

Please pray:

- ✳ College blending trip (Apr 26th - May 6th): May the Lord go before us and prepare the hearts of those in the metro stations for the singing and the Bible distributions tomorrow; may the Lord gain some contacts to be shepherded into the church life; may our hearts be prepared to receive a fresh speaking from the Lord from the college conference; may the Lord cover all the details of the rest of the trip and of the conference; may the Lord gain what He is after in all of us until the end of the blending trip.
- ✳ College students' summer break: Pray that our own students will redeem this time to gain more of the Lord by spending time with Him, getting into the ministry, and reading His word; may the Lord keep us contacting and shepherding the contacts that we have been contacting during the semester; may the Lord keep the contacts warm and open to be contacted next semester.
- ✳ Germany: May there be continued blending of the churches and saints in the German-speaking countries; may the churches enter into the God-ordained way to shepherd the new gospel contacts and new believers into the church life, for the raising up of more lampstands in nearby cities; pray for the Lord to meet the financial needs for the completion of the Bower House expansion in London, UK, which is crucial to train saints to labor effectively in many parts of Europe.
- ✳ Bible Distribution at the Commonwealth Games in Australia: Over 1,600 copies of the New Testament Recovery Version were given away. Please pray for the Lord to operate in the hearts of those who heard the word of the gospel and received a free Bible during this time; pray that the volunteers who participated in this event would be energized to spread the Word of God back in their localities.
- ✳ 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: Gal 5:22 - Eph 1:10 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✳ HWMR: The Recovery of the Church, week 4

Announcements

- ✳ The distribution with the college saints is on May 2nd and it starts at 11:30am-1:30pm. We will sing songs and distribute bibles at different metro stations. We leave at 11am from the hall. If saints who would like to join the whole day could come for the pursuit at 9:00-10:45. Those who plan to join only for the distribution but would like to leave from the hall, please arrive at 10:45. For those interested, please contact Dennis to know which metro stations we will be at.
- ✳ TODAY is the registration deadline. for the Maritimes blending trip from August 1 to August 8. Anyone interested in this blending trip, please let brother Chew or sister Monica know as soon as possible.
- ✳ Today is the Last Day for regular registration of Live summer training and video training. Any registration received after today will be subject to a late fee. Make sure your name is on the list to be eligible for the regular rate, which is \$250 for the live and \$125 for the video training. Late registration will be \$300 and \$150 respectively

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

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|-----------------|---|
| April 29 | ✳ Serving: Chinese North |
| | ✳ Cleaning: Whole meeting hall cleaning |
| May 6 | ✳ Serving: English A |
| | ✳ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible) |
| 13 | ✳ Serving: English B |
| | ✳ Cleaning: English Central, Chinese Central 3 and College (Dennis, Joe, Qiang, Wenxiong responsible) |
| 20 | ✳ Serving: Chinese Central |
| | ✳ Cleaning: English West, Chinese West and Young People (John Y., Boy, Aaron Cha. responsible) |

Upcoming Events

- ✳ 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

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| 29 APRIL | ✳ 10am- 12:15pm: Lord's Table and Prophesying meetings |
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| LORD'S DAY | ✠ | 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunch |
| 30 | ✠ | |
| Monday | | |
| 1 | ✠ | 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts |
| MAY | | |
| Tuesday | | |
| 2 | ✠ | 11:30am-1:30pm: Bible distribution with the college saints |
| Wednesday | | |
| 3 | ✠ | |
| Thursday | | |
| 4 | ✠ | Various home meetings (English / French / Chinese) |
| Friday | | |
| 5 | ✠ | 9:30: Spring cleaning of the meeting hall |
| Saturday | | |
| 6 | ✠ | 10am- 12:15pm: Lord's Table and Prophesying meetings |
| APRIL | | |
| LORD'S DAY | ✠ | 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunch |

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

III. THE CONFIRMATION OF THE CHURCH AND OTHER FACTORS (continued)

Some people may quote Galatians 1:16-17, which says that when Paul received a revelation, he did not confer with flesh and blood, neither did he go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before him. They think that it is sufficient for them to be clear by themselves and that there is no need to fellowship with the church. No doubt a person with a clear revelation like Paul can be truly confident of what he sees. But have you received the revelation the way Paul received his? Even Paul received the Lord's help and supply through other brothers. He saw the great light on the way to Damascus, fell to the ground, and heard what the Lord said to him alone: "Rise up and enter into the city, and it will be told to you what you must do." He received the laying on of hands from an obscure brother named Ananias, and he also received the laying on of hands and the commissioning from co-workers in the church in Antioch (Acts 9:3-6, 12; 13:1-3). The words he spoke in Galatians 1 were to prove that the gospel announced by him was not according to man, but that he had "received it through a revelation by Jesus Christ" (vv. 11-12). There is no flavor of self-exaltation in such words. We should be humble and not intractable. We must not think highly of ourselves. The fact is that we are too far behind Paul to compare ourselves to him! Because we are the party involved, we are clouded by our own interests and subjectivity when we seek God's will. It is

difficult for us to see things clearly. This is where the church comes in; it can supply us and render us much help. This is why we should seek confirmation from the church when we are in need.

However, we should avoid another extreme. Some Christians are too passive. They ask the church about everything, and they want others to make decisions for them. This is against the principle of the New Testament. We cannot treat a group of spiritual people in the church as if they were the prophets in the Old Testament, asking them for advice in everything. First John 2:27 says, "And as for you, the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you; but as His anointing teaches you concerning all things..." This anointing is the indwelling Holy Spirit. We can never replace the teaching of the anointing with the confirmation of the church. The confirmation of the church should not be regarded in the same way as one regards the words of the prophets. Its purpose is to confirm what we see so that we can be more assured of God's will. It is a protection rather than a replacement of an individual's pursuit of God's will.

We should note one other point: This way of seeking God's will should be applied only to important matters. As to the trivial affairs of daily life, we do not need to resort to such a method. We can make judgments according to our common sense. Our God has not eradicated our common sense. God wants us to make our own judgments concerning things that we can manage with our common sense. We need to employ this method only in seeking God's will concerning the more important matters of our life.

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>.