

Pray for:

- ✿ Local conference in Montreal on April 7 and 8, with watching and respeaking of messages from the International Chinese-speaking conference and from ITERO.
- ✿ Lyon, France: Building up of a pipeline of young saints who grow up in the church life, attend the full-time training, and become pillars in the churches in France; gaining and perfecting of local French people; that the foreign saints in the church would obtain long-term immigration statuses; that the saints might obtain stable jobs that meet their economic needs.
- ✿ 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 gospel preaching, shepherding, pursuing the truth, and prophesying to build up the church.
- ✿ The Lord's grace and shepherding of saints and contacts in Quebec City, Fredericton, and other recently contacted cities in Eastern Canada.
- ✿ The Lord's leading and one accord in considering sale of the land behind the meeting hall.
- ✿ Pray for various local needs, including saints in Montreal, contacts, and those in need of care and shepherding.

Weekly Readings

- ✿ Holy Bible Recovery Version with footnotes:
Exo 16:1 – 22:31
- ✿ HWMR: The Four Great Pillars in the Lord's Recovery, Week 2

Announcements

- ✿ On Saturday April 7 and Lord's Day April 8, we will have a local conference in the meeting hall. The English messages will be a respeaking of the recently completed ITERO, with translation into French. The Chinese messages will view and review the 2012 International Chinese-speaking Conference. The schedule will be:
 - Message 1: 4pm–6pm
 - Love feast: 6pm–7pm
 - Message 2: 7pm–9pm
 - Message 3: 11am–12:30am
- ✿

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Clean-up Schedule

April	✿ Serving: Chinese North
1	✿ Cleaning: Chinese District Two

	✿ Whole meeting hall cleaning
8	✿ Serving: Chinese South ✿ Cleaning: Non-central English, French
15	✿ Serving: English (B) ✿ Cleaning: Chinese District One
22	✿ Serving: Central Chinese 1 ✿ Cleaning: Central English, Spanish, College

Upcoming Events

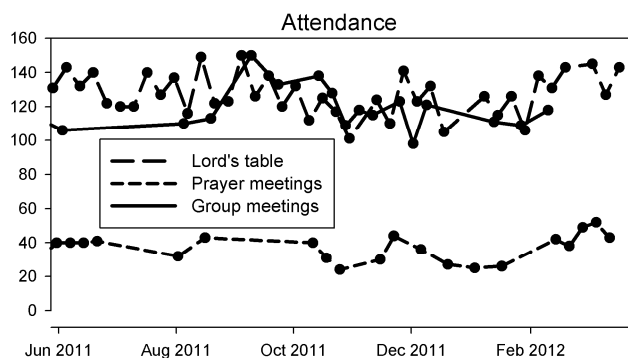
- ✿ April 7 and 8, Meeting hall: **Local Spring conference**
 - Message 1: 4pm–6pm
 - Love feast: 6pm–7pm
 - Message 2: 7pm–9pm
 - Message 3: 11am–12:30am
- ✿ May 19 and 20, TBD : Victoria weekend Conference
- ✿ May 25 to May 28 in Bellevue, Washington: **International Memorial Day Conference**

More events are listed at the church website

This Week's Activities

APRIL	✿ 10am – 1:30pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and prophesying meetings
1	✿ 12:30–1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast
LORD'S DAY	✿ 1:30pm, Meeting hall: Fellowship concerning offer to purchase land behind meeting hall
2	✿
Monday	
3	✿ 8:30-10:3am, Meeting hall: <i>Campus coordination meeting</i>
Tuesday	✿ 7:30pm: District prayer meetings at various homes
4	✿ 10am-12pm: Chinese ministry book pursuing meeting
Wednesday	
5	✿
Thursday	
6	✿ Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
Friday	
7	✿ 3pm – 5pm, Meeting Hall: Chinese speaking PRSP
Saturday	✿ 3pm – 6pm, Young People Meeting

Attendance Statistics



Forgiveness and restoration

Scripture Reading: Matt. 18:21-35, 15-20; Luke 17:3-5

I. FORGIVING ONE'S BROTHER

B. God's Measure (continued)

We need to realize that salvation is accomplished in man according to God's measure. Salvation is not carried out according to man's thought. It is accomplished in man according to God's thought and plan.

The criminal on the cross pleaded with the Lord, saying, "Remember me when You come into Your kingdom." The Lord heard his prayer, yet He did not answer him according to his prayer. Instead He said, "Today you shall be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:42-43). Salvation is God saving man according to His own will, not according to the sinner's will. Salvation is not according to the thoughts of a sinner's limited mentality about God's work for him. Rather, salvation is God's work upon sinners according to His own thought. The Lord did not wait until He came into His kingdom to remember the criminal. He promised the criminal that he would be with Him in Paradise that very day.

The tax collector prayed in the temple and beat his breast, saying, "God, be propitiated to me, the sinner!" At the most, he was asking God to be propitiated to him. But God did not answer him according to his prayer. The Lord Jesus said, "This man went down to his house justified rather than that one" (Luke 18:9-14). In other words, that sinner went back justified. This was much more than what was in the mind of the sinner. The sinner had no thought of justification; he asked only for pity. But God said that he was justified. This means that God did not consider him a sinner but a justified person. Not only were his sins forgiven; he was justified by God. This shows us that God does not accomplish His salvation according to man's thought but according to His own thought.

The same thing is seen in the return of the prodigal son (15:11-32). When he was a long way off from home and before he met his father, he was prepared to go back home to serve

as a servant. But when he reached his home, his father did not ask him to be a servant. Instead, he asked his slaves to bring out the best robe and to put it on him. He put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet and slaughtered the fattened calf. They ate and were merry because the son who was dead had come to life again; he was lost but had been found. From these verses we see again that God does not accomplish His salvation according to a sinner's thought but according to His own thought.

Mark 2 speaks of four men who took a paralytic to the Lord Jesus. When they were unable to bring him to the Lord because of the crowd, they removed the roof where the Lord was and lowered the bed on which the paralytic was lying, hoping that the Lord Jesus would heal the paralytic and make him rise and walk. But the Lord Jesus said, "Child, your sins are forgiven" (v. 5). The Lord Jesus not only healed him but also forgave him of his sins. This also tells us that God works to His own satisfaction. All we have to do is go to God and ask. It does not matter whether we have asked enough. God always works to His own satisfaction, not to the sinner's satisfaction. Therefore, we should not consider salvation from our point of view but from God's point of view.

Note: The content is extracted from *New Believers Series: #14 Forgiveness and restoration* by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.