

Pray for:

- Winter training in Anaheim on Isaiah 40 to 66, December 27 to January 1.
- Israel: The restart of the Bible study time at Tel Aviv Univeristy; empowering grace for our student-saints to be contacting their classmates and fellow students; the salvation of new contacts' friends, and rescuing them from religion; release of the approval of the visa renewals this week; health and spiritual progress for families in Galilee.
- Bibles for US Military: that the packets shipped to chaplains would get into the hands of seeking military personnel; that recipients would turn to the Lord and consider the meaning of their lives
- Bible distribution from January 5 to 7 at four university metro stations in Montreal, and table at Concordia; pray for participation of local saints and gaining of remaining fruit.
- Pray for various local needs, including saints in Montreal, contacts, and those in need of care and shepherding.



Weekly Readings

- ✿ New Testament Recovery Version with footnotes: Week 59, 2 Cor 1:1 – 3:11
- ✿ HWMR: Living a Life for the Fulfillment of God's Eternal Purpose, Week 2
- ✿ Truth Equipping Series – Ministry Literature Sets Reading Schedule: *The Economy of God*, Chapter 10

Announcements

- ✿ We will have a Bible distribution on January 5th, 6th and 7th in 4 metro stations McGill, Guy-Concordia, UdeM, and Berri-UQAM. Also we will have a table at Concordia university. For those who are interested in helping out with the distribution please get your lunch, and bring your lunch to the fellowship room for an information Session on how to Distribute in Montreal.
- ✿ For the upcoming video training, anyone who has a burden to help cover the cost, please put in the offering box, with the designation 'For Video Training'.
- ✿ There will be a Spring Conference in Israel which will be held May 12-14, 2011 at Karei Deshe on the Sea of Galilee, with a pre-conference tour for May 5 through May 12. There is also optional Tour to Jordan from May 15-17.

Registration deadline for housing at the conference and for the tour (optional) prior to the conference is April 1, 2011. Registration for attending the conference meetings without the tour is open until the conference begins. Programs for children are arranged among the parents and serving ones. For conference registration or any further questions please contact us by email at israel_conf@yahoo.com

Lord's Day Lunch Serving & Clean-up Schedule

Dec 19	✿ Serving: English
	✿ Cleaning: Chinese (North, South, West)
26	✿ Serving: Chinese N.D.G. (A)
	✿ Cleaning: Chinese (East, Central)
	✿ Whole meeting hall cleaning
Jan 2	✿ Serving: French/Spanish
	✿ Cleaning: English
9	✿ Serving:
	✿ Cleaning: French/Spanish

Upcoming Events

- ✿ Dec 27, 2010-Jan 1, 2011, Anaheim, CA, USA: **Winter Training**
- ✿ Jan 1 -15, 2011, Meeting hall, Montreal: **Winter Video Training**
- ✿ Feb. 18-20, 2011: Chinese-speaking New Year's International Conf
- ✿ May 12-14, 2011, Karei Deshe on the Sea of Galilee, Israel: **Spring Conference in Israel**

This Week's Activities

DEC 19	✿ 10am to 12:30 pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✿ 12:30pm to 1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast
	✿ 1:30pm, Meeting hall: Service meeting for BFC Distribution Fellowship
20	
Monday	
21	✿ 7:30pm: District prayer meetings at various homes
Tuesday	
22	✿ 7:00pm – 8:30pm, Andrea's place: College meeting
Wednesday	

23

Thursday

24

Friday

✿ 10:00am, Meeting hall: Chinese speaking pursuing meeting

✿ Various home meetings (Chinese/English / French)

25

Saturday

✿ 7:00pm – 9:30pm, Meeting hall: Young People Meeting

Meeting

Scripture Reading: Heb. 10:25; Matt. 18:20; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 14:23, 26

II. THE CHURCH AND THE MEETING

One outstanding characteristic of the church is that it meets. A Christian can never substitute meetings with "self-taught" pursuits. God has a category of grace reserved for the meetings only. If we do not meet with others, that portion of corporate grace will not be available to us.

In the Old Testament God commanded the Israelites to meet. In many places in the Bible they are called the congregation. That they were called a congregation meant they had to meet together. When we come to the New Testament, the revelation is even clearer. We have the clear commandment not to abandon "our own assembling together." God is not that interested in individuals being "self-taught." We must assemble ourselves together before we can receive His corporate grace. No forsaker of meetings will keep His grace. It is a foolish thing to abandon assembling together. A man must meet; he must come together with other children of God before he can receive the corporate grace.

The Bible gives explicit commandments as well as clear examples of people meeting together. When the Lord was on the earth, He often met with His disciples. He met with them on the mountain (Matt. 5:1), in the wilderness (Mark 6:32-34), at home (2:1-2), and at the seaside (4:1). On the last evening before His crucifixion, He borrowed a large upper room and met with the disciples (14:15-17). After His resurrection, He appeared in the midst of their gathering (John 20:19, 26; Acts 1:4). Before the day of Pentecost, the disciples gathered

together in one accord to pray (v. 14). When the day of Pentecost came, they were also gathered together (2:1). After that they continued steadfastly in the teaching and fellowship of the apostles, in the breaking of bread and the prayers. Shortly thereafter, they were persecuted and went back to their own places. Yet they still met together (4:23-31). After Peter was released, he went to the house where the disciples were gathered together (12:12). First Corinthians 14 tells us clearly that the whole church gathered together (v. 23). It was the whole church that gathered together. No one who is part of the church can be exempt from meeting together with the church.

What is the meaning of the word church? The word church is ekklesia in Greek. Ek means "to come out," while klesia means "to congregate or to gather." Thus, ekklesia means the gathering of those who have been called out. God is not only after some called out ones; He wants the called out ones to gather together. If all the called out ones are separated from one another, we will not have the church; the church will not be produced.

After we have believed in the Lord there is a basic need we must take care of, that is, to come together with other children of God. We should never have the strange thought that we can be "self-taught" Christians. We must eliminate such a thought from our mind. Christianity does not have "self-taught" Christians; it only has the gathering of the whole church. Do not think that we can be Christians who just shut ourselves up to pray and to read the Bible alone at home. Christianity is not built on just individuals but also on the assembling together.

.Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series #9 by Watchman Nee