

Pray for:

- ✿ BfC Bible distribution in Montreal: the practical arrangements of hospitality, transportation and distribution places; that the Lord lead more seeking ones to these distributions; the enemy be bound so the saints can be released to participate.
- ✿ Greece: Rhema distribution of books; approval of the registration of the church in Athens (submitted on November 23); residence permits for three full-timers; conference in Athens on 27-28 February.
- ✿ Berlin, Germany: completion of the German New Testament Recovery Version translation by the 2010 winter training; housing and jobs for saints who are migrating there; raising up of leading brothers constituted with the truth; establishing of the children's and young people's service, gospel, and campus work.
- ✿ The raising up of a golden lampstand in Krakow, Poland (one of the major cities in Poland).
- ✿ Bibles for Canada distribution in Vancouver during Winter Olympics February 12-28: that BfC would be free to distribute Bibles in SkyTrain stations and other locations; that the Recovery Version might reach seekers throughout the world; that the saints in the Vancouver area might be able to follow up on local recipients.
- ✿ 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.
- ✿ Shepherding and financial care of the full-timers who are migrating 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 13, *Mark 1:14 – 4:25*
- ✿ 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

- ✿ During the period from Jan. 27 to Feb.6 when there is distribution, saints are encouraged to sign-up. The sign-up sheet and the distribution schedule will be in the bookroom.

Lord's Day Lunch Clean-up Schedule

January 31	✿ Chinese (East, Central)
February 7	✿ French/Spanish/College
14	✿ Chinese (North, South, West)
21	✿ English

Upcoming Events

- ✿ 2010, January 23 to February 8, Montreal, BfC distribution
- ✿ February 6, 2010, Montreal: BfC bible seminar
- ✿ February 12 – 14, Anaheim: 2010 International Chinese-speaking Conference
- ✿ March 19 – 21, Belleville, ON: YWS/College Conference

This Week's Activities

JANUARY 31 <i>Lord's Day</i>	✿ 10:00am to 12:15pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and prophesying meetings
	✿ 12:30pm to 1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast
FEBRUARY 1 <i>Monday</i>	✿
2 <i>Tuesday</i>	✿ 10-1pm and 1-4pm, Distributing bibles
	✿ 7:00pm, Meeting hall: Prayer meeting by district in various homes
3 <i>Wednesday</i>	✿ 10-1pm and 1-4pm, Distributing bibles
4 <i>Thursday</i>	✿ 10:00am, Meeting hall: Chinese speaking pursuing meeting
	✿ 10-1pm and 1-4pm, Distributing bibles
5 <i>Friday</i>	✿ 10-1pm and 1-4pm, Distributing bibles
	✿ Evening: Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
6 <i>Saturday</i>	✿ 10-1pm and 1-4pm, Distributing bibles
	✿ 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Meeting hall: BfC bible seminar

PRAYER

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

III. THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER

Every Christian should have a prayer-book, one a year. He should record his prayers as one keeps books in accounting. Each page should be divided into four columns. The first column should record the date he begins to pray for something. The second column should record the prayer item. The third column should record the date the prayer is answered, and the fourth column should record how God answers the prayer. In this way, one will find out how many things he asks God for in a year, how many prayers God answers, and what prayers are still unanswered. New believers should definitely keep such a book. But it is good for those who have been believers for many years to keep a prayer-book also.

The advantage of writing things down in a prayer-book is that it shows us whether or not God is answering our prayers. Once God's answers stop, something must be wrong. It is good for Christians to be zealous in serving the Lord, but such service is useless if their prayers are not answered. If a man's way to God is blocked, his way to men is also blocked. If a man has no power before God, he will have no power before men. We must first seek to be a man of power before God before we can be useful before men.

A brother once wrote down the names of one hundred forty persons and prayed for their salvation. Some names were recorded in the morning and the persons were saved in the afternoon. After eighteen months, only two on the list remained unsaved. This is a very good pattern for us. May God gain more Christians who will keep a record of their prayers. I hope you will put this into practice. Write down the items you are praying for one by one and the items that God has answered. Any item that has been recorded in the book, but has not received an answer, should be followed up by persistent prayer. You should only stop if God shows you that a certain prayer is not according to His will. If He has not shown you this, pray persistently until you receive an answer. You should not be careless in any way. You should be strictly trained in this matter from the beginning. You should be this serious before God. Once you pray, do not stop until you receive an answer.

In using the prayer-book, note that some items require daily prayer while others require prayer only once a week. The

schedule depends on the number of prayer items you have in your prayer book. If you have little to ask, you can pray daily over every item in the book. If there are many items, you can arrange for certain items to be prayed over on Mondays and others to be prayed over on Tuesdays. Just as men schedule their time to do other things, we should set aside a specific time every day for prayer. If our prayers are not specific, we will not need a prayer-book. If our prayers are specific, we will need a prayer-book. We can place this book in the same place we put our Bible and hymn book. They are to be used daily. After a period of time, count how many prayers have been answered and how many prayers have gone unanswered. It is a blessing to pray in a specific way according to a prayer-book.

As for the prayer that the Lord teaches us in Matthew 6, the prayer of 1 Timothy 2, and prayers for light, life, grace, and gifts for the church, these are general subjects for prayer. They should not be classified under ordinary items for prayer. We should pray for these great things every day.

Prayer has two ends—the person who is praying and the one who is being prayed for. Many times, the one being prayed for will not change unless the praying one is first changed. If the situation on their side remains unchanged, we need to seek after God concerning our side. We should say, "O Lord! What changes do I have to make? What sins have I not dealt with yet? What loves should I forsake? Am I really learning the lesson of faith? Is there anything else I should learn?" If there is a need for change on our side, we must change first. We cannot expect those who are being prayed for to change while there is no change at all on our side.

Once a person believes in the Lord, he must learn to pray earnestly. He must learn the lesson of prayer well before he can have a deeper knowledge of God and a fruitful future for himself.

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