

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN Telephone: 020 8906 2211

SSQ:SSY October 2, 2017

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: Theocratic Schools

Dear Brothers:

The Bible speaks of Jesus as being instructed by God and learning “how to answer the tired one with the right word.” (Isa. 50:4) As Jesus applied that instruction on earth, he refreshed those who were “toiling and loaded down.” (Matt. 11:28-30) In imitation of Jesus, men who serve in positions of responsibility want to be a source of refreshment to their brothers and sisters. To that end, various schools have been established to help qualified brothers to be more effective in serving their fellow believers. We would like to draw your attention to two schools that are currently being organized in the Britain branch territory during the 2018 service year, which focus on training appointed men in the congregation.

The Kingdom Ministry School (KMS) trains elders and ministerial servants to care for their organizational responsibilities. Current situations, trends, and immediate needs in the congregation are discussed. This school will be one day in length during the 2018 service year. Circuit overseers send invitations to the elders and ministerial servants in their circuits. No doubt, you have already received your invitation to the upcoming KMS in your area. If you have questions concerning the KMS, such as attending a different date, location or language, please direct these to your circuit overseer.

The School for Congregation Elders (SCE) is specifically designed to help elders deepen their spirituality. This school is five days in length, and the branch office invites elders to classes. The SCE is currently underway in Britain and Ireland and many elders have already attended. Therefore, if you have not attended already, you will receive your invitation once classes are scheduled for your area.

We take this opportunity to inform those yet to attend that four weeks before the school enrolls you will receive via jw.org a set of study guides that are designed to give a general overview of the main points covered in each lesson. These guides replace a list of references that were formerly sent to elders attending this school. Careful examination of the study guides will enable you to be well prepared before the school begins. When you receive them, please carefully review the study guides and do your own research so as to be ready to fully contribute to the class discussions. The use of study guides will enhance your overall classroom consideration of the assigned material while aiding retention and understanding.

If you have queries regarding the SCE, please closely follow the direction in the invitation letter that you will receive via the jw.org inbox. Should you have a question regarding any theocratic school, it is important to send correspondence to the correct inbox. Although a variety of inboxes have been created for contacting the branch office, confusion occurs and a delay in assisting you with your query often results when elders send their letter to the wrong inbox. Therefore, please send all correspondence regarding theocratic schools to the **Service Department** only, via the jw.org inbox.

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We sincerely hope these comments have provided insight into the purpose and scope of the theocratic education that Jehovah “our Grand Instructor” is providing. (Isa. 30:20) Please be assured of our warm brotherly love and best wishes.

Your brothers,
*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

PS to coordinators of the bodies of elders:

At the next quarterly elders' meeting we recommend you briefly review this letter in preparation for the upcoming theocratic schools in your area.