

## Please pray:

- ✳ Brothers and sisters' houses in Montreal: that the Lord would receive the consecration of the saints who live in these houses and strengthen them to pursue Him in corporate living; that many older saints might be burdened to individually shepherd them; that they might receive the Lord's love and might overflow to love each other in the divine love; that they might learn to take up their cross daily and live by the resurrection life; that they might grow and be perfected in their spiritual exercise and function for the building up of the church.
- ✳ In order for our church life and our family life to be vital and healthy, let us pray for one another to have a normal daily living: enjoying Him first thing in the morning, getting into the Word and into the ministry, and be touched and supplied by Him; calling on Him throughout the day, and visiting saints with our vital companions to shepherd and care for saints and gospel friends.
- ✳ Churches in Canada: 1) For His increase and spread to have 50 local churches in Canada for the coming years, we pray that many saints will receive more training on various aspects of the gospel living, that the Lord can open the door to gain especially the typical Canadians for a balanced church life. Pray for our colleagues, friends, relatives, and neighbors to be our gospel contacts, so that we may have 20% yearly increase. 2) Let us pray for the saints in southwestern Ontario. They are so hungry to have the proper church life. Due to their distance to the closest locality, they need to travel very far week after week. May the Lord open the way for them to have a normal church life.
- ✳ Germany: 1) We continue petitioning the Lord concerning the care of the existing students and the gaining of new ones at the beginning of the academic year in the universities in Germany. 2) We rejoice that the first Lord's Table will take place in Munich on Oct. 14, 2018. Let us also pray that many new shining lampstands will be raised up in Germany, and in key cities across Europe.
- ✳ 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 26:1 - 33:24
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-Study of Leviticus vol. 2, week 12

## Announcements

- ✳ Please sign up for the video training by Oct 28 to avoid late fees. Cost is CND \$130. Late fee is CND \$35.
- ✳ On Oct 19-21, there will be the Eastern Canada Fall YP Retreat at the meeting hall of the church in Toronto. Registration deadline is Oct 12 and cost will be \$55. Please register with Br. Aaron.
- ✳ Chinese gospel calendar sign up is now open. Please sign up in the bookroom. Deadline is Oct. 28, 2018.
- ✳ Winter training dates are Dec. 24-29, 2018 in Anaheim. If you are planning to go to the live training, please sign up with Monica. Deadline is Oct 28, 2018. Cost is CDN \$260.

## Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

7 Oct	✳ Serving: English/French (Rose, Julie...) ✳ Cleaning: English Central, Chinese Central 3 and College (Dennis, Joe, Qiang, Wenxiong responsible)
14	✳ Serving: Chinese Central(賈筱榮.....) ✳ Cleaning: Whole Church
21	✳ Serving: Chinese South (陳世山, 劉學成...) ✳ Cleaning: English West, Chinese West and Young People (John Y., Boy, Aaron Chao responsible)
28	✳ Serving: Chinese East (陳劉淑真...) ✳ Cleaning: Chinese North and Chinese Central 1 (Jun, Gary Chen responsible)

## Upcoming Events

- ✳ Oct 26-28, 2018, Antigua: **Antigua Conference**
- ✳ Nov 22-25, 2018, Charlotte, NC: **International Thanksgiving Day Conference**
- ✳ Dec. 24-29, 2018, Anaheim, CA: **Winter training**

*The church website lists more events*

## This Week's Activities

7 OCT LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings ✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
8 Monday	✳
9 Tuesday	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: Prayer meetings (English /French/Chinese)
10 Wednesday	✳

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

## THE DISCIPLINE OF GOD

Scripture Reading: Heb. 12:4-13

### IV. BEING SUBJECT TO THE DISCIPLINE OF THE FATHER OF SPIRITS (continued)

#### B. Learning Obedience through Discipline

We should know the kind of person we are in the eyes of God. We are rebellious and stubborn by nature. We are like naughty children who will not obey unless their father has a rod in his hand. Every one of us is the same. Some sons will never obey unless they are rebuked or scourged. They have to be spanked before they will pay attention. Please bear in mind that this is the kind of person we are! We pay attention only when we are spanked. If we are not spanked, we turn our face the other way. This is why discipline is absolutely necessary. We should know ourselves. We are not that simple. Even a spanking may not change us that much. The apostle showed us that chastisement is for the purpose of humbling us and making us obedient. He said, "Be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live." Submission and obedience are indispensable virtues. We must learn to obey God and say, "God, I am willing to subject myself to Your discipline! Whatever You do is right!"

### V. DISCIPLINE BEING FOR OUR BENEFIT

Verse 10 says, "For they disciplined for a few days as it seemed good to them." Often parents discipline their children in a poor way, because they act and discipline according to their own whims. Not much benefit will come out of this discipline.

"But He, for what is profitable that we might partake of His holiness." This is not a discipline driven by temper nor a discipline that is merely a punishment. No discipline or reproach of God is merely a punishment; it is educational in nature, and it is there for our profit. The purpose of discipline is not just to hurt us. The hurt produces something; it is there for a purpose. He does not punish us simply because we have done something wrong. Whoever thinks this way is altogether in the realm of the law and the courtroom.

#### A. Partakers of His Holiness

What is the benefit of such discipline? It is to make us partakers of His holiness. This is glorious! Holiness is God's nature. We may say that holiness is also God's character. It is for this that God uses many ways to discipline His children. From the time we believed in the Lord, God has been disciplining us. He disciplines us with the view that we may partake of His holiness, His nature, and His character. The Bible speaks of a few kinds of holiness. The holiness in Hebrews specifically refers to God's character. For Christ to become our holiness is one thing. For us to be sanctified in Christ is another thing. The holiness spoken of here is something wrought into us; it is not a gift. It has to do with our constitution. This is something we have been emphasizing for years. This means that God works something into us in a gradual way. The holiness here is a holiness that is constituted through His discipline, something constituted through His scourging and daily, inner working. His discipline and operation are for the purpose of making us partakers of His holiness.

After we suffer a little chastisement, we partake of His holiness. After we suffer more chastisement, we learn more holiness. If we remain under God's discipline, we will gradually realize what holiness is. If we continue under God's discipline, there will be a gradual constitution of holiness into our character. If we stay under God's discipline all the way to the end, we will become holy in our character. Nothing is more crucial than this! We must realize that the result of discipline is the constitution of God's character into our being. All discipline has results, and we should reap the fruit from all of them. May the Lord be merciful to us so that His discipline, whenever it is upon us, may produce a little more holiness. May it result in more holiness, in more lessons learned, and in more constitution of God. Holiness must continually increase in us!

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>.