

Pray for:

- ✿ Continued growth, spread and increase of the Lord's life in Madison, Wisconsin; That many young people from the University of Wisconsin campus will be gained for the church life, the Lord's testimony, the Body of Christ; that many would become remaining fruit and functioning members to spread the gospel of the kingdom to bring the Lord back.
- ✿ Lord's move in Israel; The upcoming Russian-speaking video training starting January 9 for the next 6 Saturdays; The one-day mini-conference on service sometime in January; There would be an advance for the Lord's corporate expression during the weekly college-age meeting and the young people's meeting.
- ✿ The video training in Montreal: The Gospel of God in Romans; many saints can be released to attend
- ✿ 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 10, Matt 23:1 – Matt 25:30
- ✿ HWMR: The Gospel of God, Vol. 1, Week 5

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
- ✿ 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 today after lunch 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 10	✿ French/Spanish/College
17	✿ Chinese (North, South, West)
24	✿ English
31	✿ Chinese (East, Central)

Upcoming Events

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

This Week's Activities

JANUARY 10 <i>Lord's Day</i>	✿ 10:00am to 12:15pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and Video training – Message 8
	✿ 12:30pm to 1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast
	✿ 2:00pm, Meeting hall: Service Meeting regarding BfC
11 <i>Monday</i>	✿
12 <i>Tuesday</i>	✿ 7:00pm, Meeting hall: Prayer meeting and Video training – Message 9
13 <i>Wednesday</i>	✿
14 <i>Thursday</i>	✿ 10:00am, Meeting hall: Chinese speaking pursuing meeting
	✿ 7:30pm, Meeting hall: Video training – Message 10
15 <i>Friday</i>	✿ Evening: Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
16 <i>Saturday</i>	✿ 4:00pm, Meeting hall: Video training Message 11
	✿ 6:00pm, Meeting hall: Love Feast
	✿ 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Meeting hall: Young people meeting
	✿ 7:00pm, Meeting hall: Video training Message 12

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

3. The Lord's Act—God Has Done

It is not enough for us to know that God can and God will. We need to know one more thing—God has done. We need to go back to Mark 11:24, which we quoted earlier: "All things that you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and you will have them." This tells us that God has done something already.

What is faith? Faith is not just believing that God can and will do something but also believing that God has done something already. God has accomplished it. If you believe that you have received it, you will have it. If you believe and are confident that God can and will do a certain thing because He has given you a word concerning it, you should thank Him, saying, "God has done it!" Many people's prayers are not answered because they are not clear about this point; they still hope that they will receive something. However, to hope means to expect something in the future, whereas to believe means to consider something as being done. Genuine faith says, "Thank God, He has healed me! Thank God, I have received it! Thank God, I am cleansed! Thank God, I have recovered!" When faith is perfect, it will not only say "God can" and "God wills," but also "God has done."

God has listened to our prayers! God has accomplished everything! If we believe that we have received it, we will receive it. Very often, our faith is a faith that believes in what we will receive. As a result, we never receive anything. We should have the faith that we have already received. Faith is always a matter of "having been done" rather than of "will be done."

Consider a simple illustration. A person has just heard the gospel. If you ask him, "Have you believed in the Lord Jesus?", he may answer, "I have." You may then ask, "Are you saved?" If he says, "I will be saved," you know that he is not saved. Suppose you ask him again, "Do you really believe that you are saved?" If he says, "I will surely be saved," you know that he is still not saved. You may want to ask him again, "Are you really sure that you will be saved?" If he answers, "I think I

will," his words do not sound like someone who is saved. If one says, "I will be saved," "I will surely be saved," or "I think I will surely be saved," there is no guarantee that he is saved. If the person says, "I am saved," he has the right tone. Once a man believes, he is saved. Any faith, if it is faith at all, believes in what has been accomplished. For example, once a person possesses faith at the time of his salvation, he immediately says, "Thank God, I have received." Let us lay hold of these three things—God can, God wills, and God has done.

Faith is not a psychological exercise. Faith is receiving God's word and believing with much assurance that God can, God wills, and God has done. If you have not received His word, do not take the spiritual risk of trying to tempt God. The exercise of psychology is not faith. Take illness as an example: All who are healed through genuine faith are not afraid of a medical checkup (Mark 1:44). The result of a medical checkup for those who have experienced a genuine divine healing will prove that it was a genuine healing rather than something psychological.

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