

Please pray:

- ✿ Winter training 2017: May the Lord release the saints to attend the video training and give us a heart to be trained; may the Lord prepare our vessels to be able to receive His speaking; may the students who are going to the live training gain a vision and gain what the Lord has prepared for them; may the Lord release what is on His heart and speak to His churches.
- ✿ New school semester 2018: May the Lord start to prepare the hearts on the campuses until the beginning of next semester; may the Lord draw the students to the tables during the tabling time; may the students be released to attend the retreat at Saint-Adele; may the Lord gain what He is after on the campuses this coming semester.
- ✿ Political situation in the world according to 1Ti 2:1-4: I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men; on behalf of kings and all who are in high position, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all godliness and gravity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of our Saviour God, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth.
- ✿ The intercession of Christ needs our response: Let us learn to participate in the life of intercession of Christ and become on the earth the reflexion of His intercession in His heavenly ministry by praying payers of the interceding Christ.
- ✿ 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: Job 6:1 - 19:290 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✿ HWMR: Cooperating with the Heavenly Ministry of the Ascended Christ, week 8

Announcements

- ✿ Please renew or sign-up for the HWMR subscription for 2018 starting this week with your district serving one who gives you HWMR. The cost for the annual subscription is \$75. We want to complete the sign-up by December 18.
- ✿ Registration for the video training is now late. Please add a \$25 late fee to your payment. Please sign up right away on the board so we can confirm how many outlines in each language are needed, even if you only plan to attend part-time. Here is the schedule:
 - Messages 1, 2: Tue. Dec 26 at 5:30pm and 7:30pm
 - Message 3: Wed. Dec 27, at 7:30pm

- Message 4: Thu. Dec 28, at 7:30pm
- Message 5: Fri. Dec 29, at 7:30pm
- Messages 6, 7, 8: Sat. Dec 30 at 3pm, 5pm and 7:30pm
- Messages 9, 10: Sun. Dec 31 at 11 am and 1pm
- Messages 11, 12: Mon. Jan 1 at 5:30pm and 7:30pm
- ✿ 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.
- ✿ The 2018 International Chinese New Year Conference will be held from 16th -18th 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.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

| | |
|--------|---|
| Dec 17 | ✿ Serving: Chinese North ✿ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible) |
| 24 | ✿ Serving: English A ✿ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible) |
| 31 | ✿ Serving: English B ✿ Cleaning: Chinese Central 2 and Chinese Central 3 (Qiang, Wenxiong responsible) |
| Jan 7 | ✿ Serving: Chinese Central 1 ✿ Cleaning: English Central and College (Dennis, Joe responsible) |

Upcoming Events

- ✿ December 25 to 30, 2017, Anaheim, CA: **Winter Training**
- ✿ December 26, 2017 to Jan 1, 2018, Meeting hall: **Video Training**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 17 | ✿ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting |
| DECEMBER LORD'S DAY | ✿ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast |
| 18 | ✿ |
| Monday | |
| 19 | ✿ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts |
| Tuesday | |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 20 | |
| Wednesday | ✳ |
| 21 | ✳ |
| Thursday | |
| 22 | ✳ Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese) |
| Friday | |
| 23 | ✳ |
| Saturday | |
| 24 | ✳ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting |
| DECEMBER | |
| LORD'S DAY | ✳ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast |

DELIVERANCE

Scripture Reading: Rom. 7:15—8:2

It is possible for a person to be free from sin immediately after he has believed in the Lord. However, this may not be the common experience of all believers. After believing in the Lord, many people fall back into sin instead of being freed from sin. It is true that they are saved. They belong to the Lord and possess eternal life. However, they are still troubled by sin and are unable to serve the Lord as they wish.

It is a very painful experience for a person to be continually troubled by sin after he has believed in the Lord. A person who has been enlightened by God has a sensitive conscience. He is sensitive toward sin and has a life that condemns sin. However, he may still be bothered by sin. This results in much frustration and even discouragement. It is indeed a very painful experience.

Many Christians try to overcome sin. Some think that if they try hard enough to renounce sin, they will eventually be free from sin. As a result, they try their best to reject the temptations of sin. Some realize that sin should be overcome, and they continually wrestle with sin in the hope of overcoming it. Others think that sin has made them a captive and that they must strive hard to free themselves from its bondage. However, all these are man's thoughts; they are not God's word or teaching. None of these methods lead to victory. God's Word does not tell us to struggle with sin by our own efforts. It says that we should be delivered from sin, that is, be released or freed from sin. Sin is a power which enslaves man. The way to deal with this power is not by destroying it ourselves but by allowing the Lord to free us from it. We have sin, and there is no way to separate ourselves from it. The Lord's way is not to vanquish sin. He is saving us from sin's power by moving us away from it. New believers should know from the start the right way to be delivered from sin. There is no need to travel a long and tortuous path to find deliverance from sin. We can

take the way of freedom as soon as we believe. Now let us try to deal with this matter according to Romans 7 and 8.

I. SIN BEING A LAW

Romans 7:15-25 says, "For what I work out, I do not acknowledge; for what I will, this I do not practice; but what I hate, this I do...For to will is present with me, but to work out the good is not. For I do not do the good which I will; but the evil which I do not will, this I practice. But if what I do not will, this I do, it is no longer I that work it out...I find then the law with me who wills to do the good, that is, the evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God according to the inner man, but I see a different law in my members, warring against the law of my mind and making me a captive to the law of sin which is in my members...So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh, the law of sin."

In verses 15 through 20, Paul repeatedly uses the word will and the phrase do not will. The emphasis is on willing or not willing, resolving or not resolving. In verses 21 to 25, there is another emphasis on the law. These two things are the keys to this passage of the Word.

First, we need to understand the term law. The common understanding of a law is that it is something that remains the same all the time, something that allows no exceptions. Moreover, there is power in a law. This power is a natural power, not an artificial power. All laws have power. For example, gravity is a law. If you throw something up, it will eventually fall back to the ground. You do not have to pull the object down with your hands; the earth has a force that pulls it down for you. If you throw a stone up, it will fall. If you throw an iron up, it also will fall. If you throw something up in China, it will fall. If you throw the same thing up in other countries, it will fall. An object in the air will fall the same today and tomorrow. Any object in the air, as long as nothing is holding it, will fall regardless of time and space. A law remains the same all the time and allows no exceptions. It is a natural force which requires no human effort for its perpetuation.

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