

# CHURCH IN MONTREAL WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

April 1 March 25, 2018

## Please pray:

- ✳ College blending trip (Apr 26th - May 6th): May the Lord prepare the hearts of the college students who will be attending this trip; may the Lord show them a fresh vision of Christ and the Church; pray that all the preparations be headed up in the Lord; may the saints be open to provide hospitality for this time; may the Lord gain what is on His heart during this time.
- ✳ Current trainees in the training: Please pray that all the trainees would develop the habit of having a personal time with the Lord first thing in the morning; pray for the strengthening of their tripartite being to keep them in the training; pray that they will get the training that they need.
- ✳ Parents-Serving Ones conference in Toronto (Apr 6 - 8): May the Lord speak to the parents and serving ones an up-to date speaking; may the Lord raise up more parents and serving ones for the shepherding of the younger generations; may the Lord gain what He is after in this conference.
- ✳ The Lord's move in Germany: Please pray for the blending of the churches and saints in the German-speaking countries for the building up of the Body of Christ; the churches' entering into the God-ordained way to shepherd the new gospel contacts and the new believers into the church life; the raising up of lampstands in Hamburg, Munich, Aachen, Cologne, and Bielefeld; the coming of trainees from FTTT (3 April - 5 May) to strengthen the Lord's move among the churches and in all of Germany.
- ✳ Laval: May we continue to pray for this land; that the Lord may continue to shepherd the contacts in their situations; may the Lord gain a proper testimony in the city of Laval according to His timing.
- ✳ YP retreat in Toronto (Mar 30th-Apr 1st): Pray that the young people will be prepared to hear the Lord's personal speaking; may the Lord gain the young people at their young age; may the serving ones be strengthened during this time.
- ✳ Sisters' lesson (Apr 1st): May the Lord continue to release the sisters to attend this meeting; may the Lord speak to the sisters and gain them during these lessons.
- ✳ College blending trip (Apr 26th-6th): May the Lord prepare the hearts of the college students who will be attending this trip; may the Lord show them a fresh vision of Christ and the Church; pray that all the preparations be headed up in the Lord; may the saints be open to provide hospitality for this time; may the Lord gain what is on His heart during this time.

- ✳ ~~First Bible Distribution of Polish Recovery Version (15 March - Pedagogical University of Krakow): There were 175 Polish New Testaments and 5 English New Testaments passed out and 29 of the recipients subscribed to receive emails from Bibles for Europe. There were 4 people who prayed to receive the Lord and 8 personal contacts were established. We are planning to distribute more Bibles at three other universities next week (and one in April) during their open days. Pray that the Lord bless His word going out and for shepherding of these contacts.~~
- ✳ ~~International blending conference in London, UK (30 March - 1 April): Please pray for the gathering of the saints from all over Europe for this annual spring conference. Pray also for the release of the Lord's up-to-date speaking and for the advance of the Lord's move.~~
- ✳ ~~Laval: May we continue to pray for this land; that the Lord may continue to shepherd the contacts in their situations; may the Lord gain a proper testimony in the city of Laval according to His timing.~~
- ✳ ~~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: [Psa 59:1-74:23](#) Gal 1:1 - 3:14 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization study of Ezekiel, Vol 4, week 243

## Announcements

- ✳ ~~Anyone with amounts still due to be offered for the Church in Ottawa meeting hall, please submit it by March 31.~~
- ✳ ~~There will be a gospel meeting at brother Lito and sister Liza's home TODAY, Mar 25, starting at 5pm with dinner. The topic is "the Purpose of Human Life"~~
- ✳ The Parent-Serving Ones Conference will be held at the meeting hall of the Church in Toronto the weekend of April 6-8. The first meeting will be start on Friday evening. If there is anyone who would like to join this time in Toronto, please register with YP serving brother Aaron. We will also have these meeting on video broadcast here in Montreal.
- ✳ ~~The saints in Ohio would like to invite the churches and individuals to participate in a blending conference with brother Ron Kangas. This will take place in Cleveland, Ohio from Friday, March 30 to Lord's Day, April 1, 2018. Reservations must be made by March 21, 2018 in order to get this special rate of 90\$ per night. Childcare for children from kindergarten through grade 6 will be provided during~~

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the conference meetings. Anyone who wants to attend, please register with the responsible brothers.

✿ We will watch the video of the next lessons for Sisters messages after the Lord's day meeting's on March 25 and April 1 TODAY after lunch from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

✿ Anyone interested in the Maritimes blending trip from August 1 to August 8, please let brother Chew or sister Monica know by April 29.

