

## Please pray:

- ✿ Victoria weekend conference, May 17-18: that many saints throughout Eastern Canada and Northeastern USA might be gathered to attend this conference; that the conference result in the Lord's speaking and genuine blending for the building up of the churches.
- ✿ Leading co-workers in the Lord's recovery: that the Lord may strengthen and preserve the leading ones in His recovery throughout the earth, spirit, soul and body; that they might be strengthened to take the cross in all things and live in resurrection, to be channels of the Lord's leading and speaking in His recovery.
- ✿ Albania: for increased blending in Albania; that some would be burdened to migrate there; strengthening of the saints in Tirana to bear the Lord's testimony and gain a lampstand in that city; for the release of the literature in Albanian, especially with books distributed by Rhema; the spread of the recovery throughout the Albanian-speaking world.
- ✿ Distribution of Bibles in the Metro: now that STM permits us to distribute Bibles without having to ask permission, pray that we might respond to this open door by much increased distribution to shower Montreal with the word of God, especially in groups of twos and threes; pray that the Lord might open similar doors in other cities in Canada and throughout the world.
- ✿ Renovations: completion of the work to maintain and improve our meeting hall; fellowship and building up of saints through the labour of renovation; financial provision for the renovations.
- ✿ 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: Psa 108:1 – 119:120
- ✿ HWMR: Entering into the Fourth Stage of the Experience of Life to Arrive at a Full-grown Man for the Fulfillment of God's Purpose, Week 6

## Announcements

- ✿ STM has a new policy that permits distribution of Christian literature in Metro stations without having to ask permission in advance. Praise the Lord! Specifically, we are permitted to distribute free literature inside the Metro stations as long as we block anyone's way, and we don't cross the turnstiles beyond which only paying passengers may go. (In particular, we are **not** permitted to distribute inside the trains.) May we seize this opportunity to offer

Bibles to all Montrealers! We do not need to organize a large distribution: anyone, whether small groups of twos or threes or even individual saints, may freely distribute as the Lord leads them.

- ✿ For the churches in Eastern Canada, there will be a 2014 sixth grade gospel conference held at the north Markham meeting hall June 20-22. The purpose of the conference is to insure that all the grade six children in the churches have a good beginning as new believers through a genuine and solid salvation experience. For those parents with children who qualified please contact your children serving ones to obtain the forms and to register before June 1, 2014.
- ✿ The International Memorial Day Conference will be held in Philadelphia, USA May 23-26. Many saints are driving and sharing hotel rooms. If you want to attend, please contact Dennis or Simon as soon as possible for arrangements. Please note that the hotel discount is guaranteed only until May 6, and the rooms might sell out before then. If you have financial need to be able to attend, please fellowship with the serving brothers. For more information, please see the bulletin board.
- ✿ The Full-Time Training in Anaheim needs to move from its current location on Ball Road to a new dedicated training centre to be built in the Ministry Conference Center on La Palma Avenue. The current facilities are now insufficient for the increasing number of trainees (well over 300 trainees); the new centre is necessary to meet the present and future growing needs. Living Stream Ministry can contribute \$2.5 million to this project, but there is a need of an additional \$5.5 million by August 2014 to complete this project. If the Lord leads you to participate in this grace, then please send a donation through the church designated for "FTTA Training Center."

## Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Clean-up Schedule

<b>May 11</b>	✿ Serving: Chinese West ✿ Cleaning: Whole meeting hall cleaning
<b>18</b>	✿ Serving: North Chinese ✿ Cleaning: East
<b>25</b>	✿ Serving: South Chinese ✿ Cleaning: West
<b>June 1</b>	✿ Serving: English C ✿ Cleaning: South

## Upcoming Events

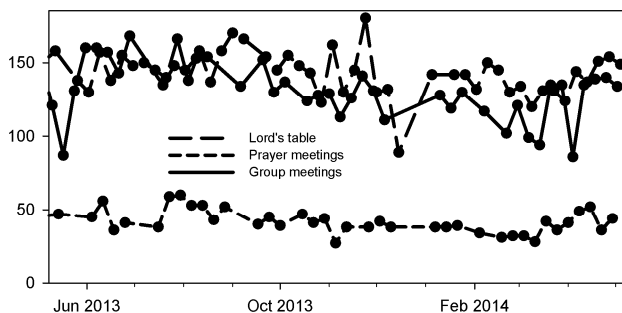
- ✿ **May 17-18, Montreal: Victoria Day Conference**
- ✿ **May 23-26, Philadelphia: Memorial Day International Conference**
- ✿ **June 13-15, St. George's, Grenada: Annual conference**

- ✿ June 20-22, Markham: **Grade six conference**
  - ✿ June 30-July 5, Anaheim, CA: **2014 Summer live training**
- More events are listed on the church website

## This Week's Activities

<b>MAY 11</b> <b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✿ 10am – 12:30pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
	✿ 12:30pm – 1:30pm: Love feast
	✿ 1:30pm: Whole meeting hall cleaning
<b>12</b> <b>Monday</b>	✿
<b>13</b> <b>Tuesday</b>	✿ 7:30-9pm, English / French / Chinese prayer meetings by districts
<b>14</b> <b>Wednesday</b>	✿
<b>15</b> <b>Thursday</b>	✿
<b>16</b> <b>Friday</b>	✿ Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
<b>17</b> <b>Saturday</b>	✿ 4pm – 6pm: Victoria Day Conference, Msg 1 ✿ 6pm – 7pm: Dinner ✿ 7pm – 9pm: Victoria Day Conference, Msg 2
<b>MAY 18</b> <b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✿ 9:30am – 10:15am: Lord's table meeting ✿ 10:15am – 12:15pm: Victoria Day Conference, Msg 3 ✿ 12:30pm – 2pm: Lunch ✿ 2pm – 3:30pm: Victoria Day Conference, Msg 4

## Attendance Statistics



## The Priesthood

### VII. THE RECOVERY OF THE PRIESTHOOD

#### A. There Being No Problem in the Early Churches

The danger that haunted the nation of Israel is the same problem that has confronted the church over the past two thousand years. From the time of the Lord's departure until the time of the writing of Revelation and a little beyond that point, all of God's children were priests. Everyone who considered himself a child of God was a priest of God. There was no problem then. There was no problem from the first century up through the third century. Individually, there were isolated problems here and there, but as a whole there was no problem. Here and there some of God's children refused to be priests, but as a whole we did not see any problem. As long as a person was a child of God, he was a priest of God.

#### B. The Church's Nature Being Changed after the Roman Empire's Acceptance of Christianity

When the Roman Empire endorsed Christianity, many people began to creep in. There were material benefits in believing in the Lord; one became a fellow believer of the emperor and a brother of Caesar. Originally, the Lord's charge was, "Render then the things that are Caesar's to Caesar and the things that are God's to God" (Matt. 22:21). Now both the things of Caesar and the things of God were rendered to God. This indeed was a big victory for Christianity. Constantine was converted to Christ. The result was a gradual but significant shift for the church. Believers were no longer the same as those who professed their faith at an earlier age. During the ten periods of persecution under the reign of Rome, tens of thousands of Christians suffered martyrdom. It was not easy to pretend to be a Christian. But then the situation totally changed. It became fashionable to be a believer and to share the same faith as the emperor and to call him one's brother. When this shift occurred, many decided to join Christianity. As a result, the number of people increased, while the number of priests remained the same. It is easy to creep into the Christian fold, but it is absolutely impossible to creep into God's service.

*Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #23, The Priesthood by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.*