revival Schedule

Crystallization-Study of Jeremiah & Lamentations
Week beginning:

19 Oct – Wk 12: Experiencing and Enjoying the Contents of the New Covenant according to ...
26 Oct – Wk 1: The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age ...

Bible Reading Schedule

Mon	Romans 9	Romans 16:20 Now the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
Tue	Romans 10-11	
Wed	Romans 12-13	
Thu	Romans 14-15	
Fri	Romans 16	
Sat	1 Corinthians 1	
LD	1 Corinthians 2	

Ministry Digest Reading Schedule

Ministry Digest Vol. 2, No. 8

Week beginning:

19 Oct – God's New Creation Becoming God's Oracle for His Dispensing and Spreading
26 Oct – The Great Commission of Christ in Resurrection

Today's Radio Broadcast

Time of Broadcast: 2:30 pm on Free FM 89.0 MHz
Life-Study of Colossians 43: Christ as All the Members and in All the Members in the New Man.

International Prayer Burden

Mon	Kyrgyzstan	Please pray for the brothers in these countries who have participated in the Elders and Responsible ones' online training
Tue	Ukraine	
Wed	Spain	
Thu	Belgium	
Fri	Netherlands	
Sat	U.K.	
LD	Ireland	

Weekly Church Accounts, 3–9 October

Total general offerings	\$7,521.64
Average expenses	\$8,000.00
Deficit	\$478.36
Total building fund offerings	\$330.00
Total loan of the church	\$759,428.62

Taiwan Gospel Bookroom 2021 Calendar

You may order the 2021 calendar at:
<https://tinyurl.com/twgbr-calendar-2021>
If you have any enquiries, please contact Steve Coxhead at 021 172 7719.

Upcoming Events, October–December

24-26 Oct	Brothers' Training, Hamilton
18 Dec	Full-time Training Graduation
13-15 Nov	Mini-Conference, Richmond
19-27 Dec	Summer Blending, Queenstown (www.summer.blendingtrip.org)
26 Dec-2 Jan	Summer School of Truth

Crystallization-Study of Jeremiah & Lamentations Video Training

Last message: Experiencing and Enjoying the Contents of the New Covenant According to Our Spiritual Experience for the Accomplishment of God's Economy

Saturday Church Practical Service at 22B Gordonton Rd

9:00 am – 10:00 am	Ministry of the Word	<i>The church service requires every one of us to be involved with others</i>
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Morning tea	
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Practical service	

The cooking workshop was resumed last Saturday. The next workshop will be on 24 October, 10:30am. Cooking menu – sushi.

Combined Meeting of English and Korean-speaking Districts

On the Lord's day the 25th of October the two English-speaking districts and the Korean-speaking district will combine and meet at the New Zealand Training Centre. Brothers who are attending the ITERO training will be meeting at the Gordonton property.

Lord's Day Lunch

Once a month the English-speaking and Korean-speaking districts will not have a combined lunch at the meeting hall but saints should try to invite each other to their homes for lunch. We can use this opportunity to blend with the saints, including the saints from other districts. Therefore, we will not have a combined lunch on 1 November. May the Lord bless all of us through this blending!

2020 Summer Conference replaced by Church Video Training

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we will not be having any brothers from overseas visit to take our Summer Conference this year. Therefore, instead of having a Summer Conference, the Church in Hamilton will have a video training of the Living Stream Ministry's December semi-annual training at the end of the year. The video training will be from Saturday 26 December to Friday 1 January. We will announce more details and provide a registration link closer to the time.

Bibles for New Zealand (BFNZ)

Local saints involved with BFNZ have been experimenting with different ways to distribute copies of the **New Testament Recovery Version Bibles**. They have trialed offering the free Bibles at New World Rototuna, some selected shops and cafes, and also from some saints' front gates with encouraging results. Please pray that the Lord will have mercy on the recipients of the Bibles to create in them the hunger within to know God and understand the Bible in a deeper way. If you would like to obtain Bibles to give away, you can get them from the church office or from the NZTC reception.

Mini Conference with the Church in Richmond

Date: 13-15 November **Registration Fee:** \$80 (3 days) or \$50 (2 days), incl. food & lodgings
Registration: Email church.n.richmond.conf@gmail.com, and indicate whether single or married, if you are willing to share a room or bed, when you will be arriving and leaving, your contact phone number, by Thursday, 1 November.
Payment: Church in Richmond BNZ account number 02-0747-0046795-000 (Put mini conference in the reference field with your name)
Contact brothers: Graeme Byars 03 547 4746, or Philip Fauchelle 03 265 5000

Psalm 23:1 **Jehovah** is my
Shepherd; I will lack nothing.

