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the enemy works to make us feel lonely. He is earnest in trying to divide and distract so we might lose heart in feeling all alone. Coming together reminds us that we are not alone. We are part of a larger, more loving family through whom God works to strengthen, correct and encourage all of us. Crucial to the above is setting high expectations for yourself and your people. Expectations that are not only high, but clear and realistic. Being clear about what's expected of them and what you're trying to accomplish is essential to helping people stay the course, especially when the going gets tough.

To Refresh: *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. (Hebrews 3:13)*

As brothers and sisters, one of the best things we can do for each other (and ourselves) is to encourage the heart. Purposeful, well thought out and genuine recognition of another's accomplishment is a sure fire formula for encouraging each other daily…as long it is called today! Conferences, festivals, and church services are important events where everyone's contribution can be noticed and appreciated. All Christians need these times of refreshing.

Therefore, we are asking that you, as God's people, help us inform, inspire and mobilize the singles in our ministries to attend the 2014 International Singles Conference in Denver, September 26-28. First by registering yourself, then by engaging your friends to do the same!

Register today! Early bird discounts end on April 30, 2014.

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- ***Denver Teen Serves in Ministry Internship for High School Credit***
  Marin Lusk, Denver, CO — Tuesday, 01 April 2014
  It's easy to think that doing work for the ministry and work for school are two completely separate entities - our thoughts can even go as far as to think that only one of these areas can thrive while the other suffers. Yet ...
- ***Jackson Church Invites Mississippians to "All-Mississippi Service"***
  Sidney Dockery, Jackson, MS — Monday, 07 April 2014
  The Jackson Church is planning to host an "All-Mississippi Service" during Memorial Day weekend. We want to invite every native Mississippian and anyone who has lived in Mississippi at any point, who is...
- ***HOPEww Calling All Teen and Campus Men***
  HOPE worldwide — Friday, 04 April 2014
  Are you seeking an adventure this summer? Do you want an opportunity to grow spiritually, meet people from all around the world, and serve those in need? If so, HOPE *worldwide* is offering a program just for...
- ***ICOC HotNews Spotlight on Campus Ministries***
  ICOC HotNews — Tuesday, 01 April 2014
  Nine years ago, the ICOC revived our annual International Campus Ministry Conference. Roughly 300 students came to San Antonio in 2005. By the time that the 2012 World Summit rolled around, 3000 students were in attendance. Now, the numbers are...

• *UPCOMING EVENTS*

DT Hawaii Fellowship Cruise for Singles and Marrieds
Hawaii, USA
April 27-May 9, 2014

2014 HOPEworldwide Global Summit
Long Beach, CA USA
May 16-18, 2014

US International Campus Ministry Conference
St. Louis, Missouri, USA
July 4-6, 2014

Vietnam Church 20th Anniversary
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
July 5-6, 2014

ICOC International Leadership Conference & Delegates Meeting
Singapore
August 22-30, 2014

International Singles Conference
Denver, CO, USA
September 26-28, 2014

CONNECTING DISCIPLES IN CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD

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International Singles Conference: Festivals are for Celebrating

Wade Cook, 2014 ISC Conference Director — Denver, Colorado

Three times a year you are to celebrate a festival to me. (Exodus 23:14)



God the Father gives his children wise insights on how we ought to live and work together for a full, meaningful life. The reference passage from Exodus is only one of several places where God communicates a foundational practice he instituted for his people to observe…. CELEBRATE TOGETHER. Amongst profoundly significant truths such as Faith, Justice and Mercy we find the equally important call of Celebration.

Why is it important that we come together?

To Remember: *Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. (Dueteronomy 4:9-10)*

God went to great lengths to preserve the history of his relationship with men and women through the ages. He wants us to remember Him and pass that on to future generations.

To Remind: *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (I Corinthians 5:17)*

Reaffirming that we are part of something larger than ourselves is a primary need we have. Whether we are in a large ministry or small,

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