

## Please pray:

- ✳ Canada: Strengthening of seven churches: Halifax (for general increase and for increase from the campuses), Ottawa (for English-speaking saints to migrate there), Markham (for English-speaking saints to migrate there), Hamilton (for increase from the campuses and from the community), St. Catharines (for increase from the community and Brock University), Saskatoon and Edmonton (that saints from other churches visit and blend with them); that all these churches grow, increase and spread.
- ✳ Bibles for Canada: That thousands of Bibles might be distributed in every province and territory; that contacts might eventually be attracted and shepherded into the church life; translation of all materials and the website into French; financial provision for all aspects of the labour.
- ✳ 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. 19:1- Ruth 4:22
- ✳ HWMR: The Unique Work in the Lord's Recovery, week 2

## Announcements

- ✳ There will be a YP parents- serving ones fellowship during lunch next Lord's Day.
- ✳ 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

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17 ✳ Serving: English (A)  
✳ Cleaning: Whole Hall Cleaning

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24 ✳ Serving: French/Spanish  
✳ Cleaning: English and University/College

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MAR ✳ Serving: East Chinese  
3 ✳ Cleaning: Chinese One

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10 ✳ Serving: West Chinese  
✳ Cleaning: French and Young People

## Upcoming Events

- ✳ March 15-17, Belleville, ON: **Working & College Saints Conference**
- ✳ March 22-24, Toronto meeting hall: **Parents & Serving Ones Conference**
- ✳ March 30, Montreal meeting hall: **96 Lessons**
- ✳ April 12-14, Anaheim, CA: **International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones**

*More events are listed on the church website*

## This Week's Activities

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17 ✳ 10am -12:30pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and prophesying meeting  
**LORD'S DAY** ✳ 12:30-1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast

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18 ✳  
**Monday**

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19 ✳ 7:00-9:00pm, English, French, Chinese prayer meetings by districts  
**Tuesday**

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20 ✳  
**Wednesday**

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21  
**Thursday**

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22 ✳ Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)  
**Friday**

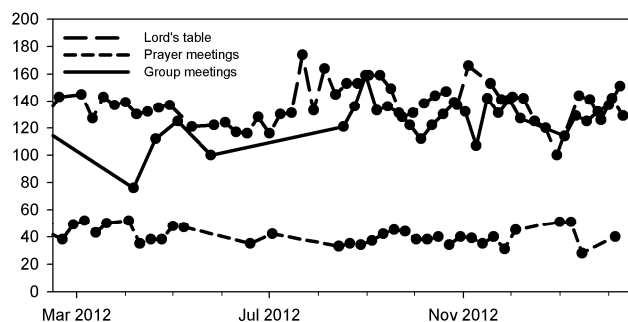
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23 ✳ 3:30-6pm, Location TBA, Young people's meeting  
**Saturday**

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24 ✳ 10am-12:30pm, Meeting hall: Lord's table and prophesying meetings  
**LORD'S DAY** ✳ 12:30-1:30pm, Meeting hall: Love feast

## Attendance Statistics



## Governmental Forgiveness

### IV. GOVERNMENTAL FORGIVENESS (continued)

It is not easy to be rebellious and to try to escape God's hand. Who can escape His hand? You must realize that you have fallen into your present state through what you did before. Suppose a brother loved sugar too much as a youth, and his teeth have decayed from the overconsumption of sweets. One day he feels that he has eaten too many sweets. These sweets have brought about his toothaches. He asks God to forgive his sin of indulgence in eating. God can easily forgive such a sin. But it does not mean that his teeth will recover from their decay. His teeth will still be bad; that is God's government. If you eat sweets, your teeth will decay. If you confess your weakness, the fellowship will be restored, but it does not mean that good teeth will grow back after your confession. Once you recognize God's government, you have to learn to humble yourself under it. One can never recover a tooth from decay, but there are matters concerning God's governmental hand which can be removed, and the person involved can be recovered.

### G. Falling under God's Governmental Hand Being a Serious Matter

Let us consider one portion of the Word. After Moses smote the rock in Meribah (Num. 20:10-12), both he and Aaron fell under God's governmental hand. After Aaron failed, God still allowed him to remain a priest and restored his fellowship with God. Even though he wore the priestly robe, God nevertheless told him that he would not be able to live. Moses also did not honor Jehovah as the Holy One when he was by the rock. God wanted him to command water to flow out from the rock, but he smote the rock with his rod and lost his composure. He did not honor Jehovah as the Holy One. God's hand was upon his servants, and Aaron and Moses could not enter Canaan. Do you see the basic principle here? This is God's government! We cannot pin down our God. We cannot guarantee that God will always treat us the same way as before. At a certain point, God may change His way with us. He may change even what we consider to be the best way.

The Bible is full of such stories. For example, when the Israelites reached Kadesh in the wilderness of Paran, spies went up to spy out the land (Num. 13—14). When they saw that it would take two people to carry a cluster of grapes, they realized that the land was a land flowing with milk and honey. But they became afraid and refused to enter into that land, because they saw that the people who dwelt in that land were of great stature. In their own sight the Israelites were as grasshoppers. As a result, all but two of them died in the wilderness. Joshua and Caleb were the only two persons who would go into the good land. Later, the people confessed their sins and wanted to go in. God still treated them as His people and was gracious to them. However, they could no longer have a part in the land of Canaan. God's government had changed! Brothers, the very day that you begin your Christian life, you should set a hope before you that you will stay on the course that God has measured to you, all the way to the end. Do not live loosely. Do not sin. Please bear in mind that even though God may be merciful, He can change His way! God's governmental hand will never let you go.

God's governmental hand is indeed a serious matter! I know of a brother who was clearly called by the Lord to set aside his career to serve the Lord. He went home for a visit but could not bring himself to quit his occupation. He wanted to be a good Christian, but he did not want to set aside his career or spend his life for the gospel. Since then he is sometimes weak and sometimes strong. But it is impossible for him to turn back to this way! Please bear in mind that our greatest fear is God's disciplining hand; we do not know when His hand will come upon us! God may let us go, even if we rebel ten times, but He may not let us go the eleventh time. However, God will not let some people go the first time they rebel. We do not know when God will catch up with us! Brothers, please bear in mind that God's government is not something under our control! He does things according to His will.

*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>.*