

To the saints gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus,

The past few years have been out of the ordinary. The pandemic forced us to seek the Lord's mind in many different ways. As we saw conferences, weddings and other events canceled month after month, we were reminded of the need for fresh guidance where we were apt to follow the patterns of years gone by. In some ways, there has been a return to normalcy. But along the way, we see other reminders that, despite our yearning to do what we are accustomed to, the Lord causes us to stop and ask Him about our next steps. We see the heart of the Shepherd each time we pause to hear His voice.

The assembly here had purposed to extend an invitation for an entire Bible conference this year at Thanksgiving. However, when we began looking for lodging for our guests, we found nothing suitable for this timeframe or even any other convenient weekends. We were disappointed, given how much we love you all. We have been so encouraged by our times together in previous years. Please join us in praying that the Lord will open the door again in the future.

In the meantime, we feel clear before the Lord to move forward with a single day of meetings. Lord willing, we will meet at our meeting room for a time of prayer, reading, and teaching in God's word, along with fellowship on Saturday, November 26. Due to the lack of accommodations, we are limited in the number of guests and are only sending this general invitation to the assemblies nearby. If you are able to attend, please register using <https://www.bibleconferenceregistration.com/#>.

In our local reading meetings, we have been going through the first epistle to Timothy. It has been good for us to be reminded that, as part of the collective testimony in the house of God, a particular manner of behavior is fitting. Our lives are to be characterized by prayer. We are approaching God through the great mediator, the Lord Jesus, "who gave himself a ransom for all." In the public sphere, we have God-given responsibility. These responsibilities differ for men and women but should be taken with equal care. We are to be exercised unto godliness. We are to flee evil and follow after good things. We are to "give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine." And when we take in these things, we are to meditate on them, expecting a profitable change to be visible to others. May we come together with God's expectations for his followers on our hearts and minds!

If the Lord tarries for a few more weeks, we look forward to being together with some of you and look to our Father for a blessing in it all.

On behalf of those gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus in Dorothy, NJ,


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