

## Please pray:

- ✿ Montreal brothers' retreat (Oct 28th): Pray that the brothers will be released to come to this time; may the Lord use this time to blend and speak to the brothers for the going on of His work in Montreal; that the Lord may gain what He is after in this time.
- ✿ Laval: Pray that the Lord would grant us a burden and a heart to continually pray for this land; that shepherds be raised up to take care of the contacts who come to the Bible studies or express desire to be contacted; that the Lord would raise up a proper testimony in Laval according to His timing.
- ✿ On the weekend of October 14-15, regional conferences took place in eight cities in Europe—London, Thessaloniki, Krakow, Paris, Stuttgart, Madrid, Florence, and Copenhagen. The messages released were from the ITERO held in Leipzig a week before. Please pray that all the saints will give their full cooperation to the Lord to carry out the recovery of the church in Europe and that the new ones who attended the conferences will be shepherded into the church life by the local saints.
- ✿ Senior coworkers in the Lord's recovery: that the Lord would keep them strong and healthy in spirit, soul and body as they take the lead in the Lord's move; for the health of many older brothers and that of their family members; that the Lord would continue to mature and perfect many saints to take the way of ministry to become genuine ministers of the new covenant for the building up and going on of the churches.
- ✿ Pray that we may have a heart to learn to shepherd one another according to God with the all inclusive care and tenderness; may all the sheep of the Lord be shepherded according to their needs.
- ✿ 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: 2 Ch 35:1 - Ezra 8:36 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✿ HWMR: Crystallization study of Ezekiel, Vol 2, week 12

## Announcements

- ✿ The bookroom is working on clearing up past due accounts. If you know you still owe money for books you have picked up in the past, please see the bookroom to pay for those books. Saints will be advised of any outstanding accounts.

- ✿ LSM is releasing the 2018 Gospel Calendar. Please make your orders with the book room. Deadline is October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- ✿ If you wish to be added to the French Standing Order to obtain all new books printed in French, please add your name to the list in the Book room. If you are currently signed up for the French Standing Order, please see Book room to receive your books.
- ✿ Registration for the 2017 Winter training in Anaheim is now open. The registration deadline is November 1. If you are interested in going please register with sister Monica. The cost is USD\$200 (CAD\$250) per trainee plus USD\$5 for the outline.
- ✿ The video training registration sheet is also available and posted on the board across from the Service office. All those interested in attending should register before the November 1 deadline as well. The cost for the video training is USD\$100 (CAD\$125) per trainee.
- ✿ The 2018 International Chinese New Year Conference will be held from 16th -18 th Feb. 2018 in Taipei. Preceding the conference, there will be a blending trip with the churches in Taiwan. Brother James K from Toronto will lead the group, and the invitation is extended to all saints in Eastern Canada. Please contact brother Joe for more information.
- ✿ The translation work in French is on track to translate 2500 pages this year. For this work to continue, there is a financial need required for translation and editor support through the French translation fund. Please pray for this need and also for the Lord to lead concerning giving to this fund..

## Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

<b>22</b>	✿ Serving: Chinese South B ✿ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)
<b>29</b>	✿ Serving: Chinese East ✿ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)
<b>Nov 5</b>	✿ Serving: Chinese North ✿ Cleaning: Chinese Central 2 and Chinese Central 3 (Qiang, Wenxiong responsible)
<b>12</b>	✿ Serving: English A ✿ Cleaning: English Central and College (Dennis, Joe responsible)

## Upcoming Events

- ✿ 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

<b>22</b>	✿	10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✿	12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast
<b>23</b>	✿	
<b>Monday</b>		
<b>24</b>	✿	7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
<b>Tuesday</b>		
<b>25</b>		
<b>Wednesday</b>	✿	
<b>26</b>	✿	
<b>Thursday</b>		
<b>27</b>	✿	Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
<b>Friday</b>		
<b>28</b>	✿	
<b>Saturday</b>		
<b>29</b>	✿	10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
<b>OCTOBER</b>		
<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✿	12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast

## FORGIVENESS AND RESTORATION

**Scripture Reading:** Matt. 18:21-35, 15-20; Luke 17:3-5

### **I. FORGIVING ONE'S BROTHER**

#### **B. God's Measure (continued)**

We need to realize that salvation is accomplished in man according to God's measure. Salvation is not carried out according to man's thought. It is accomplished in man according to God's thought and plan.

The criminal on the cross pleaded with the Lord, saying, "Remember me when You come into Your kingdom." The Lord heard his prayer, yet He did not answer him according to his prayer. Instead He said, "Today you shall be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:42-43). Salvation is God saving man according to His own will, not according to the sinner's will. Salvation is not according to the thoughts of a sinner's limited mentality about God's work for him. Rather, salvation is God's work upon sinners according to His own thought. The Lord did not wait until He came into His kingdom to remember the criminal. He promised the criminal that he would be with Him in Paradise that very day.

The tax collector prayed in the temple and beat his breast, saying, "God, be propitiated to me, the sinner!" At the

most, he was asking God to be propitiated to him. But God did not answer him according to his prayer. The Lord Jesus said, "This man went down to his house justified rather than that one" (Luke 18:9-14). In other words, that sinner went back justified. This was much more than what was in the mind of the sinner. The sinner had no thought of justification; he asked only for pity. But God said that he was justified. This means that God did not consider him a sinner but a justified person. Not only were his sins forgiven; he was justified by God. This shows us that God does not accomplish His salvation according to man's thought but according to His own thought.

The same thing is seen in the return of the prodigal son (15:11-32). When he was a long way off from home and before he met his father, he was prepared to go back home to serve as a servant. But when he reached his home, his father did not ask him to be a servant. Instead, he asked his slaves to bring out the best robe and to put it on him. He put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet and slaughtered the fattened calf. They ate and were merry because the son who was dead had come to life again; he was lost but had been found. From these verses we see again that God does not accomplish His salvation according to a sinner's thought but according to His own thought.

Mark 2 speaks of four men who took a paralytic to the Lord Jesus. When they were unable to bring him to the Lord because of the crowd, they removed the roof where the Lord was and lowered the bed on which the paralytic was lying, hoping that the Lord Jesus would heal the paralytic and make him rise and walk. But the Lord Jesus said, "Child, your sins are forgiven" (v. 5). The Lord Jesus not only healed him but also forgave him of his sins. This also tells us that God works to His own satisfaction. All we have to do is go to God and ask. It does not matter whether we have asked enough. God always works to His own satisfaction, not to the sinner's satisfaction. Therefore, we should not consider salvation from our point of view but from God's point of view.

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Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #14, Forgiveness and Restorin by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.