✿ Registration for Live summer training and video training is open. Deadline to register is April 29, 2018.

## Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

April 1 March 25	✿ Serving: Chinese Central 1 ✿ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible) ✿ Serving: English B ✿ Cleaning: Chinese North and Chinese Central 1 (Jun, Gerry Chan responsible)
8 April 4	✿ Serving: Chinese South B ✿ Cleaning: All groups ✿ Serving: Chinese Central 4 ✿ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)
158	✿ Serving: English A ✿ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible) ✿ Serving: Chinese South B ✿ Cleaning: All groups
2215	✿ Serving: Chinese South B ✿ Cleaning: Chinese Central 3 (Qiang, Wenxiong responsible) ✿ Serving: English A ✿ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)

## Upcoming Events

- ✿ April 7, Montreal: Chinese speaking parents perfection meeting
- ✿ April 8, Montreal: Chinese New Believers Lesson (Chinese)
- ✿ April 8, Montreal: Bible study of Revelation (Chapter 1-3)
- ✿ March 25, Montreal: Gospel Meeting
- ✿ March 30 - April 1, Cleveland: A Blending Conference in Ohio
- ✿ March 30 - April 1, Toronto, ON: Spring YP Retreat
- ✿ May 4-6, Montreal: College Blending conference
- ✿ Apr 13-15, Anaheim, CA: Spring ITERO
- ✿ April 27-29, Paris, France: Spring Conference in Paris
- ✿ May 4-6, Montreal: College Blending conference
- ✿ May 19 - 20, Montreal: Victoria weekend conference

✿ May 25-28, Kansas City, Missouri: Memorial Day conference

✿ July 2-7, 2018, Anaheim: Summer Training

The church website lists more events

## This Week's Activities

1	✿ 10am - 12:15pm Lord's Table and Prophesying meetings
APRIL	✿ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunch
LORD'S DAY	✿ 1:30pm - 3:30pm: Lesson for Sisters
25	✿ 10am - 12:15pm Lord's Table and Prophesying meetings
MARCH	✿ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunch
LORD'S DAY	✿ 1:30pm - 3:30pm: Lesson for Sisters
	✿ 5pm: Gospel Meeting at Lito and Liza's
26	✿
Monday	
327	✿ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
Tuesday	
428	✿
Wednesday	
529	✿
Thursday	
630	✿ Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese)
Friday	
734	✿ 10am - 12pm: Chinese speaking parents perfection meeting
Saturday	
84	✿ 10am - 12:15pm Lord's Table and Prophesying meetings
APRIL	✿ 11am-12:15pm: Chinese New Believers Lesson (Chinese)
LORD'S DAY	✿ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunch
	✿ 1:30pm - 3:30pm: Bible study of Revelation (Chapter 1-3) Lesson for Sisters

## SEEKING GOD'S WILL

Scripture Reading: John 7:17; Matt. 10:29-31; 18:15-20; Rom. 8:14; Psa. 119:105; 1 John 2:27

## I. THE NEED TO OBEY GOD'S WILL (continued)

### A. Arrangements in the Environment (continued)

Psalm 32:9 says, "Do not be like a horse or like a mule, without understanding. Whose trappings consist of bit and bridle to constrain them. Else they do not come near you." Many times we are just like a horse or a mule, without understanding, and must be harnessed with outward bit and bridle by God before we can avoid mistakes. Have you ever

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seen a duck farmer? He has a long stick in his hand. When the ducks wander to the left or to the right, he herds them back with his stick. The ducks have no choice but to take the right path. In the same way, we can commit ourselves to the Lord and tell Him, "Lord, I am truly like a horse or a mule that has no understanding. But I do not want to make mistakes. I want to know Your will. Please harness me with Your bit and pull me with Your bridle. Once You let go of me, I will take the wrong way. Please guard me with Your will and direct me into Your will. If I wander away, I want You to stop me. I do not know many things, but I know what pain feels like. When I reject Your will, please come in and stop me!" Brothers and sisters, we must never belittle God's arrangement in the environment. Even though we may have fallen into shame and may have become like a horse or a mule, we often can still count on God's mercy to bridle us in time. God uses the environment to stop us from making mistakes. He forces us to have no alternative but to follow Him.

## B. The Leading of the Holy Spirit (continued)

Once a new believer has a new spirit, the Spirit of God dwells in him. The Spirit of God spontaneously communicates to him His will; he spontaneously has an inner sense. Not only is he able to discern God's provision in the environment, but he also now possesses an inward knowledge and inward assurance. We should learn to trust not only in God's sovereignty in the environment but also in the leading of the Holy Spirit within. At the right time and when the need arises, the Spirit of God will enlighten us within. He will give us a sense and show us what is of God and what is not of God.

