

Southmount Citadel Ministries Corps Newsletter for May 2021

Hello, comrades and friends,

During these difficult times when we are scattered and not able to gather, I would encourage you to build yourself up in the faith handed down to us by continuing reading your Bible and praying, either by yourself and or with someone else. I would also encourage you to stay connected to others you know in the corps by sending cards, making calls, or consoling in person, when and where possible. In doing so I pray you will experience "times of refreshing" from the Lord!

Maranatha,

Brian Coles, Major

From Major Deborah:

Happy Spring to each of you. And Happy Mother's Day to EVERYONE – we all had a mother!

I pray that each of you is well and keeping in touch with each other. And I pray that you are keeping in touch with the Lord, who loves you dearly. I'm reading in Exodus these days and see again and again that the Lord is our Provider.

If you have any news, please let us know. Ken Kimmons wants you to know that his brother Ted Kimmons was Promoted to Glory on May 5.

Women's Ministries: instead of camp this year, we are having a Women's Day. The date is June 5, the theme is "Open Doors", the speaker is Carolyn Arends, and there will be various workshops. I will give you more information as I receive it. IF - and it's a big "IF" - we are allowed to meet in person, I will need some help with set up and take down, etc. Let me know if you can help!

More information may be found at <https://vimeo.com/539387169>

Reminder:

Sermons, bible studies and devotions are available on the Mandarin corps website, on the "English" side. The address is www.sanewlife.com

Encouragement from some encouraging people: 😊

From Major Sylvia Hewitt:

Psalm 121, verses 1-5

I will lift up my eyes to the hills--from whence comes my help? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.

He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, He who keeps Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper.

How easy it is for many of us to forget just how good the Lord is, we worry or fret about little things. Especially during these times of covid and isolation from others. In the morning, each day, I take a walk down our street and see the beauty of His creation everywhere. When I see the beauty God has given us, especially at this time of year it causes me to look up to Him and worship Him, sometimes I find myself singing His praise, mostly to myself but sometimes it even comes out of my mouth. Some days it is harder for me to walk than others but when I see his beauty in the crocus, the daffodils, the tulips, the beautiful blossoms on the trees. When it is rainy the most beautiful of all is seen, a Japanese maple in our neighbours' yard with its fine little branches covered with little dew drops of water on each branch; how can I doubt the existence of God? How can I deny that He is my keeper?

Friends, we may not be able to gather just now, but God is still keeping us in His faithful hand. It is up to us to seek Him everywhere. May you each look up to the mountain, to Him who neither slumbers or sleeps. May you feel His presence.

Sylvia Hewitt

From Major John Hewitt:

The LORD, the Shepherd of His People

It has been quite some time since we met together for prayer, praise and worship. We were suddenly thrust into staying our distance away and isolation. At first, it was understandable, but then it became more demanding, and we realized we were very much alone because of the separation from each

other. Psalm 23 has always been a comfort and strength to me no matter what I may be enjoying or facing in life. During this pandemic it has become more important to me for facing each day.

I began to have new understanding of the meaning of our Lord being "Our Shepherd". A Shepherd, of course, is one who looks after and cares for (in this case) a herd of sheep. He tends to their needs and wounds and safety. The Bible often refers to us as 'sheep' and we certainly know how much we need to be tenderly cared for.

- He (Jesus) is our shepherd.....He looks after our every need ... we are not in need

- We have green pastures to graze upon ..plenteous of food.

- We are led by still waters; sheep are afraid of rushing waters and so with his hands, Jesus forms a still area for them to drink from. We have many days of unrest, but Jesus has a way to bring us peace.

- Our souls are restored as we continue to rely upon and trust His promises.

- As we pray and read His word, we are reminded that as He leads us, our walk cannot go wrong. All we are required to do is follow.

- We realize there are many things in this life that could harm us or even cause our death, yet we are reminded that Jesus will never leave us or forsake us. He continues to protect us and to lift us up from danger. He is with us in the pandemics we go through.

- Even though things and people could harm us at any time, He prepares and provides for us with needed provision.

- We are given assurance that we are His through His anointing us.

- He promises us His being with us forever.

- We have the assurance and promise to be with Him forever in His prepared Heaven.

Now when we review all the promises that have been listed in this Psalm ... We cannot help but proclaim, "**My cup runs over**". We have all and more that what we need.

A Psalm of David.

23 The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not [[a](#)]want.

²He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

³ He restores my soul;
He leads me in the paths of righteousness
For His name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for You *are* with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;

My cup runs over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

