

Pray for:

- ✿ 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.
- ✿ Turkey: the first Lord's table in Istanbul on February 21; translation and distribution of Rhema material in Turkish; gaining of some Turkish contacts in Taiwan.
- ✿ Upcoming student conference on gospel-preaching in Kiev, Ukraine (200 students registered): the release of the Spirit and release of the word; that many might be regenerated and baptized.
- ✿ The offer made by the church in Toronto for purchasing a meeting hall be in the hand of the Lord. May His will be done.
- ✿ Follow-up for the BfC Bible distribution in Montreal: coordination in following-up on the Bible recipients, especially the seminar attendees.
- ✿ 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.
- ✿ Various saints and contacts in Montreal with special needs.

Weekly Readings

- ✿ New Testament Recovery Version with footnotes: Week 15, *Mark 8:1 – 10:52*
- ✿ HWMR: The Gospel of God, Vol. 2, Week 1

Announcements

- ✿ Please pick up the new Morning Revival, Vol 2 after the meeting.
- ✿ Young people blending in Ottawa in the weekend of February 27-28, 2010, please register with sister Stacey, registration deadline is February 14.

- ✿ A conference will be held in Madison, Wisconsin April 23 - 25, please register with brother John Chao.
- ✿ Young Working Saints and College Saints conference in Belleville, Mar 19-21, 2010. Cost is \$100 per adult with the church subsidising the remaining \$100. Registration deadline Feb. 22, please register with sister Monica asap so we can arrange rooms and transportation.

Lord's Day Lunch Clean-up Schedule

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

Upcoming Events

- ✿ February 27-28, Ottawa: Young people blending, Please register with sister Stacey, registration deadline is February 14.
- ✿ March 19 – 21, Belleville, ON: YWS/College Conference

This Week's Activities

FEBRUARY 14 <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
15 <i>Monday</i>	✿
16 <i>Tuesday</i>	✿ 7:30pm, Prayer meeting by district in various homes
17 <i>Wednesday</i>	✿
18 <i>Thursday</i>	✿ 10:00am, Meeting hall: Chinese speaking pursuing meeting
19 <i>Friday</i>	✿ Evening: Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
20 <i>Saturday</i>	✿ 6:00pm to 9:00pm, Meeting hall: Young people meeting

Separation from the world

Scripture Reading: Exo. 10:8-11, 21-26; 12:6-11, 37-42; 2 Cor. 6:17

B. The Many Frustrations from Pharaoh

The story of Israel's exodus from Egypt shows us how difficult it was for them to leave Egypt! Egypt tried to hold them back again and again. When the Israelites first wanted to leave Egypt, Pharaoh only allowed the strong men to go; the young and the old had to stay back. Pharaoh knew that if he could hold back the young and the old the strong men would not go far. After a while they would come back. Satan's strategy is to prevent us from having a thorough separation from Egypt. From the very beginning, Moses rejected Pharaoh's delays. If we leave one thing or one person behind, we cannot go too far; eventually we will turn back.

You may recall what Pharaoh told Moses the first time: "Go ye, sacrifice to your God in the land" (Exo. 8:25). Later, he told him not to go too far. The third time he told him that only the strong ones could go. The fourth time, he told him that all the people could go but the cattle and the sheep had to remain. Pharaoh's way was to persuade them to serve God there in Egypt. This was his basic premise. He was willing to allow a person to be God's child as long as such a one remained in Egypt. He knew that if a person served God in Egypt, he would not have a testimony and he would have to serve Pharaoh in the end. Even though one wanted to be God's servant, he would eventually end up being Satan's servant.

If you try to serve God in the world, you will surely end up being Satan's slave. You will have to make bricks for him, and he will not let you go. Even if he does, he will not let you go too far. If he lets you go, he may only allow the strong men to go; the rest will have to stay. Satan is quite familiar with the words in Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." The treasure and the person go together. He knew that if Pharaoh held back the cattle and the sheep, the people would not go too far. The people eventually would follow the cattle and the sheep. But God wanted the cattle and the sheep to follow the people. He wanted the people to be saved from the treasure.

After a person is saved, he must go out to the wilderness. Moreover, he has to bring all the people and all his treasures with him. Otherwise, he will eventually go back to Egypt, and there will be no separation from Egypt. God's commandment is that those who serve Him must separate themselves from the world.

C. Our Way Being in the Wilderness

Just to confess the Lord with our mouth and say, "I have believed in the Lord today," is not enough for a testimony. We must come out from the world and be separated. This takes us one step further than confessing Jesus as Lord with our mouth. We cannot be dumb Christians. However, opening up our mouth alone is not enough; we must be separated from the world. We cannot continue our previous friendships, social ties, or other previous relationships. We must treasure our present position in the Lord and turn far away from our previous position. The person has to go out, and the possessions have to go out as well. Others may say that we are foolish, but we should not listen to them. Today we have to come out from Egypt. From the time we become a Christian, our way is that of the wilderness, not of Egypt.

In New Testament terms, both Egypt and the wilderness represent the world. Egypt refers to the world in its moral sense. The wilderness refers to the world in its physical sense. Christians are in the physical world but not in the moral world. We must see that there are two aspects of the world: the first as a place and the second as a system. There are many things related to the physical world which are attractive, which arouse the lusts of the eyes, the lusts of the flesh, and the vainglory of life. This is Egypt. But there is another meaning to the world—the physical world as a place where one's body resides.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series #3, by Watchman Nee