REGENERATION

Focus: To be regenerated is to have the life of God so that we may be His children living in His kingdom according to the divine nature

I. The definition of regeneration.

John 1:13 Who were begotten not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

II. The way:

A. To realize our need of the life of God.

3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

B. To realize that our natural being needs to be buried in the water of baptism.

v. 5 Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

C. To be born of the Spirit of God in our spirit.

vv. 5, 6b Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ... and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

1. By believing into the Son of God.

v. 36a He who believes into the Son has eternal life;

2. Through the word of God in the gospel.

1 Pet. 1:23 Having been regenerated not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible, through the living and abiding word of God.

James 1:18a He brought us forth by the word of truth,

1 Cor. 4:15 For though you have ten thousand guides in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

III. The issue:

A. Resurrected with Christ.

1 Pet. 1:3b ... who according to His great mercy has regenerated us unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Eph. 2:5a Even when we were dead in offenses, made us alive together with Christ ...

B. Having the eternal and uncreated life.

1 John 1:2 And the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and report to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us;

C. Becoming a child of God.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the authority to become children of God, to those who believe into His name,

D. Partaking of the divine nature.

2 Pet. 1:4 Through which He has granted to us precious and exceedingly great promises that through these you might become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption which is in the world by lust.

E. Born into the kingdom of God.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

THE PURPOSE OF OUR SERVICE – BEING TO MINISTER LIFE TO OTHERS AND LEARNING TO BE INTERESTED IN PEOPLE

The best opportunity for us to minister life to others is in the service groups.

Many saints who have a heart for the Lord have been placed into these groups under the care of the responsible ones. The leading ones in the service should not care merely for doing things properly. The main thing they must do is care in life for all the ones who serve in the groups. They must help the saints not primarily to carry out the service; rather, they should fellowship with them and minister life to them so that they may grow. If the leading ones do this, spontaneously all the saints will do the same for others. Then the entire church will be under the care of the proper ministry of life. (*The Normal Way of Fruit-bearing and Shepherding for the Building Up of the Church*, p. 13)

Because of the fall, many of us are not interested in others. ... However, **the church service requires every one of us to be involved with others.** We need an interest in the Lord's people. We may illustrate this interest by the taste for certain foods. Many Chinese people are interested in Chinese cooking and have the taste to go to Chinatown. We, however, need to be interested in the Lord's people. Every day the Lord's people must be our "food" (John 4:31-34). ...

Our service is not to arrange the chairs, do the cleaning, usher, or do clerical work.

These are temporary matters as the means, instruments, and channels for us to take care of people. We must all go to the Lord, pray, and pick up this burden. (*The Normal Way of Fruit-bearing and Shepherding for the Building Up of the Church*, pp. 16-18)

First Thessalonians 2:7 says, "We were gentle in your midst, as a nursing mother would cherish her own children." To cherish is not merely to do a job or to carry out a business; it is to care for a living person. Verse 11 says, "Just as you know how we were to each one of you, as a father to his own children, exhorting you and consoling you and testifying." Paul nourished the Thessalonians as a mother and exhorted them as a father. The apostle was not a businessman or a schoolmaster. He was a nourishing mother and an exhorting father. He had an interest in people. **If we do not have an interest in people, we are finished with the church service;** we are not qualified to serve. We should not say that only the apostle Paul could be like this. What the apostle did is an example for all the believers. We are not apostles, but we should still be nursing mothers. Even the brothers must nourish others as a mother, and the sisters should exhort others as a father. This does not depend on our being male or a female; it depends on the kind of heart we have. A sister can have the heart of

a father, and a brother can have the heart of a mother.

Strictly speaking, we do not care for keeping the chairs. **We care for keeping the persons.** The keeping of chairs will not enter into the New Jerusalem, but the keeping of persons will go on forever.

I am afraid that too many of us in the church service care only for the practical service, not for the persons. We need the Lord's mercy to properly exercise our heart. This is a great test to us. Some of us were born in such a way that we do not care for anyone. This is according to our natural disposition. Hallelujah, we have been reborn in another way! We have been reborn, not into a natural family but into the church. This is another birth with another disposition that is absolutely different. **The disposition of our new birth is one that sacrifices our self, our soul, and even our lives for the care of others.** (*The Normal Way of Fruit-bearing and Shepherding for the Building up of the Church*, pp. 22-23)

Paul was this kind of person. ... He was on earth for nothing else but to gain people. Therefore, he also said, "To the weak I became weak that I might gain the weak. To all men I have become all things that I might by all means save some" (1 Cor. 9:22). ...

(*The Normal Way of Fruit-bearing and Shepherding for the Building up of the Church*, pp. 40)