

Please pray:

- ✿ Political situation in France: pray for the Lord's will to be done in this election; that the environment in France will be conducive for the Lord's move in that region.
- ✿ Church in Montreal: Pray for our growth in life; that we may become pillars for the Lord to move forward; that the Lord may gain the growth in life and in number.
- ✿ Pakistan: Pray for the brothers from Ziamasjid to serve the Lord in oneness for the building up of the church; for the Lord's Table in Ziamasjid to be strengthened and for people to be released from their religion to follow the Lord absolutely; for the propagation in Islamabad and for the Lord to gain more seeking families to strengthen His testimony; for the propagation in Lahore and that the Lord raise up truth-seeking families and make them willing to pay the price to walk the way of the Lord's Recovery.
- ✿ Maritimes: Pray for the strengthening and building up of the church in Halifax; that saints might visit and migrate to strengthen the church there; that the Lord would raise up and shepherd contacts throughout the Atlantic provinces, and that new churches would eventually be raised up.
- ✿ GTCA Ottawa and Laval: Pray that the Lord would give us a heart to shepherd the new contacts; that the new contacts would be shepherded according to their needs; for the strengthening of the saints who are visiting Laval every week both physically and spiritually; that the Lord would give us remaining fruit; that the Lord would gain what He is after in Ottawa and 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: 2Sam 8:1 - 18:33 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✿ HWMR: Crystallization-study of Exodus, week 39

Announcements

- ✿ Summer Training registration is open. Deadline is April 30. Live training is \$200, video training is \$100. Late registration is an addition \$50 for the live or \$25 for the video training. Please register with Monica.
- ✿ The International Memorial Day conf. will be held in White Plains, NY, May 26 to 29, 2017. It is only a 5 hour drive from Montreal. If you are interested in attending, please fill out the google doc sent out so rides and rooms can be co-ordinated. If you don't have a room yet, check who needs a roommate to find a place to ensure you have

somewhere to stay. Hotels are almost full now. See conf. information on the bulletin board for more details.

- ✿ 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.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Clean-up Schedule

Apr 23	✿ Serving: Chinese South A ✿ Cleaning: Chinese North and Chinese Central 1 (Jun, Gerry Chan responsible)
30	✿ Serving: Chinese North ✿ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)
May 7	✿ Serving: English A ✿ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)
14	✿ Serving: English B ✿ Cleaning: Chinese Central 2 and Chinese Central 3 (Qiang, Wenxiong responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✿ May 6-7, Sainte Anne, Guadeloupe: **Conference in Guadeloupe**
- ✿ May 20-21, Toronto, ON: **Canada Victoria Day Conference**
- ✿ May 26-29, 2017, White Plains, NY: **Memorial Day Conference**
- ✿ July 3-8, 2017, Anaheim, CA: **Summer Training**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

23 APRIL LORD'S DAY	✿ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting ✿ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast
24 Monday	✿
25 Tuesday	✿ 7:30-9:00pm: French / Chinese / English prayer meetings by districts
26 Wednesday	✿
27 Thursday	✿
28 Friday	✿ Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)

29 ✨

Saturday

30 ✨ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and
APRIL prophesying meeting

LORD'S DAY ✨ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast

PRAYER

Scripture Reading: John 16:24; James 4:2-3; Luke 11:9-10; Psa. 66:18; Mark 11:24; Luke 18:1-8

II. CONDITIONS FOR PRAYERS BEING ANSWERED

(continued)

In the Bible we can see many conditions for having prayers answered, but only a few of them are basic. We believe that if we meet these few conditions, our prayers will be answered. These few conditions are equally applicable to those who have prayed for many years. These are very basic conditions, and we should pay attention to them.

D. Believing

A condition on the positive side for having prayer answered is faith. Faith is indispensable. Without faith, prayer is ineffectual. The story in Mark 11 speaks loudly of the need for faith in prayer. The Lord Jesus said, "All things that you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and you will have them" (v. 24). We must believe when we pray. If we believe that we have received what we are praying for, we will have them. We hope that as soon as a person has received the Lord, even a week after his conversion, he will know what faith is. The Lord said, "Believe that you have received them, and you will have them." He did not say, "Believe that you will receive them" but, "Believe that you have received them." We should believe that we have received what we asked for, and we will have them. The believing that the Lord speaks of here is followed by its predicate you have received. What is faith? Faith is believing that we have received what we have asked for.

Christians often make the mistake of separating believe from its predicate you have received. They place it before the expression you will have them. They pray to the Lord thinking that it is a matter of great faith to "believe...and you will have them." They pray to the Lord that the mountain be taken up and cast into the sea, and they believe that it will be so. They think that this kind of faith is great faith. However, this is to move believe away from you have received and to place it before you will have them. The Bible says that we should believe that we have received, not that we will receive. The two are definitely not the same. Not only do new believers need to

learn this, but even those who have been believers for many years need to learn this.

What is faith? Faith is the assurance that God has answered our prayer. It is not the conviction that God will answer our prayer. Faith is when we kneel down to pray and say in an instant, "Thank God! He has answered my prayer. Thank God! This matter is settled." This is to believe that we have received. A person may kneel down and pray and may rise and say, "I believe that God will definitely hear my prayer." The expression will definitely hear is wrong. No matter how hard he tries to "believe" in this way, he will not see any result. Suppose you pray for a sick person and he says, "Thank God! I am healed." His temperature may still be high; there may be no change in his symptoms at all. But his problem is over because he is clear within himself that he is healed. However, if he says, "I believe the Lord will surely heal my sickness," he will probably need to try harder to "believe." The Lord Jesus said, "Believe that you have received them, and you will have them." He did not say that you will receive if you believe that you will receive. If you turn this around, it does not work. Brothers and sisters, have you seen the key? Genuine faith lies in the phrase It is finished. Genuine faith is thanking God for having already answered your prayers.

We need to say a few words more about faith. Consider the matter of healing. We can find some solid examples of faith in Mark's Gospel. There are three sentences in the Gospel of Mark which bear special significance to prayer. The first relates to the Lord's power, the second to the Lord's will, and the third to the Lord's act.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #11, Prayer by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.