Week of October 20

Cooperating with the Lord to Set Up His Kingdom

"Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love." (Col. 1:13)

"Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth." (Matt. 6:10)

The Lord Jesus came to establish the kingdom of God for the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose. As God incarnated, the Lord Jesus came to establish the kingdom of God—to establish a realm in which God can carry out His purpose through the exercise of His authority. To establish the kingdom of God, the Lord Jesus stood as a victorious man, defeating Satan and withstanding all hardship, opposition, and attack. The Lord Jesus preached the gospel of the kingdom so that rebellious sinners might repent and be saved, qualified, and equipped to enter into the kingdom of God. The Lord bound Satan, the strong man, and entered into his house to plunder his goods so that sinners might be brought into the house of God through regeneration for the kingdom of God. As the Lord cast out demons by the Spirit of God, He was destroying Satan's kingdom and bringing in the kingdom of God. (*Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (1)*, msg. 4, I.B, 2, a-d)

Whatever the Lord did on earth was entirely based on submission. He did nothing that opposed God's authority. Everything was in submission, in perfect cooperation with the authority of God. In this realm the Lord set up the kingdom of God and executed His authority. The church today must also allow God's authority to have a free way and manifest His kingdom through submission. (*CWWN*, vol. 47, "Authority and Submission," p. 148)

Let us pray that the Lord would subdue all rebellion, including any rebellion in us, that He might set up His kingdom on earth in order to have a realm in which He can carry out His purpose!

United States

"For neither from the east nor from the west, and neither from the south, does exaltation come; for God is the Judge: He puts this one down and exalts that one." (Psa. 75:6-7)

"And it is [God] who changes the times and seasons; He deposes kings and causes kings to ascend." (Dan. 2:21a)

Let us cooperate with our heavenly authority to pray that His will in heaven be fully accomplished on earth in all the elections in the next few weeks. We are not praying for any specific candidates, nor do we take any position on whether or how saints might vote. But we are praying for God's operation...so that He may have the time and the opportunity to preach the gospel, to save sinners, and to build the church for the spread of His kingdom. (Cf. Rom. 13:1, note 4)

LA College Students

This Friday evening, students from around Los Angeles will gather together on the UCLA campus for dinner and a large group fellowship. Please pray:

- For the Lord to strongly call both newer students and existing students to pay the price and come with an open heart and spirit.
- For the full release of the spirit, especially during the singing.
- For an anointed word concerning experiencing Christ as the shepherd and overseer of our souls!

In addition, this Lord's Day, UCLA students will return to meeting at Hall 5 after over a month of welcome meetings on campus. Please pray for the approximately 60 students, including around 25 new contacts, to enjoy the blending and fellowship with all the saints!

Southern California High School Conferences

The Fall 2024 High School Conferences will be held October 25 to 27 with sisters in Cerritos and brothers in Huntington Beach. The topic is "The Good Land—Part Two."

Please pray for the young people to come to know Christ as a good and spacious land for us to experience and enjoy in every situation (Exo. 3:8; Col. 2:6). Pray also that they would be encouraged by and blended with other young people across Southern California.

LA Chinese-speaking Blending Retreat

This weekend, October 25 to 27, about 70 Chinese-speaking saints from Thousand Oaks, Torrance, Irvine and LA will be at Oak Glen for a twice-yearly blending retreat. Please pray:

- For the Lord to cover all the practical services, the saints' health and safety, and everyone's inward condition so the Lord can have His full way this weekend.
- For the removal of our veil so that every saint can get the heavenly vision of God's economy and be infused with the divine life.
- For the blending of saints from different localities.

May the bountiful supply of the Body of Christ shepherd and encourage all the saints!

International Blending Conference, Baarlo

The annual blending conference in Baarlo, The Netherlands for the saints in Europe and beyond will be held this weekend, October 25 to 27. Please pray for the Lord's rich speaking to the saints for the spread of His kingdom in Europe. Around 800 saints are registered. Please pray:

- For the ministering brother to be strengthened body, soul and spirit for the release of the Lord's word.
- For the blending of the churches and the saints.
- For the advance of the Lord's recovery in Europe through the word of the ministry and the fellowship released in this time.

France – Shepherding Trips

Please continue to pray for many who participated in the gospel trips to return for one to three months to meet the urgent need to participate in follow-up shepherding trips to care for all the new contacts. Also pray that those burdened to serve full-time in French-speaking Europe will receive the needed visas.

A letter is available at <u>lme.org/reports.html</u> concerning this need. As the Lord leads, saints in LA burdened to give may do so through the <u>Church in Los Angeles</u> designated for "PARIS OLYMPICS."

Bangladesh

Pray for the Lord's table meeting to be strengthened and that the saints will not be lost due to the outward sociopolitical circumstances, but be strengthened in the Lord and not abandon their gathering together to praise and worship the Lord.

Announcements

- 1. **Morning Revival:** Week 4 of Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (1).
- 2. **Post-ITERO Blending Fellowship:** A recording of the blending fellowship in Warsaw after the ITERO can be viewed at Ism.org/blending. The fellowship opens with a 78-minute speaking by Brother Ron Kangas and concludes with several reports on the Lord's present move in Europe. An outline in English for the message portion can be downloaded. The total video length is 2 hours and 15 minutes. Translation is available by following instructions for selecting a language track.
- 3. **Bibles for America**'s recent blog post "What Is the Church according to the Bible?" is available to read and share at blog.bfa.org.
- 4. Wednesday Night Ministry Meeting: The ministry meeting continues this week starting at 7:25 pm.
- 5. **2024** North & South America Korean-speaking Conference: Via Zoom from November 2 to 3. Detailed information in Korean can be found at tinyurl.com/2024KoreanConf.
- 6. **SCYP Children's Work Conference:** Saturday, November 9, conducted in person only in Anaheim. Translation provided. Register by November 3 at scyp.com/children.
- 7. **Thanksgiving Conference:** November 28 to December 1 in Atlanta, GA. Interested LA saints can get more information on hotel rates and RSVP at tinyurl.com/thanksgivingconfla.
- 8. **Semiannual Training:** December 23 to 28 in Anaheim. Registration is open for LA saints at tinyurl.com/wintertrainingla. Registration due October 31 (live) or December 8 (video).