**Direction for CBMC NYC, Post Pandemic**

May 27, 2021 – In-person meeting

*14Then Deborah said to Barak, "Get ready! This is the day the LORD will give you victory over Sisera, for the LORD is marching ahead of you." So Barak led his 10,000 warriors down the slopes of Mount Tabor into battle. 15When Barak attacked, the LORD threw Sisera and all his chariots and warriors into a panic. Sisera leaped down from his chariot and escaped on foot. 16Then Barak chased the chariots and the enemy army all the way to Harosheth-haggoyim, killing all of Sisera's warriors. Not a single one was left alive. - Judges 4:14-16*

**It was not the 10,000 warriors that won the battle.**

*2The LORD said to Gideon, "You have too many warriors with you. If I let all of you fight the Midianites, the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength. 3Therefore, tell the people, 'Whoever is timid or afraid may leave this mountain and go home.'" So 22,000 of them went home, leaving only 10,000 who were willing to fight. 22When the 300 Israelites blew their rams' horns, the LORD caused the warriors in the camp to fight against each other with their swords. Those who were not killed fled to places as far away as Beth-shittah near Zererah and to the border of Abel-meholah near Tabbath. 8:10By this time Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor with 15,000 warriors—all that remained of the allied armies of the east, for 120,000 had already been killed. - Judges 7:2-3, 22; 8:10*

**300 vs 135,000. It was not the size of the army that won the battle.**

*Each one of you will put to flight a thousand of the enemy, for the LORD your God fights for you, just as he has promised. -Joshua 23:10*

*27But I feared the taunt of Israel's enemy, who might misunderstand and say, "Our own power has triumphed! The LORD had nothing to do with this!"' 28"But Israel is a senseless nation; the people are foolish, without understanding. 29Oh, that they were wise and could understand this! Oh, that they might know their fate! 30How could one person chase a thousand of them, and two people put ten thousand to flight, unless their Rock had sold them, unless the LORD had given them up? 31But the rock of our enemies is not like our Rock, as even they recognize. - Deuteronomy 32:27-31*

**It is normal for men to forget it is God who provides the results and lean on our own ways.**

**As We Gather**

D F#m Em7 A  
As we gather may Your Spirit work within us

D F#m G A  
As we gather may we glorify Your Name

G A D F#m Bm  
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship

Em7 A D-F#m-Bm  
We'll be blessed because we came

Em7 A D  
We'll be blessed because we came

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. - Hebrews 10:24-25*

*"I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them." - Matthew 18:19-20*

*All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. - Acts 2:42*

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. - Hebrews 12:1-2*

*12Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. 13Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. 14Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. 15And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful. 16Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. 17And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. - Colossians 3:12-17*

*For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. - Romans 8:14*

**CBMC NYC Path Forward**

***Would we operate differently if God withdrew His presence?***

We are CBMC of New York City. We welcome men who are called to the marketplace to grow together in brotherhood in Christ in the five boroughs, Long Island, and Northern NJ.

God has a great calling for each us, and we stand to support one another to fulfill them throughout our lives as we trust God together to lead and provide.

We commit to being the reflection of Jesus wherever God calls us and bring people to Him through love over time.

*- About Us, cbmcnyc.com*

Love one another deeply so that we may demonstrate Christ to all people with whom we interact, and also so that our walk with God may reflect the love and commitment for one another. Encourage one another to pursue the great calling of God by being there, speaking honestly, and praying for and with them.

*- Our Vision, cbmcnyc.com*

**Core Members**

* Committed to (and desire to) meeting together frequently because they believe in the greater call.
* Desire to influence people everywhere God places them and bring others to Christ.

**Visitors**

* They will come and go and interact lightly. Communication is not expected. “What’s in it for me.”

**There is a great call in NYC. Many people are seeking a way out from their current situations. Jesus is the answer. We have the opportunity and ability to mentor, advise, and disciple them! CBMC NYC has that great calling!**

**Future Development**

* Need to start moving toward in-person meetings with zoom presence. In-person meetings always being better because the meeting does not end at the end of the hour.
* As we expand, a separate pastor group that focuses on the closeness desired within CBMC. Other CBMC groups should form for employees of corporations, similarly sized business owners, young professionals, etc. All for the same purpose of bringing many people to Christ in the places where God has called us. All of us can fellowship together from time to time.

**Areas for discussion:**

* Do you feel like a core member or a visitor? How would you like to proceed?
* What excites you about our current direction?
* What are some reservations you have about our current direction?
* How can we begin to reinstate in-person meetings?
* What are the needs of the people in NYC today?
* What are some of your (or any of our) needs we need to bring to the table?
* Anything else?