

Please pray:

- ✿ Winter training 2017: As the training is going on, may the Lord continue to empty us and unload us so that we may receive His up to date speaking; may the students who are at the live training gain a vision and gain what the Lord has prepared for them; may the Lord strengthen the speaking brothers and cover their tripartite being; may the Lord release what is on His heart and speak to His churches.
- ✿ Israel: Seven young people along with two serving ones will go to the Winter School of Truth in the Netherlands (Dec 26-31). Some of these young people had also attended the Poland conference this past summer and were desirous of continuing the fellowship, supply and constitution with the truth. This year's WST will cover the topic of "The Two Spirits". Please pray for their covering in their journey and their openness to receive all the benefit of this time.
- ✿ UK Building Project (London): There is an urgent need to construct facilities in London for the training of the saints in Europe in the truth and the practice of the church life. To date, we have received permission to carry out all the development we have applied for. In time, this will result in a two site campus for the European saints: the first providing meeting and accommodation facilities for hundreds of European full-time trainees; and the second providing a dedicated event centre in 17 acres of English woodland to receive and train hundreds of Europeans in one week and weekend trainings
- ✿ Let's cooperate with Christ in His heavenly ministry by running with endurance the race which is set before us, and by looking away unto Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith.
- ✿ 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: 1 Cor 10:5-12:11 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✿ HWMR: Knowing Life and the Church, weeks 1 and 2

Announcements

- ✿ Please renew or sign-up for the HWMR subscription for 2018. If you have not yet paid your district serving one, please pay right away to your district serving one who gives you HWMR.
- ✿ 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 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)
14	✿ Serving: Chinese South B
	✿ Cleaning: French (Achille, Allan 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

24	✿ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and
DECEMBER	✿ prophesying meeting
LORD'S DAY	✿ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast

25	✳	
Monday		
26	✳	5:30pm: Video Training, Msg 1
Tuesday	✳	7:30pm: Video Training, Msg 2
27		
Wednesday	✳	7:30pm: Video Training, Msg 3
28	✳	7:30pm: Video Training, Msg 4
Thursday		
29	✳	7:30pm: Video Training, Msg 5
Friday		
30	✳	3pm: Video Training, Msg 6
Saturday	✳	5pm: Video Training, Msg 7
	✳	7:30pm: Video Training, Msg 8
31	✳	10am – 11am: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
DECEMBER LORD'S DAY	✳	11am: Video Training, Msg 9
	✳	12:15pm – 1pm: Love feast
	✳	1pm: Video Training, Msg 10

DELIVERANCE

Scripture Reading: Rom. 7:15—8:2

I. SIN BEING A LAW (continued)

Romans 7 shows us that Paul was trying to be victorious. He was trying to free himself from sin. He wanted to please God. He did not want to sin or to fail. However, he eventually admitted that his resolutions were all futile. He said, "To will is present with me, but to work out the good is not." He did not want to sin, yet he sinned. He wanted to do good and walk according to God's law, yet he could not do it. In other words, what he willed he could not do, and what he resolved to do, he was unable to accomplish. Paul willed again and again, but the result was only repeated failure. This shows us that the way to victory lies not in the human will or human resolution. Paul willed and resolved again and again, but he still failed and sinned. Obviously, to will is present, but to work out the good is not. The best that a man can do is make resolutions.

The willing is present but not the good, because sin is a law. Following verse 21 Paul showed us that he remained defeated even after he made numerous resolutions. This is because sin is a law. This law of sin was present with him every time he resolved to do good. He was subject to the law of God in his heart, but his flesh yielded to the law of sin. Whenever he willed to obey God's law, a different law rose up in his members, subjecting him to the law of sin.

Paul was the first person in the Bible to point out that sin is a law. This was a very important discovery! It is a pity that many who have been Christians for years still do not

realize that sin is a law. Many people know that gravity is a law and thermal expansion of objects is another law. But they do not know that sin is a law. Paul did not know this at first. After sinning repeatedly, not voluntarily but involuntarily by a potent force in his body, Paul discovered that sin is a law.

Our history of failure tells us that whenever temptations come, we try to resist them. But we are never successful in this resistance. When temptations come again, we again try to resist them, only to end up in another defeat. This experience repeats itself ten times, a hundred times, or a thousand times, and we still find ourselves defeated. This is the story of our failure. We fail again and again. This is not something that happens by chance; it is a law. If a person committed only one sin in a lifetime, he could consider sin as something incidental. However, those who have sinned a hundred or a thousand times will say that sin is a law; it is something that continually drives them on.

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>.