

Servants Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 19, 2015

Spiritual Word by Fr. Abraam

In the Parable of the Talents, the master said to his servants who were faithful:

‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’

Talents symbolize gifts and abilities that God has given to us and He expects us to invest in them wisely. God is entrusting us to carry on our responsibilities as servants. Faithful service led to eternal joy in the presence of the Master, our Lord.

What does it mean to be faithful?

It means to be steadfast, consistent and firm in adherence to rules or in observance of duty. It means to be loyal, dependable and trustworthy. It is the willingness to carry through on all God’s commands and do what God has told us to do.

How can the servant manifest being faithful to God in his/her life?

Being loyal to God’s teachings should shape how we think and act. There are several ways in which the servant can demonstrate faithfulness.

1- By being faithful on his job, in school and in all areas of life

The faithful servant has honesty as trend in all his life duties and activities. He is trustworthy in what he says and what he does. A faithful servant is honest in all his words and actions even in the smallest of matters.

Being honest means not taking money or stock from the company. Not spending work time on personal phone calls. Being honest means choosing not to lie, steal, cheat, or deceive in any way. Live by your standards and beliefs even when no one is watching.

Being honest means not using unauthorized notes and books before, during or after an exam.

2- By being faithful in his family relationships

The faithful servant has to be faithful in raising his children. Raising the children faithfully requires hard work. Parents need to teach, guide, instruct and discipline their children. When the parents come home from work, they should set aside their interests and spend time with their children. The faithful parents need to be supportive and encouraging. Children must be

corrected but they must also be treated with respect. The faithful servant must teach his children to bear responsibilities. You must let your children feel that home is a place of security and love. Faithful parents need to care not only for their children's physical needs but for their emotional and spiritual needs as well.

To be continued

Administrative Items

Summer Camp – July 6 – August 14

- Early registration deadline is May 3rd.
- The registration fee increases every two weeks.
- The deadline for summer camp registration is May 31st.
- The registration form is online on the church website. Postdated cheques to be enclosed with the registration form.
- Location of the summer camp will be St. Mary & St. Joseph Church and/or Galilee Retreat center in Keswick.
- Youth who have completed grade 11 and up are hired for counselling positions in the summer camp or will serve as volunteers.
- Counsellors must have First Aid/CPR training certificate.
- Youth Grade 9 & 10 can serve as volunteers.
- In case of emergency, if the camp is held at Galilee, is there any means of transportation other than the church's bus?
- The church bus will transport all the kids to Galilee. There will at least one car available at Galilee for emergencies.
- All registration forms (counselors and children) have to be complete. Incomplete registration forms will not be considered.

Evening Summer Activities – July & August Mondays and Wednesdays

- No registration is required.

Scouts Program – July & August

- Early registration deadline is May 3rd.
- Registration fee increase every two weeks.
- Deadline for registration is May 31st.
- For scouts program, the registration is for the whole year.

Attendance at Church Events and Occasions

- As servants we have to attend at all church's events, feasts and services with guest Bishops or priests. Attendance is very low. Attending physically at church has many values that cannot be achieved by watching the live broadcast. As servants we have to be good role models for the people whom we serve.

Attendance at Servants Meeting and Punctuality

- All servants should attend the servants meeting.
- The time schedule of the servants meeting does not seem to be the reason for the low attendance. We have tried scheduling it at two different times and there is no change.
- Scheduling the servants meeting on Sunday instead of Saturday has allowed only few people (around five) to attend.
- Servants should come to the meeting on time. It is of great discomfort to the speaker when people walk in after the meeting has started.

Summer Activities/Projects

- We need to start preparing projects for the summer activities. Be creative, as to how to encourage the children to memorize and learn the curriculum of Mahragan el Kiraza.
- Make sure that the children are not competing against each other. The spirit of competition is not recommended.

The Gym Usage

- There is a safety concern regarding the people using the gym.
- It has been noted that outside people who are unknown are using the gym without booking it.
- Strict rules and regulations have to be applied when using the gym.
- People responsible for the gym (Bishoy and Amir) will spot check the gym. If an incident is detected where people are spotted using the gym without booking, firm action will be taken and could shut the gym down.
- Abiding with the gym policy and regulation is for the safety of our children.