

Please pray:

- ✳ Israel: Pray for the informal 10-month training in life and truth that will begin next week in Tiberias for a small number of saints, including two Arabic-speaking saints who are fluent in English.
- ✳ Church in Vancouver: Pray for the presentation and approval of the design on Jan. 25th to the Board of Variance; that His interest and expression in Vancouver will be protected as a strong testimony in that city;
- ✳ Shepherding: that we would have an intimate concern for all the new ones and the saints in the church, including the ones we don't know so well; that we would take the most excellent way of love in all our dealings with each other; that our hearts would be enlarged to embrace all the new ones, brothers and sisters, regardless of their condition; that we all would be transferred from our own personal universe, concerned just for our needs and interests, into the universe of the one new man.
- ✳ GTCA Ottawa, Jan 29th - Feb 4th: that the Lord would prepare the hearts of the ones whom we will contact during this week; that the Lord would strengthen all the saints participating; that the Lord would gain what He is after in this move.
- ✳ Laval: Please pray for the preparation of the practical matters concerning GTCA; that the Lord would prepare the land before the distributions; that the Lord would give us remaining fruit; that saints would rise up to participate in the Lord's move in Laval.
- ✳ 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: John 7:1 – 8:44 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✳ HWMR: The Gospel, week 3
- ✳ Life-Study of Ephesians: Messages 91

Announcements

- ✳ This year's International Chinese Speaking Conference (ICSC) from February 17 - 19 will be a special conference for all the saints in the Lord's recovery on the burden of "the world situation and the Lord's move today". 2 out of the 3 messages are in English and there is translation.
- ✳ If you are available to participate with the GTCA events, please return the GTCA forms to brother Dennis or brother Charles as soon as you can.

- ✳ The Collected Works of Witness Lee will be completed by Aug. 2018. They will be printing only about what they have as existing orders, therefore the collection will be unable to be ordered after completion. Any who wishes to order them, can still go on standing order to receive them at a 40-45% discount. All on standing orders will get a free index book once all are printed. See pamphlet on bulletin board.
- ✳ Piano service is requesting all saints who can play to contact Catherine. If you have a heart to even be a helper, please contact Catherine also.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Clean-up Schedule

Jan 22	✳ Serving: French/Spanish
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)
29	✳ Serving: Chinese East
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)
Feb 5	✳ Serving: Chinese North
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese Central 2 and Chinese Central 3 (Qiang, Wenxiong responsible)
12	✳ Serving: Chinese South A
	✳ Cleaning: English Central and College (Dennis, Joe responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✳ Jan 29- Feb 5: **GTCA in Ottawa**
- ✳ Feb 4- Feb 11: **GTCA in Laval**
- ✳ Feb 17-19, Anaheim, CA: **Chinese New Year International Conference**
- ✳ March 31- Apr. 2, 2017, Anaheim: **ITERO**
- ✳ May 26-29, 2017, New York City, NY: **Memorial Day Conference**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

22 JANUARY LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
	✳ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast
23 Monday	✳
24 Tuesday	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: Chinese / West English prayer meetings by districts
25 Wednesday	✳ 7:30pm-9:00pm: Central English/French prayer meeting
26 Thursday	✳

27 Friday	✳	Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
28 Saturday	✳	
29 JANUARY	✳	10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
LORD'S DAY	✳	12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast

MEETING

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

III. THE FUNCTIONING OF THE BODY MANIFESTED THROUGH THE MEETING (continued)

In addition to being the Body of Christ, the church is also the dwelling place of God. In the Old Testament the light of God was in the Holy of Holies. There was sunlight in the outer court, and there was the lamp with olive oil burning before the veil in the Holy Place. But in the Holy of Holies, there was no natural or artificial light. There was only the light of God. The Holy of Holies is the place where God dwells. Wherever God dwells, there is His light. Today when the church gathers together as the dwelling place of God, we find God's light. When the church meets together, God manifests His light. We do not know why this happens. We can say only that this is one of the results of the mutual functioning of the members. The mutual functioning allows God's light to be expressed through the Body.

Deuteronomy 32:30 says, "How shall one chase a thousand, /And two put ten thousand to flight,/Were it not that their Rock sold them,/And Jehovah delivered them up?" If one could chase a thousand, how could two put ten thousand to flight? This is a strange thing. We do not know how, but we know that this is a fact. According to man, if one can chase a thousand, two should be able to chase only two thousand. But God says two can chase ten thousand, which is eight thousand more. When two chase separately, each can chase a thousand. Putting the two together, we should only have two thousand. But when two are joined together to chase the enemy, we have the mutual functioning of the members, and they can chase ten thousand, eight thousand more than if it is done separately. A person who does not know the Body and who does not care about meeting together will lose the eight thousand. Therefore, we need to learn to receive corporate grace. Do not think that personal grace is enough. We repeat: A special characteristic of Christianity is that it meets. A Christian can never substitute meeting with "self-taught" pursuits. We need to see this clearly and pay attention to it.

The Lord promises us two kinds of presence. One is in Matthew 28, and the other is in Matthew 18. In Matthew 28:20 the Lord said, "I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age." One can say that this implies His presence in individuals. In Matthew 18:20 the Lord said, "For where there are two or three gathered into My name, there am I in their midst." His presence here refers to His presence in the meeting. Only in the meeting can we have this second kind of presence. The Lord's presence with an individual and His presence in the meeting are two different things. Some only know the Lord's presence as individuals. But this knowledge is insufficient. The more compelling and powerful presence is experienced only in the meeting; we cannot experience such a presence individually. Although individually we can have the Lord's presence, this presence is never as great or as powerful as His presence in the meetings. But when we are among the saints we can touch a presence which we could not otherwise experience as individuals. We have to learn to meet together with the brothers and sisters because it is in the meeting that we experience the Lord's special presence. This is a tremendous blessing. This presence can never be felt by us as individuals. It is impossible to find a "self-taught" Christian who can experience this kind of powerful presence of the Lord.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #10, Meeting by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.