Tomorrow, Saturday, May 17, 2014 at 4:00 p.m., REACH-NYC will be having a special gathering that I want to invite you to attend. It will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, located at 119 Mill Plain Road, Danbury, CT, just off I-84.

If you live in Northern Westchester, Southern Connecticut, or points East or West of this location, it will be wonderful to see you attend this special event.

Pastor Anthony Mazzella, LCSW, and I will be attending and sharing some inspiring thoughts at this gathering of people interested in a dynamic and meaningful approach to life.
that is found in the teaching's of Jesus Christ and studies of the brain.

Here are some thoughts from a book I've been reading and sharing in seminars I have been giving, written by Timothy R. Jennings, M.D. in his book "The God Shaped Brain: How Changing Your View of God Transforms Your Life."

"In 2006 Baylor University took a national survey to evaluate how people viewed God. They found that only 23 percent of people viewed him as benevolent or loving, while 32 percent saw the Almighty as authoritarian, 16 percent as critical and 24 percent as distant. Five percent claimed to be atheist.

Does it matter which God-concept we hold to? Recent brain research by Dr. Newberg at the University of Pennsylvania has documented that all forms of contemplative meditation were associated with positive brain changes--but the greatest improvements occurred when participants meditated specifically on a God of love. Such meditation was associated with growth in the prefrontal cortex (the part of the brain right behind our forehead where we reason, make judgements and experience Godlike love) and subsequent increased capacity for empathy, sympathy, compassion and altruism. But here's the most astonishing part. Not only does other-centered love increase when we worship a God of love, but sharp thinking and memory improve as well. In other words, worshiping a God of love actually stimulates the brain to heal and grow.

However, when we worship a god other than one of love--a being who is punitive, authoritarian, critical or distant--fear circuits are activated and, if not calmed, will result in chronic inflammation and damage to both brain and body. As we bow before authoritarian gods, our characters are slowly changed to be less like Jesus. Truly by beholding we are changed, not only in character, but our neural circuitry as well. (2 Corinthians 3:18

There are many other studies and research that indicates that events in your life as a child, also play a role in the God-image that all of us have. Join us tomorrow as we share together and find healthy ways to rediscover the God who loves us, not a god we should fear, but the God who is on our side and wants the very best for us. The very best for us now!

Both Pastor Mazzella and I look forward to seeing you tomorrow as we build a community in a relaxed setting and learn together.

Best regards - Tony Romeo, Pastor / REACH-NYC

Please see below for the address of our REACH-NYC gathering for supporters of this ministry in the Southern Connecticut, Westchester, NY area. TOMORROW, Saturday, May 17, 2014. Please scroll down for more information. Click here for directions to the event venue. Tell your friends about this exciting event, and share this newsletter and invitation with them. If you scroll down to the very end of this newsletter you will find "Forward email." Just follow the directions. Looking forward to meeting you at this event.
Please let us know you are coming, by writing me at romeo.anthonyj@gmail.com
REACH-NYC INVITES YOU TO
JOIN US IN DANBURY, CT
SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2014
4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.
“Loving God Supremely &
Your Neighbor as Yourself.”

REACH-NYC is reaching out to those living North of NYC,
to join us in a special event, on Saturday, May 17 at 4:00 p.m.
We have made arrangements to meet at the Hilton Garden Inn,
119 Mill Plain Road, in Danbury, CT, just off I-84.
Please join your hosts, Pastor Anthony Mazzella, and
Pastor Tony Romeo, as we come together to study and share the
simple, yet profound Word of God, in a safe environment.
If you’ve stopped attending church or just want to refresh your
spiritual life, this event is just what you have been praying for.
All faith traditions will feel welcome. Directions? Go to:
http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/connecticut/hilton-
garden-inn-danbury-DNBDHGI/maps-directions/index.html
Donations to REACH-NYC help us in our efforts to reach out to the people of New York City. REACH-NYC is recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt corporation, and all contributions are fully tax-deductible.*

Contributions can also be made by check payable to: "REACH-NYC" and mailed to: REACH-NYC, P.O. Box 651, North Salem, NY 10560

Thank you for helping the REACH-NYC ministry!

*A receipt will be sent recognizing all contributions for tax purposes.