

## Please pray:

- ✳ Northeast College Training (Jul 13-19): Please pray that many college students would be released to be trained by the Lord during this time; pray that the Lord would start to prepare the college students' hearts to be a good ground for Him to work on; pray that the Lord would gain the college students for His use.
- ✳ Kitchener Meeting Hall: We have passed all the inspections and received the necessary permit to allow us to use the meeting hall. Praise and thank the Lord. We plan on having our first Lord's day meeting on June 3, 2018 at the new hall. We will be having the children's meeting, as well as the church meetings. However there is still more work to be done to be ready for the Children's Bible camp, the aesthetics of the building, the book room/library, translation booth and preparation for community outreach. Please pray for the remainder of the works to be done in a timely matter; Pray for all the renovation costs; pray that the Lord would fill the hall with much increase.
- ✳ Myanmar: Pray for the 83 trainees and 10 trainers at FTTY(Full Time Training in Yangon); pray for the proofreading and editing work of the Holy Bible Recovery Version in Myanmar language that the printing can be started in June.
- ✳ Munich, Germany: There are now 142 who are asking for further contact. Many of these, if not most, are native German-speaking students. There have been many positive responses with at least 34 new ones, and 13 have already come to either a home meeting or a barbecue. Please pray that the Lord would release a mature American or Canadian (preferably) couple to migrate to Munich permanently; pray for the housing situation for the saints who are going there to labor; pray that the contacts would be properly shepherded.
- ✳ 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: Eph 2:19 - 4:10 (see website for daily schedule)
- ✳ HWMR: The Recovery of the Church, week 8

## Announcements

- ✳ There will be a review of the recent Parents and Serving Ones Conference Saturday, June 2 from 1:00-5:00pm at the meeting hall. We'll watch two messages from the conference.
- ✳ All saints are welcome to watch message #1 from the Memorial day conference Tues May 29 from 7:30pm to 9pm. Message #2 - Friday June 1 at 7pm. Both videos will be at the meeting hall translated into Chinese.
- ✳ The last Day for regular registration of live summer training and video training is passed. Any registration received now will be subject to a late fee. Late registration will be \$300 for the live and \$150 for the video training.

## Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

<b>27</b>	✳ Serving: Chinese South B
<b>May</b>	✳ Cleaning: English West, Chinese West and Young People (John Y., Boy, Aaron Cha. responsible)
<b>June 3</b>	✳ Serving: Chinese East ✳ Cleaning: Chinese North and Chinese Central 1 (Jun, Gerry Chan responsible)
<b>10</b>	✳ Serving: Chinese South A ✳ Cleaning: French (Achille, Allan responsible)
<b>17</b>	✳ Serving: Chinese North ✳ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)

## Upcoming Events

- ✳ July 2-7, 2018, Anaheim: **Summer Training**
  - ✳ July 3-10, 2018, Montreal: **Summer Video Training (English/French)**
  - ✳ Aug 1-8, 2018: **Maritime Blending Trip**
- The church website lists more events*

## This Week's Activities

<b>27</b>	✳ 10am- 12:15pm: Lord's Table and
<b>MAY</b>	✳ Propheying meetings
<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: <b>Lunch</b>
<b>28</b>	✳
<b>Monday</b>	
<b>29</b>	✳ 7:00-7:30pm: English/French/Chinese
<b>Tuesday</b>	✳ prayer meetings
	✳ 7:30pm - 9pm: Memorial day conference, Msg 1
<b>30</b>	✳
<b>Wednesday</b>	

31	✳	
Thursday		
1	✳	7pm - 9pm: Memorial day conference, Msg 2
JUNE		
Friday		
2	✳	1 - 5pm: 2 video messages from the recent Parents and Serving Ones Conference
Saturday		
3	✳	10am- 12:15pm: Lord's Table and Prophesying meetings
MAY		
LORD'S DAY	✳	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Lunch

## GOVERNMENTAL FORGIVENESS

### II. INSTRUMENTAL FORGIVENESS (continued)

In preaching the gospel, we often find sinners who are awakened to their sin by our word. We bring them to the Lord, and they confess that they are sinners. They pray for forgiveness with weeping and tears of repentance, and they receive the Lord Jesus with a sincere heart. But they do not know the meaning of forgiveness because they are heathens. At such times, it is good for a representative of the church to stand up and say to them, "God has forgiven you of your sins!" This will save them much suffering and anxious searching. If a person has truly believed, you may say to him, "You have accepted the Lord today. You can thank Him because He has forgiven you of your sins!" If the church cannot forgive or retain men's sins, it has no way to decide who may be baptized. Why do you accept one candidate for baptism while refusing another? Why do you receive some for the bread-breaking meeting while refusing others? This is an exercise of the authority that the church has received from the Lord. It proclaims who is saved and who is not, and whose sins are forgiven and whose are retained. Such declarations must not be made in a light way. Those whose sins are forgiven are forgiven, while those whose sins are retained have their sins retained. Such a statement must be made under the authority of the Holy Spirit. John 20:22 says, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Verse 23 continues, "Whosoever sins you forgive, they are forgiven them; and whosoever sins you retain, they are retained." Only when the church has received the Holy Spirit and is under the authority of the Holy Spirit can it act as an instrument to God. Only after the Lord has made a man an instrument can he proclaim to a sinner, "You are forgiven of your sins!" or to another sinner, "Your sins are not forgiven!" This is the second kind of forgiveness described in the Bible. In this forgiveness, God does not forgive directly; He does it through the church. Eternal forgiveness is God's direct

forgiveness of men. Instrumental forgiveness is God's proclamation of forgiveness through man.

### .I III. FORGIVENESS IN FELLOWSHIP

There is a third kind of forgiveness in the Bible. We call this forgiveness in fellowship. First John 1:7-9 says, "If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin. If we say that we do not have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." First John 2:1-2 continues, "My little children, these things I write to you that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for those of the whole world." The forgiveness spoken of in this portion of the Word is neither the forgiveness at the time of our salvation nor the forgiveness pronounced by the church. This forgiveness is different from the above two kinds of forgiveness. After one believes in the Lord and has become a child of God, often he still needs God's forgiveness. This is the forgiveness spoken of in an earlier chapter [Volume 49, Chapter 21], in which the ashes of the red heifer are applied. After we believe in the Lord, confess our Christian faith, and receive eternal forgiveness, we may still sin at times. We may become weak and encounter setbacks before the Lord. This kind of sin produces a barrier in our fellowship with God.

### A. The Characteristic of Life—Delighting in Fellowship

All biologists know that life has two basic characteristics: First, it strives to live, to preserve itself, to continue its existence. Life abhors death. Second, it does not want to be cut off from fellowship. Life abhors isolation. If a chicken is left by itself, it will be sullen. If you put it with many other chickens, it will become lively. If you keep a prisoner in isolation, he will suffer because he cannot have fellowship with other men. Man is a living creature. Like other living creatures, he strives to preserve his own life, and he also delights in fellowship.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #18, Governmental Forgiveness by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.