

Please pray:

- ✳ Laval saints and French speaking saints blending home meeting (Dec 21): We had a wonderful blending time last Nov 30th with about 30-35 saints gathered together to enjoy the Lord. May the Lord continue to blend the contacts and the saints together that the contacts may start to feel that they are part of the church life; may this be a time of blending, encouragement, mutuality, and building up; may the Lord gain the reality of the one new man through our blending together; may there be a proper testimony in the city of Laval according to the Lord's timing.
- ✳ Graduating trainees of winter class 2018: that the graduating trainees may be strengthened in their tripartite being as they prepare for their graduation presentation; may the Lord gain and use these last few weeks to finish the work that He has started in them in these last two years; may the Lord lead them to go on after the training to become a normal, useful, and functioning member wherever they may go; may they have an attitude and heart to continually being trained by the Lord after the training.
- ✳ Full-time training: that many saints throughout the world (especially in Montreal), young and old, would consecrate to be trained full-time for Christ and the church; that current trainees (especially those sent by or related to Montreal) would receive the training inwardly to let the Lord capture and transform them deep within; that past trainees would live a life of continually being trained by the Lord to grow together with all the saints as healthy, functioning members of the Body;
- ✳ December Semi-annual Training 2018: May the Lord release the saints to attend the video training and give us a heart to be trained; may our vessels be prepared to receive His up to date 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.
- ✳ 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 63:1 - Jer 2:37
- ✳ HWMR: Taking Christ as Our Person and Living Him in and for the Church Life, week 3

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

16 Dec	✳ 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)
6 Jan	✳ Serving: Chinese East (陳劉淑真...)
	✳ Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✳ 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

16	✿	10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
DEC		
LORD'S DAY	✿	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
17	✿	
Monday		
18	✿	7:30-9:00pm: Prayer meetings (English /French/Chinese)
Tuesday		
19		
Wednesday	✿	
20	✿	
Thursday		
21	✿	7:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)
Friday		
22	✿	
Saturday		
23	✿	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 (continued)

God is not only breaking us on the negative side but also constituting us on the positive side. From the life of Jacob in Genesis, we can see the meaning of constitution.

Jacob's life began from a low point. He struggled with his older brother in his mother's womb and strove to be the firstborn by holding on to his brother's heel. He was crafty and greedy, always deceitful and taking advantage of others. He deceived his own father, brother, and uncle. But in the end he was deceived by his uncle and his sons. He tried his best to prosper, but in the end he found himself in a famine. We can say that Jacob's way was fraught with suffering. Some people spend their lives in ease and comfort, but Jacob's life was full of affliction.

While he was going through his sufferings, God was breaking him down again and again. He suffered one thing after another. Every experience he went through was a suffering to him. But thank God, after going through so much suffering in His hand, he finally acquired a touch of God's holiness. We see this when he was in Egypt. There we see a gentle, humble, bright, and dignified man. He was so meek and humble that he could ask for grace and mercy from his son.

Yet he was so crystal clear that he could utter prophecies which Abraham could not utter. He could give blessings which Isaac could not give. He was so dignified that even Pharaoh bowed his head to receive his blessing. This shows us that through God's breaking work, the lowly Jacob had become someone God could use. Jacob had become a man of God!

After years of breaking, God constituted Jacob with Himself. This is why we can see such a beautiful picture at Jacob's deathbed when he leaned on the top of his rod and worshipped God. Though he was sick in bed, he could still lean on the top of his staff and worship God. This proves that he still remembered his pilgrim life and had not given up his pilgrim characteristic. At first he struggled to sit up, put his feet down by the bed, and prophesied. After prophesying, he gathered up his feet, gave up his breath, and died. The way he died was beautiful! This is indeed a beautiful picture.

We can muse carefully upon the whole life of Jacob. At the time he was born, I am afraid no one had a worse "taste" than he had. But when he left the world, his old taste was gone altogether. What we see is a man fully constituted by God.

We must realize that everything that comes upon us is for our edification one way or another. God tears us down through all kinds of sufferings. The tearing down can be quite painful. But after we pass through these trials, something will be constituted into us. In other words, when trials arise, it may appear that we are failing, but His grace will always carry us through. In the process of overcoming our trials, something is wrought into us. As we overcome our trials again and again, the constitution within us grows day by day. On the one hand, God puts us through difficult circumstances and tears us down through our trials. On the other hand, something is added into us as we rise from our trials.

Thank God that we have the discipline of the Holy Spirit. May God have mercy on us. May He break us and constitute us through the discipline of the Holy Spirit so that we may reach maturity.

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>.