

Please pray:

- ✿ Egypt: That the visits of coworkers and literature distribution might prevail in gaining many Muslims and nominal Christians for Christ and the church; that the Lord would rule over the present political turmoil to create an atmosphere conducive for the gospel, in Egypt and in the entire Middle East.
- ✿ GTCA: For the Bible distributions in Hamilton and St. Catharine's, Ontario, Jan. 25 to Feb. 11; for the distributions and visitations in other cities in the United States and in Europe during the same period.
- ✿ Life-study Radio Program: That radio programs in Southern Ontario and other places throughout North America might capture many seekers for the New Testament ministry; that many might come into the churches and even new churches be raised up as a result; for the Lord's abundant financial provision for this work.
- ✿ Ottawa: That the church would be strengthened in life and truth to be the pillar and base of the truth in reality; for the increase in numbers, especially with the gaining of typical Canadians; for the continued blending and building up with nearby churches.
- ✿ Campus club at McGill: That the Lord would establish a club at McGill University as a tool for building up His testimony on that campus.
- ✿ 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: Judg. 8:1-18:31
- ✿ HWMR: The Genuine Oneness of the Body, the Proper One Accord in the Church, and the Direction of the Lord's Move Today, week 6

Announcements

- ✿ The 2013 East Canada College-Age and Working Saints Conference will be held at the Travelodge Hotel Belleville, in Belleville, ON from March 15 - 17, 2013. This conference is for young working, college, and grade 12 saints. There will be 6 meetings and registration starts at 4pm on March 15. The last meeting finishes at noon on March 17.
 - The cost for each saint is \$200, which includes two nights for hotel rooms and 6 meals. For saints who wish to attend, the cost is \$100 and the church can subsidize \$100. Saints can choose to pay the full amount of \$200 if they are able to do so. For families with children, the cost is free for children under 6, \$40 for children under 10 and \$80 for children 10 and above.

- The deadline for registration is February 25. Sign up starts today.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Clean-up Schedule

FEB 3	✿ Serving: Central Chinese 2
	✿ Cleaning: Chinese 1
10	✿ Serving: N.D.G.
	✿ Cleaning: Chinese 2
17	✿ Serving: English (A)
	✿ Cleaning: Whole Hall Cleaning
24	✿ Serving: French/Spanish
	✿ Cleaning: English and University/College

Upcoming Events

- ✿ February 15-17, Anaheim, CA: **International Chinese speaking conference**
- ✿ March 15-17, Belleville, ON: **Working & College Saints Conference**
- ✿ March 22-24, Toronto meeting hall: **Parents & Serving Ones Conference**
- ✿ April 12-14, Anaheim, CA: **International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones**

More events are listed on the church website

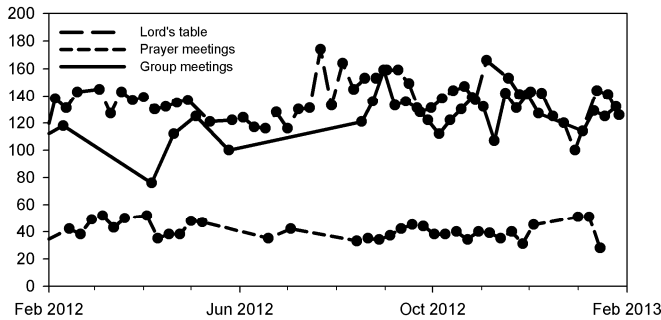
This Week's Activities

3	✿ 10am -12:30pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
LORD'S DAY	✿ 12:30-1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast
4	✿
Monday	
5	✿ 7:00-9:00pm, English, French, Chinese prayer meetings by districts
Tuesday	
6	✿
Wednesday	
7	
Thursday	
8	✿ Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
Friday	
9	✿ 3:30-6pm, Location TBA, Young people's meeting
Saturday	

10 LORD'S DAY

- ☼ 10am–12:30pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and prophesying meetings
- ☼ 12:30–1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast

Attendance Statistics



Governmental Forgiveness

IV. GOVERNMENTAL FORGIVENESS (continued)

D. The Elders of the Church Anointing the Sick and Praying for Them to Receive Governmental Forgiveness

James 5:14-15 says, "Is anyone among you ill? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, it will be forgiven him." This seems to be a very special kind of forgiveness. Here was a brother who was sick. The elders of the church were invited to anoint him with oil and pray for him, and the prayer of faith would cause the sick to rise up. If he had committed any sin, it would be forgiven him. We have seen that sickness may be caused by many factors. Some sicknesses may not be the result of sin, but some are. The sin here is not forgiven through the confession of the sick one; it is forgiven through the prayer of the elders of the church. Why are his sins forgiven after the elders of the church pray for him and apply the anointing to him? What sins are spoken of in this verse? One cannot apply such a method to eternal forgiveness, instrumental forgiveness, or forgiveness in fellowship. I believe that this is related to God's government. Suppose a brother is sick because of God's governmental hand. He has sinned and has fallen, and God is disciplining him. Although he has confessed his sins and has been forgiven and restored to fellowship, God's disciplining hand has not been lifted. He has to wait for the elders of the church to come to him and make petition on his behalf, saying, "The brothers have forgiven his sins. We expect to see him rise up again. The church would like to see such a brother being recovered to the flow of life. Therefore, we anoint his

body with oil that the ointment of the Head may flow to him once more." When the church does this to the sick one, he will be restored. In many cases, a person may have sinned and offended God's government. As soon as God removes His governmental hand from such a person, his sickness will be healed. When God removes His governmental hand, we have the fulfillment of the word, "If he has committed sins, it will be forgiven him." This sin is different from other ordinary sins. In our reading of the Bible, we must realize that James 5 is a chapter on governmental forgiveness. If we fall under God's governmental hand, He will not let us go until we are fully forgiven.

E. David under God's Governmental Hand

To understand the significance of governmental forgiveness, we must consider the example of David in the Old Testament. No portion of the Bible speaks of God's governmental forgiveness as clearly as the story of David with Uriah's wife. David committed two sins: adultery and murder. His adultery was a sin against Uriah's wife, and his murder was a sin against Uriah himself. If you read Psalm 51 and a few other psalms, you will see how David confessed his sins after his mistakes. He felt the shame, the defilement, and the offense that he had committed against God. He was sincere in his confession to God. This shows us clearly that his fellowship with God was restored after his confession in Psalm 51. This restoration of fellowship is analogous to that which is spoken of in 1 John 1.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #18 Governmental Forgiveness by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.