

Please pray:

- ✳ Fall Eastern Canada College and Working Saints Conferences in Toronto, (Sept 28 to 30, 2018): Please pray that all the preparations be headed up in Christ; that the college and working saints be released to attend this conference; may the Lord speak a personal word to each one going; pray that the speaking brothers may be one with the Lord; may the Lord gain what He is after in this conference.
- ✳ Quebec provincial election (Oct 1st, 2018): Pray for the political situation in Quebec according to 1Ti 2:1-4: "I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men; on behalf of kings and all who are in high position, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all godliness and gravity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of our Saviour God, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the full knowledge of the truth."
- ✳ South Africa: Please pray for 5 who are waiting to get their visas to attend the Full time training in Pretoria (FTTP).
- ✳ First Lord's table in Munich, Germany (14 October): Please pray for the raising up of a shining golden lampstand in Munich.
- ✳ Freshers' Fayres (students' orientation) in the UK: Please pray for these crucial coming weeks as universities in the UK start the new academic year: 1) For the new year, the students, the homes and our labour on campus; 2) For students to be raised up to labour on many campuses throughout the UK and Europe; 3) For the gaining of remaining fruit for the church life, especially of local seeking ones who will pay the price.
- ✳ 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: Isa 9:1 16:14
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-Study of Leviticus vol. 2, week 8

Announcements

- ✳ There will be a special fellowship for all children's serving ones and those burdened for children's service on September 14 at the meeting hall at 6:30pm. Please bring your own dinner. Childcare will be provided.
- ✳ Anyone who has stuff stored in any storage area of the meeting hall, please go and pick it up within the next 2 weeks by Sept. 23. After that, we'll take what is left and donate it to whomever needs it. If no one wants it, we will throw it in the trash by the end of Sept. 2018.

- ✳ The blending conf. this year will be held in Moncton, NB on Oct. 6-7, 2018, starting 3pm. Call the hotel Crown Plaza directly to make your reservation. Rate is \$129 for 2 adults only until Sept 17. \$10 each additional adult, kids free. After that date, the price goes up to regular hotel rates. Parking is free for those staying at hotel. Breakfast is special rate of \$10 per person per night. Cancellation free until 6pm the day before arrival. Call 1-866-854-4656 or 506-853-3964 and mention MPO Group or block code #A9F. May many go blend with the saints from the Maritimes!

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

9 SEP	✳ Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...)
	✳ Cleaning: English West, Chinese West and Young People (John Y., Boy, Aaron Chao responsible)
16	✳ Serving: Chinese South: 陳世山、劉學成
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese North and Chinese Central 1 (Jun, Gary Chen responsible)
23	✳ Serving: Chinese East (陳劉淑真.....)
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)
30	✳ Serving: Chinese North (黃育鳳.....)
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✳ Oct 6-7, 2018, Moncton, NB: **Blending Conference**
- ✳ Nov 22-25, 2018, Charlotte, NC: **International Thanksgiving Day Conference**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

9 SEP	✳ 10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
10 Monday	✳
11 Tuesday	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: Prayer meetings (English /French/Chinese)
12 Wednesday	✳
13 Thursday	✳
14 Friday	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)

15	✠	
Saturday		
16	✠	10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table &
SEP		Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✠	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast

THE DISCIPLINE OF GOD

Scripture Reading: Heb. 12:4-13

II. WHOM THE LORD LOVES HE DISCIPLINES (continued)

D. Ignorance of Discipline Being a Great Loss

It is indeed a great loss if God's children do not understand His discipline. Many people live a foolish life in the eyes of God for many years. They have no way to go on. They do not know what the Lord wants to do in them. They walk according to their own will and wander in a wild, unrestrained, and aimless way through the wilderness. God does not operate this way. He is a God of purpose. He does things for the purpose of molding a specific character in us so that we may glorify His name. All discipline is for the purpose of bringing us on in this way.

III. ENDURING FOR GOD'S DISCIPLINE

The apostle quoted Proverbs when he wrote to the Hebrew believers. In verse 7 the apostle explains the quotation from Proverbs in verses 5 and 6, saying, "It is for discipline that you endure." This is the first New Testament explanation of the subject; it is a crucial word. Here the apostle shows us that endurance, suffering, and discipline are the same thing. God is disciplining us. The apostle shows us that this disciplining is the same as our endurance. It is for discipline that we endure.

A. Suffering Being God's Discipline

Perhaps some will ask, "What is God's discipline? Why is He disciplining us?" Verses 2 through 4 speak of enduring the cross, despising the shame, and resisting sin, whereas verses 5 and 6 speak of discipline and scourging. What is the relation between these two things? What are the discipline and scourging in verses 5 and 6, and what are the shame, affliction, and resistance against sin in verses 2 through 4? Verse 7 is a conclusion of verses 2 through 6. It shows us that what we endure is God's discipline. Thus, suffering, shame, and affliction are God's discipline. Although our resistance against sin is not unto blood, the pain and tribulation are nevertheless part of God's discipline.

How does God discipline us? His discipline has to do with whatever He is bringing us through and whatever He is charging us to endure. Do not consider God's discipline as anything else. God's discipline is what we endure every day, things such as harsh words, an unkind face, a sharp tongue, an impolite retort, an unreasonable criticism, unexpected troubles, various kinds of shame, irresponsibility, infractions, and other more serious problems arising in the family. Sometimes it may be sickness, poverty, affliction, or difficulty. We encounter many things and endure many things. The apostle said that all these are God's discipline! It is for discipline that we endure.

B. No Experience Coming to Us by Accident

The question today is: What kind of response do we have when others give us an ugly look? If their look is God's discipline, how should we react? If our business fails because others have forgotten to do something for us, how should we react? If the poor memory of another person is God's discipline to us, what should we do? If we become sick through another's infection, how should we deal with it? If things turn sour through various misfortunes, what do we say? If things do not go our way because God's discipline is behind them, what should we say? Brothers and sisters, the response to all these things makes a great difference in us! We can consider everything in our environment as being a mere encounter; this is one kind of attitude. We can also consider it to be God's discipline; this is another kind of attitude. The words of the apostle here are very clear. He says that it is for discipline that we endure. Please do not consider all these things to be unendurable. They are God's discipline. Do not conclude foolishly that they are mere coincidence. We must realize that God daily arranges these things and measures them for our discipline.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #19, The discipline of God by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.