

## Pray for:

- ✿ Radio broadcast in the United Kingdom: provision of finances; that the broadcast would reach the seeking ones; shepherding of the radio listeners; raising up of new lampstands in the UK..
- ✿ Lord's move in Europe: The first Lord's Table meeting in Istanbul, Turkey on February 21<sup>st</sup>; The upcoming conference in Athens, Greece on February 27-28, 2010;
- ✿ 2010 International Chinese-speaking Conference to be held February 12 through February 14, 2010 in Anaheim.
- ✿ The video training in Montreal: The Gospel of God in Romans.
- ✿ That the college/university age, the teen-agers, and the children meeting with the church in Montreal would grow to love the Lord and pursue Him.
- ✿ That full-timers would receive the burden from the Lord and the fellowship in the Body to migrate to Montreal; for various saints from the US, Canada, and Latin America who are considering migrating here to work or study.
- ✿ Raising up of vital groups in the church in Montreal in all the languages; that all the saints would rise up to live vitally with vital companions for prayer, gospel preaching, shepherding, and pursuing the truth.

## Weekly Readings

- ✿ New Testament Recovery Version with footnotes: Week 9, Matt 21:1 – Matt 22:46
- ✿ HWMR: The Gospel of God, Vol. 1, Week 4

## Announcements

- ✿ The 2010 International Chinese-speaking Conference will be held February 12 through February 14 at the LSM campus in Anaheim. There will be translation and a limited amount of hospitality. Registration deadline is January 31, 2010
- ✿ The first Lord's Table meeting in Istanbul, Turkey will start on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010. Due to our limited capacity of hospitality for the saints, we encourage those who are going to join this meeting can stay in the hotel where the Lord's table will be held. Also there will have a 3 day 2 night tour to some of the seven churches in Revelation after the Lord's Table meeting. If you are interested, you

need to register before February 1, 2010. Please let the serving ones know.

- ✿ Please be reminded that there will be a BfC bible distribution during the weeks of January 23 to February 5. There will be a service meeting after lunch on January 10 for more fellowship on this matter at 2pm. We are still looking for someone to help with the coordination of the meals for the visiting saints during the distribution.

## Lord's Day Lunch Clean-up Schedule

January 03	✿ Chinese (East, Central)
10	✿ French/Spanish/college
17	✿ Chinese (North, South, West)
24	✿ English

## Upcoming Events

- ✿ 2010, January 23 to February 8, Montreal, BfC distribution

## This Week's Activities

<b>JANUARY 3</b> Lord's Day	✿ 10:00am to 12:15pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and Video training – Message 3
	✿ 12:30pm to 1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast
<b>4</b> Monday	✿
<b>5</b> Tuesday	✿ 7:30pm, Meeting hall: Prayer meeting and Video training – Message 4
<b>6</b> Wednesday	✿
<b>7</b> Thursday	✿ 10:00am, Meeting hall: Chinese speaking pursuing meeting
	✿ 7:30pm, Meeting hall: Video training – Message 5
<b>8</b> Friday	✿ Evening: Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
<b>9</b> Saturday	✿ 4:00pm, Meeting hall: Video training Message 6
	✿ 6:00pm, Meeting hall: Love Feast
	✿ 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Meeting hall: Young people meeting

✿ 7:00pm, Meeting hall: Video training  
Message 7

## PRAYER

Scripture Reading: John 16:24; James 4:2-3; Luke 11:9-10;  
Psa. 66:18; Mark 11:24; Luke 18:1-8

### II. CONDITIONS FOR PRAYERS BEING ANSWERED

#### D. Believing

##### 1. The Lord's Power—God Can

Let us look at Mark 9:21-23, which says, "And He questioned his father, How long has this been happening to him? And he said, From childhood. And it has often thrown him both into fire and into water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us. And Jesus said to him, You say, If You can. All things are possible to him who believes." The father said to the Lord Jesus, "If You can do anything...help us." The Lord Jesus repeated his word and said, "If You can." The Lord's "if You can" is a quotation of the father's "if You can." The Lord Jesus was repeating what the father said. The father said, "If You can do anything...help us." The Lord Jesus said, "If You can. All things are possible to him who believes." It was not a question of "if You can," but a question of whether or not he could believe.

When man finds himself in difficulty, he is usually full of doubt; he cannot believe in the power of God. This is the first thing we need to deal with. It may seem at times that the power of the obstacle is greater than the power of God. The Lord Jesus rebuked the father for doubting the power of God. In the Bible we seldom find the Lord interrupting a person as He did in this case. It seems that the Lord was angry when He said, "If You can." The Lord rebuked the father when the father said, "If You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." What the Lord meant was, "How can you say, 'If You can'? What is this? All things are possible to him who believes. This is not a matter of 'if I can,' but a matter of whether or not you believe. How dare you ask if I can!" When God's children pray, they should learn to lift up their eyes and say, "Lord! You can."

Mark 2 records the incident of the Lord healing a paralytic. The Lord said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven" (v. 5). Some scribes reasoned in their hearts, saying, "Why is this man speaking this way? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins except One, God?" (v. 7). In their hearts they thought that

only God could forgive sins and that Jesus could not. They regarded forgiveness of sins as a great thing. But the Lord said to them, "Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts? Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, Your sins are forgiven, or to say, Rise and take up your mat and walk?" (vv. 8-9). The Lord was showing them that to man it was a question of whether or not one could do it, but to God it was a question of which was easier. For man, it is impossible for anyone to forgive sins or to ask the paralytic to stand up and walk.

However, the Lord showed them that He could forgive sins as well as make the paralytic rise up and walk. Both forgiving and making the paralytic rise up and walk were easy for the Lord. The Lord was showing them that "God can." In our prayer we need to know that "God can" and that nothing is too difficult for the Lord.

##### 2. The Lord's Will—God is Willing

It is true that God can do everything, but how do I know that He is willing to heal me? I do not know His will. Perhaps the Lord is not willing to heal me. What should I do? Let us look at another story. Mark 1:41 says, "And He was moved with compassion, and stretching out His hand, He touched him and said to him, I am willing; be cleansed!" Whether or not God can do something is not the question here; rather, it is a question of whether or not God is willing. No matter how great His power is, what does it matter if He is unwilling to heal? If God does not want to heal us, the greatness of His power will be of no consequence to us. The first question that has to be settled is whether or not God can, but the second question that also has to be settled is whether or not God will. The Lord said to the leper, "I am willing." The Old Testament tells us that leprosy is a very filthy disease (Lev. 13—14). Whoever contacted a leper was defiled. However, the Lord's love was so great that He said, "I am willing." The Lord Jesus stretched out His hand and touched and cleansed the leper! The leper entreated the Lord, and the Lord was willing to cleanse him. Can it be that the Lord will not heal our illness? Can it be that the Lord will not answer our prayers? We can all say, "God can" and "God is willing."

*Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series #11, by Watchman Nee*