



**EXCERPT FROM MINISTRY READING (THE KINGDOM CHAPTER 34):
THE REALITY OF THE KINGDOM 3**

PRAYER

Our talking is also related to another very important matter—the matter of prayer. In Matthew 7:7-8 the Lord said that if we ask, we will receive; that if we seek, we will find; that if we knock, it shall be opened to us. Asking, seeking, and knocking are linked with our judging. The Lord was indicating that a judging person cannot have a proper prayer life. The more we judge or talk or gossip, the less we will be able to pray. This is certain. On the contrary, the less we gossip and talk, the more we will pray. If, on the one hand, we would practice not talking, gossiping, or judging and, on the other hand, exercise the proper discernment in sharing the truths of God and the experiences of Christ with others, then we will be able to pray. First we ask; then we seek and knock. Sometimes asking is sufficient. At other times we need to seek and to knock. We may say that we ask for the Lord's grace, seek after the Lord's person, and knock for the Lord's presence. It is easy to have the Lord's grace, but it is difficult to have the Lord's person and even more difficult to have the Lord's presence.

A proper prayer life is linked to "Do not judge." If we do not talk in a loose way and if we do not speak about God's truths and our experiences of Christ in a careless way, we will have a proper prayer life. We will have the ground to ask, seek, and knock.

This section concludes with Matthew 7:12, which says, "Therefore all that you wish men would do to you, so also you do to them; for this is the law and the prophets." This means that if we expect others to treat us in a particular way, we should first treat them in that way. Do not treat others differently from the way that you yourself expect to be treated. This is the principle. Be fair. If you want other people to treat you in a certain way, you should treat them in the same way.

Announcement:

1. District prayer meeting on the coming Tuesday 8/11 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 33 & 34.
3. Please send your SST fee to the meeting hall similar to how we do for financial offering. Check shall be payable to the Church in Piscataway and note it as for YP SST. The registration fee per person is \$20 regardless fulltime, part-time, young people, TA, or serving ones. Lesson book is \$8 per copy, each T-Shirt is \$10.
4. Let us continue to have the burden of and practice gospel preaching and mutual shepherding.

Meeting Attendance:

Small Groups (7/31~8/1): 151

Lord's Table (8/2): 136

Prayer Meeting (8/4): 39

Prayer Burdens:

The Follow-Up of Young People Summer School of Truth -

Pray that all the young people learn to enjoy the cup of salvation increasingly, experience the transformation daily, and become channels of blessing to their family and friends. May all young people's families experience organic salvation by exercising to live God-men family living for the building of the Body of Christ.

Rutgers New Semester (Fall 2020) -

- A. Pray that the incoming freshmen will make a good transition into college. May they establish healthy relationships in their first year and be built up with some saints around them.
- B. Pray the Lord would release more shepherding for the students and that each one would receive adequate care.
- C. Pray for the strengthening of the coordination among all the serving ones, students, and nearby churches. May the Lord blend is all together and form a strong heavenly team.

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.

2020 Summer School of Truth (Testimonies)

Parent's Testimony: A special burden for this year's SST is family: " a family life for church life and a church life in family life". That's why in addition to the small group times we have family time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday night after the small group meetings. Our group have 3 middle school sisters with their mom or dad, TAs, and serving ones. And we all enjoyed being blended with each other. The following are what each of us enjoyed:

"I wasn't sure how family time would be over zoom, but it has actually been one of the most enjoyable parts of the summer school of truth for me. I always looked forward to the family time after the meetings to just be together and get to know each other better."

"I have enjoyed getting to know the other families in Piscataway better. It has been such a sweet time of just sharing our enjoyment, interests, and just laughing together. I feel a lot more built up with these families now."

"What I enjoy about family time: All the questions were very cute; They connected parents, young ones and me in a humane way. I totally forgot about my language barrier and just enjoyed the humane aspects of God in a corporate family setting!"

"I really enjoyed family time since we were able to meet with others and interact in small groups, so it allowed everyone to be really open. Being able to meet up with somewhat familiar people too, got us closer together."

"They're fun and they make me happy. (◡_◡)"

Praise the Lord for all the families. May all young people be blessings to their family because they are growing in the Lord! Let me end with what our youngest sister shared during one of our family time: "I enjoyed when one of the brothers shared the crayon melting. This really showed me that God has feelings too, and when His heart melted like the crayon, it really opened my eyes as to see God having feelings too." Let us all become the ones who can have God's heart desires as ours!

YP's Testimony: What I enjoyed the most about this particular SSOT was it's emphasis on just how special we are as Christians chosen by God to not only be saved, but also participate in his great plan for the New Jerusalem. This year, the SSOT session really underscored just how important we were to the Lord and the greatness of his gift of salvation, even though the session was virtual rather than in person. Our salvation is, in fact, the greatest part of being a Christian, as it encompasses just about almost every good thing exclusive to our faith, such as the cleansing of all our sins, freedom from the wages of sin, and everlasting joy. I thank the Lord that virtual meetings proved to be no barrier to grow and learn more about the Lord, and that we, as Christians, have been chosen by the Lord and are able to have everlasting joy!



Serving One's Testimony: In the beginning of the training, I was holding my own business. "Oh my time is for my exam" "My time is for my rest" "My time is for me to have some entertainment" I did not devote very much for the first week; I also got sneaky and only signed up for afternoon session.

However, as I enjoyed God throughout all the sessions, I don't want to be absent! I attended almost all sessions in the second week. Being with young ones, other serving ones, families, spoken brothers, I felt very blessed! In the beginning, I was afraid that whether I could supply young ones because I don't have much oil.

But at the end, I realized that, yes I cannot supply young ones by myself because I am not the source. Yet, going with the flock, I became a channel of blessing. The blessing not only flow out to other saints from me, but also I have the shower of blessings! I did not need to take care of myself; God took care of all my business: Rest are entertainment all in Him!