

Please pray:

- ✿ New college school semester: Pray that the contacts will keep coming to the Bible studies, personal appointments, home meetings, and college meetings; pray that the seeds that have been sowed into them will be planted into good earth, guarded from the enemy, take roots and grow up; pray that the Lord would grant the contacts a continual hunger for the truth; pray that the Lord would strengthen our own students for the start of this new semester; that our own students would receive the proper care for their spirit, soul and body; that our own students would be burdened to continually pray and shepherd the new contacts; that the Lord will gain what He is after in this semester on the campuses in Montreal.
- ✿ Brother Zhang's family: Pray that the Lord would strengthen the family with the abounding grace in this difficult times; pray that the Lord would gain what He is after in this situation.
- ✿ Tropical Storm Harvey Flooding in Houston, Texas: The number of saints' homes in Houston that have been flooded has climbed to at least 19 and many are without power. Let us pray desperately to bind the enemy and preserve the saints and the church there; Pray also that the Lord will rule over the environment created by this storm to cause many people there to turn and open to the Lord that He might gain them for His purpose.
- ✿ Shepherding: that we would have an intimate concern for all 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 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.
- ✿ 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: Rom 1:26 - 5:11 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✿ HWMR: Crystallization study of Ezekiel, Vol 1, week 4

Announcements

- ✿ We would like to continue with the bible distributions on the Concordia campus area this coming week starting from Tuesday, September 5th, from 10:30am to 3pm. If you are available, you can participate by coming to where

the table will be on Maisonneuve between Guy and Mackay St.

- ✿ The translation work in French is on track to translate 2500 pages this year. However, there is a continued need for translator and editor support. The French translation fund is currently low. Please pray for this need.
- ✿ 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 go on standing order to receive them at a 40-45% discount. There are several payment plans available. See bulletin board.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

Sep 3	✿ Serving: Chinese South B ✿ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)
10	✿ Serving: Chinese East ✿ Cleaning: Chinese Central 2 and Chinese Central 3 (Qiang, Wenxiong responsible)
17	✿ Serving: Chinese South A ✿ Cleaning: English Central and College (Dennis, Joe responsible)
24	✿ Serving: Chinese North ✿ Cleaning: French (Achille, Allan responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✿ Sept. 29 to Oct. 1, Bloomfield, ON: **Fall Eastern Canada College Retreat at Wesley Acres Retreat Centre**,
- ✿ October 5 to 7, 2017, Leipzig, Germany: **Fall ITERO**
- ✿ November 23 to 26, 2017, Phoenix, Arizona: **International Thanksgiving Conference**
- ✿ December 25 to 30, 2017, Anaheim, CA: **Winter Training**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

3	✿ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
SEPTEMBER LORD'S DAY	✿ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast
4	✿
Monday	
5	✿ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
Tuesday	
6	
Wednesday	✿
7	✿
Thursday	

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

CONFESSION AND RECOMPENSE

Scripture Reading: Lev. 6:1-7; Matt. 5:23-26

II. THE TRESPASS OFFERING IN LEVITICUS 6 (continued)

B. How to Return (continued)

God's children should behave in a way that is worthy of their dignity. Even in the matter of confession, we should do it in a way that is worthy of our dignity. An apology that is in the way of settling accounts is not the kind of confession that God's children should have. God's children should confess their transgressions thoroughly and add one-fifth to the recompense. No one should be calculating and unwilling to make the smallest of sacrifices when confessing. If you are concerned about how much each party owes the other when you apologize, you are not behaving like a Christian. Some people say, "I was not angry at first, but your words made me angry. Since I have confessed my wrong already, it is your turn to confess your wrong." This is altogether a matter of settling accounts; this is not a confession. If you are making a confession, you should go an extra mile. Be more generous in the matter of confession. Do not withhold anything in your confession; instead, try to be liberal in it.

Adding one-fifth to our confession or recompense reminds us that offending others is a losing proposition and that we should never do it again. When a new believer offends others, he should realize that he will suffer loss eventually, even though he may gain something temporarily. He took five-fifths, but he has to return six-fifths. It is easy to take something from someone. But when you return it, you have to not only return it in full but also add one-fifth.

Third, we should make our confession and recompense as soon as possible. Verse 5 says, "He shall give it to whom it belongs on the day he is found guilty." If it is within our ability to return the object, or if the object in question is still in our hand, we should return it on the day we learn of this sin. It is easy for people to delay in this matter. But the more God's children put off confession and recompense, the more their feeling will become dull. As soon as we receive the light, we have to act upon it. We have to return it that very day.

Hopefully, our brothers and sisters will take a straight path from the day they become a Christian. We should never take advantage of others and never be unrighteous. The basic principle of the Christian life on earth is not to take advantage of others. Taking advantage of others in any way is wrong. We must not take advantage of others. Instead, we must be righteous from the very beginning.

We have to give back to others. But this is not all. We should not think that everything is settled after we have made our apology and recompense. The matter is not settled. "Then he shall bring to the priest his trespass offering to Jehovah, a ram without blemish from the flock, according to the valuation, for a trespass offering" (v. 6). After we have confessed to and recompensed others, we still have to go to God for forgiveness. The trespass offering in chapter five deals with just God because no material loss is involved. But chapter six speaks of transgression against man. Therefore, one must deal with man first, before going to God to ask for forgiveness. Before a matter has been settled with man, one cannot go to God to ask for forgiveness. What happens once one has settled the matter with man and has asked for forgiveness before God? "The priest shall make propitiation for him before Jehovah, and he shall be forgiven for whatever he may have done by which he has become guilty" (v. 7). This is what the Lord wants. Whoever has transgressed materially against man should try his best to make recompense. Then he can come before God and ask for forgiveness through the Lord's blood.

We should not consider this as a trivial matter. Once we are careless, we take advantage of others and transgress against them. God's children should remember this point and pay attention to it all their lives. In whatever matter they have transgressed against others, they should return these things to them and ask God for forgiveness.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #13, Confession and Recompense by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.