

Please pray:

- ✿ Israel: Pray for the Lord's will to be done concerning the political situation of this land; pray for the follow up of the shepherding of the new ones that the Lord has given to us from the campuses in and around Tel Aviv.
- ✿ New school semester: As the new school semester is starting soon, pray that the Lord will prepare the land to be harvested; pray that many seekers may be contacted and brought into the church life this coming semester; pray for all the preparations of the activities, tabling, and saints' participation.
- ✿ 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.
- ✿ May we have a heart to be trained by God to worship and partake of Him and to live a holy, clean and rejoicing life.
- ✿ 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 20:1 - 33:33 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✿ HWMR: Knowing Life and the Church, weeks 3 and 4

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

31 Dec	✿ 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)
21	✿ Serving: Chinese East
	✿ Cleaning: Whole meeting hall cleaning

Upcoming Events

- ✿ December 26, 2017 to Jan 1, 2018, Meeting hall: **Video Training**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

31 DECEMBER LORD'S DAY	✿ 10am – 11am: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
	✿ 11am: Video Training, Msg 9
	✿ 12:15pm – 1pm: Love feast
	✿ 1pm: Video Training, Msg 10
1 JANUARY Monday	✿ 5:30pm: Video Training, Msg 11
	✿ 7:30pm: Video Training, Msg 12
2 Tuesday	✿ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
3 Wednesday	✿
4 Thursday	✿
5	✿ Various home meetings (English / French /

Friday	Chinese)
6	✻
Saturday	
7	✻ 10am – 12:15pm: Lord's table and prophesying meeting
JANUARY	
LORD'S DAY	✻ 12:15pm – 1:30pm: Love feast

DELIVERANCE

Scripture Reading: Rom. 7:15–8:2

II. MAN'S WILL BEING UNABLE TO OVERCOME THE LAW OF SIN

Paul failed because he exercised his will to make resolutions. After verse 21, Paul's eyes were opened. He saw that the enemy he was dealing with—sin—was nothing less than a law. When he saw that sin was a law, he could only sigh and say, "Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from the body of this death?" He realized that it was impossible for him to prevail over sin by his will.

What is the will? The will is man's own volition. It is what man wants, determines, and decides to do. It is man's opinions and judgments. Once a man's will resolves to do something, he begins to carry it out. Man's will can produce some power. Therefore, there is power in the will.

But herein lies the problem. When the will comes in conflict with the law of sin, which one prevails? The will usually prevails at the beginning, but ultimately sin prevails. Suppose you hold up a book that weighs one catty [a Chinese measure of weight] with your hand. Gravity is pulling it down while you are trying your best to hold it up. But the unceasing operation of the law of gravity will eventually prevail, and the book will fall to the floor. You may try to hold it up with your hand. You may prevail for an hour, but after two hours you will feel tired, and after another hour your hand will no longer obey you. Eventually, you will let go of it. Gravity never tires out, but your hand does. The law of gravity is pulling the book down continuously, every hour, every minute, and even every second. Your hand cannot fight against the law of gravity forever. The longer you hold the book, the heavier it feels. The book has not become heavier, but the law of gravity has triumphed over the power of your hand, and you feel as if the book has become heavier and heavier. The same principle applies when you try to overcome sin with your will. The will can stand against sin for a while. But the power of sin far exceeds the power of the will. Sin is a law; it is not destroyed by the resistance of man's will. Whenever the power of the will slackens, the law of sin surfaces. The human will cannot persist forever, but the law of sin is always active. The will may

prevail for a little while, but in the end it will always be overcome by the law of sin.

Before we see that sin is a law, we keep trying to overcome it by our own will. When temptation comes, we hold our breath and try to overcome, only to find that it has overcome us instead. When temptation comes again, we make a stronger resolution because we think that our last failure was caused by a faulty resolution. We tell ourselves that we will not sin this time and that we will overcome. But the result is the same—we fail again. We do not know why our resolution cannot bring us victory over sin. We do not realize that overcoming sin by the will never works.

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>.