

Please pray:

- ✳ Chinese speaking gospel meeting (Dec 15): Pray that all the ones chosen by the Lord for this time will be released to come; the Lord will prepare their hearts to receive Him during this time; the speaking brother and all the saints will be one with the Lord and full of the Spirit; that the Lord will add to the church through this gospel meeting; that saints from other language groups will have a burden to help in the services to release the Chinese speaking saints.
- ✳ December Semiannual Training 2018: May the Lord release the saints to attend the video training and give us a heart to be trained; may the Lord prepare our vessels to be able to receive His speaking; may the saints who are going to the live training gain a vision and gain what the Lord has prepared for them; may the Lord release what is on His heart and speak to His churches.
- ✳ GTCA Vaughan (Jan. 28 to Feb. 2, 2019) and London, Ontario (Feb. 4 to 8, 2019): (1) Pray for the Lord to be Head in all the coordination for the upcoming GTCA events for the raising up of a new testimony in Vaughan and the strengthening of the existing church in London. (2) Pray that the Lord would open up venues in both cities.
- ✳ The Church in Stockholm, Sweden, would like the Body to stand with them in prayer for a new meeting hall. They have to move out of their present meeting hall at the end of January 2019. Please pray that the Lord will lead the brothers and bring them into one accord regarding this matter.
- ✳ 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: Heb 9:5 – 11:19
- ✳ HWMR: Taking Christ as Our Person and Living Him in and for the Church Life, week 2

Announcements

- ✳ Any saint interesting in helping set up and/or serve on the Library service, please talk to Monica or Phaik Keen.
- ✳ The 2019 HWMR subscription is now open. Please sign up with your district saints and pay the \$75 by the end of Dec. That way we can order the correct number of books for the year.
- ✳ There will be a Chinese speaking gospel meeting at the meeting hall on December 15 at 6:00PM, starting with love feast..

- ✳ 2019 Chinese Gospel Calendar has arrived. Please come by the bookroom to pay and pick up your calendar.
- ✳ Don't forget to pay for the video training. The cost is \$130 plus late fee of \$35. Please give it to the service office.
Video training schedule for all languages:
 - Tues Dec 25 to Sat Dec 29 messages # 1 to 10 every evening at 5pm and 7:30pm
 - LD Dec 30 Message #11 at 1:30pm
 - Tues Jan 1 - Message #12 at 7pm.
 - Study sessions by district from 9am to noon from Tues to Sat
- ✳ Live training cost is \$260 with late fees of \$65. Please pay Monica if you have not yet paid..

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

9 Dec	✳ Serving: Chinese North (黃育鳳...)
	✳ Cleaning: English West, Chinese West and Young People (John Y., Boy, Aaron Chao responsible)
16	✳ Serving: English/French (Rose, Julie ...)
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese North and Chinese Central 1 (Jun, Gary Chen responsible)
23	✳ Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...)
	✳ Cleaning: French (Achille, Allan responsible)
30	✳ Serving: Chinese South (陳世山、劉學成...)
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese East (Xie, Guorong responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✳ December 15, Meeting hall: **Chinese speaking gospel meeting**
- ✳ Dec. 24-29, 2018, Anaheim, CA: **Winter training**
- ✳ February 15-17, 2019, Anaheim, CA: **International Chinese-speaking Conference.**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

9 DEC	✳ 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	✳	7:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)
Friday		
15	✳	6pm: Chinese speaking gospel meeting
Saturday		
16	✳	10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
DEC		
LORD'S DAY	✳	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast

THE DISCIPLINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Scripture Reading: Rom. 8:28; Matt. 10:29-31; Jer. 48:11; Gen. 47:7-10

IV. BREAKING AND CONSTITUTING

The Lord causes many things to come our way, few of which are according to our preference. This is why the Bible charges, "Rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil. 4:4). We should rejoice in the Lord. This is the only way we can rejoice always. Besides the Lord, what can make us rejoice always? Why does God allow all the bad things to come upon us? What is His purpose for doing these things? His goal is to break down our natural life. If we read Jeremiah 48:11, we will be clear.

Jeremiah 48:11 says, "Moab has been at ease from his youth;/And he is settled on his lees;/And has not been emptied from vessel to vessel;/Nor has he gone into exile./Therefore his taste remains in him;/And his scent is not changed." The Moabites were the descendants of Lot (Gen. 19:36-37). They were related to Abraham but were of the flesh. Moab was at ease from his youth and never experienced any tribulation, trial, blow, suffering, or pain. Nothing happened to him that would cause him to shed tears; nothing ever rent his heart or frustrated his way. In man's eyes this is such a blessing. But what did God say about the Moabites? He said, "He is settled on his lees;/And has not been emptied from vessel to vessel." For wine to settle on its lees means that the liquid is a mixture. When wine ferments, the top part becomes clear liquid, while the lees sink to the bottom. As soon as the vessel is shaken, the lees and the liquid mix together again. In order to have a clear liquid, one has to pour the wine from one vessel to another. In the old days there was no filter, and the only way to remove the lees was to pour the liquid from one vessel to another. The liquid and the lees were originally mixed together. By pouring the liquid from one vessel to another, the lees were left behind. Sometimes some lees would escape with the liquid to the other vessel, and there would be the need to pour the liquid to yet another vessel. This would go on and on until all the lees were gone. Moab was never emptied from one vessel

to another. He was like wine settled on its lees. His "lees" were not yet removed. This is why it says that "his taste remains in him,/And his scent is not changed." Moab always tasted like Moab. His scent remained the scent of Moab. His condition had not changed since the first day. But God is not after the old scent. He wants to change the scent.

Some have been believers for ten years, yet their taste remains the same as it was ten years ago. They are like Moab, whose taste remained and whose scent was not changed. Some people were sloppy when they first believed in the Lord. After twenty years they are still sloppy. They lived in ignorance and foolishness the first day, and they still live in ignorance and foolishness today. Their taste remains the same, and their scent is not changed. God does not want this. God wants to remove our old habit, nature, and character; He wants to remove every undesirable element in us. He wants to empty us from this vessel to that vessel and from that vessel to another vessel. After being emptied a few times, our "lees" will be left behind, and the original taste will be gone.

Moab had an easy life, but as a result, "his taste remains in him,/And his scent is not changed." Perhaps our life is not as easy as Moab's. Perhaps we have not been "at ease from...youth." Perhaps we have had to go through "many tribulations" like Paul (Acts 14:22). If so, we should realize that the Lord is removing our lees and our original taste. The Lord wants to take away our own taste and natural scent. The old things must be torn down. The Lord has to uproot them all. He is pouring us from one vessel to another and then to a third. He allows this to happen to us today and that to happen to us tomorrow. The Lord turns us from one environment to another, from one experience to another. Each time He arranges an environment around us and breaks us, we will shed some of our old taste and scent. Time after time we will be purified of our old taste. Every day we will be a little different than the day before, and the next day we will be different still further. This is the way the Lord works in us; He tears down a little today and a little tomorrow, until all our lees are gone, our taste is lost, and our scent is changed.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #20, The Discipline of the Holy Spirit by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.