One brother loved to drink before he became a believer. Every winter, he would drink much wine. He even made his own wine. Later, both he and his wife were saved. He was not very literate and could not read the Bible very well. One day he prepared some food and wine and was going to drink as before. After thanking the Lord for the food, he asked his wife, "Can a Christian drink wine?" His wife said, "I do not know." He said, "Too bad no one is here to tell us." His wife said, "The wine and the food are ready. Let us go ahead today and ask others afterward." He gave thanks again but felt that something was not right. He thought that, as a Christian, he should find out whether Christians can take wine. He asked his wife to take out the Bible, but he did not know where to turn. He was stuck. Later, he met someone and told him about this incident. His friend asked whether or not he drank the wine that day. He answered, "In the end I did not drink it, because the householder within would not allow me. I did not drink the wine."

If a man has the desire to obey God's will, he will find out what this will is. Only those who are callous about their inner sense will remain in darkness. As long as one has the intention to obey God's will, the "householder within" will guide him. The householder that our brother spoke of is actually the Holy Spirit. When a person believes in the Lord, the Holy Spirit dwells within him. He guides the believer and becomes his Master. God reveals His will not only through the environment but also through the "householder within."

There are two kinds of leading of the Holy Spirit. The first is an inner urging, as in Acts 8:29 when "the Spirit said to Philip, Approach and join this chariot" and in Acts 10:19-20 when the Holy Spirit said to Peter, "Rise up, go down and go with them." These are inner urgings. The second kind of leading is an inner forbidding, as mentioned in Acts 16:6-7: "Having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, yet the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them." This is the inner forbidding. The story of the "householder within" is a case of inner forbidding.

In order to know God's will, a new believer should be somewhat familiar with the inner sense. The Spirit of God dwells in the innermost part of man. Hence, the feeling of the Spirit is not something shallow or outward; it issues from the deepest part of man's being. It is a voice that is not quite a voice, a feeling that is not quite a feeling. The Spirit of God within shows us whether something is according to His will. Provided we have the divine life within, we will feel right when we act according to this life, and we will feel terrible and uneasy within if we disobey and deviate slightly from this life. A believer should live a life that yields to this life. We must not do things that will take away our inner peace. Whenever we sense any unrest, we should realize that the Holy Spirit within is displeased with what we are doing; He is grieved. If we do something that is contrary to the Lord, we will surely have no peace within. The more we go ahead with it, the less peace and joy we will have. If something is of the Lord, spontaneously we will have peace and joy.

However, do not overanalyze your inward feelings. If you keep analyzing whether or not something is right, you will be totally confused. Some people continue to ask what the feeling of the Holy Spirit is and what the feeling of the soul is. They are always analyzing whether something is right or wrong. This is very unhealthy; it is actually a spiritual sickness. It is very difficult to bring a self-analyzing person back to the proper path. I hope that you can avoid such a trap. Actually, a person analyzes only because he does not have enough light. If he has enough light, everything will be clear to him spontaneously, and he will not need to waste his energy on

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such analysis. If a person is sincere in trying to obey the Lord, it will be very easy for him to sense the inner leading.

God's hand is seen through the environment. But He is not happy to always guide us like senseless horses or mules. He wants to guide us from within. Romans 8:14 says, "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God." We are God's children and God's life is within us. God not only guides us through the environment but also speaks to us and guides us from within through His Spirit. The Spirit dwells within us, and God's will is revealed to us through our innermost being.

The book of Ezekiel tells us that God will "put a new spirit within you" (11:19). Again it says, "A new spirit will I put within you...I will put my Spirit within you" (36:26-27). We must distinguish between "a new spirit" and "my Spirit." "My Spirit" refers to the Spirit of God, whereas "a new spirit" refers to our spirit at the time of our regeneration. This new spirit is like a temple, a home where the Spirit of God dwells. If we did not have a new spirit within us, God would not have given us His Spirit, and the Holy Spirit could not have dwelt within us. Throughout the ages God has been trying to give man His Spirit. However, man's spirit was defiled, sin-ridden, dead, and fallen in the old creation. It was impossible for the Spirit of God to dwell in man even though this was His desire. Man has to receive a new spirit through regeneration before he can be in the position to receive God's Spirit and before God can dwell in him.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #17, Seeking God's Will by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.