

Please pray:

- ✳ 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.
- ✳ College saints and contacts' winter break: May the Lord guard the good deposits that have been deposited into them during the semester; may the Lord grant them a hunger to pursue the Lord during their breaks by reading His word, reading the ministry books, spending time with Him, and spending time in prayer.
- ✳ 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.
- ✳ Berlin, Germany: An adequate meeting hall for the church in Berlin to be found in the best location, at an affordable price, and readily accessible to public transportation.
- ✳ Isreal: Please pray for the tracts and gospel cards that the saints have been distributing over the past month, that hunger would be stirred up in the recipients. Please pray that many would establish contact with us
- ✳ 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 11:20 - 12:29
- ✳ HWMR: Taking Christ as Our Person and Living Him in and for the Church Life, week 4

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.
- ✳ 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

2 Dec	✳ 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)
13	✳ Serving: Chinese North (黃育鳳...)
	✳ Cleaning: English Central, Chinese Central 2 and College (Dennis, Joe, Qiang 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

23 DEC	✳ 10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
24 Monday	✳
25 Tuesday	✳ 9am-12pm: Study sessions by district
	✳ 5pm: Video training, message 1
	✳ 7:30pm: Video training, message 2
26 Wednesday	✳ 9am-12pm: Study sessions by district
	✳ 5pm: Video training, message 3
	✳ 7:30pm: Video training, message 4
27 Thursday	✳ 9am-12pm: Study sessions by district
	✳ 5pm: Video training, message 5
	✳ 7:30pm: Video training, message 6
28 Friday	✳ 9am-12pm: Study sessions by district
	✳ 5pm: Video training, message 7
	✳ 7:30pm: Video training, message 8

29	✿	9am-12pm: Study sessions by district
Saturday	✿	5pm: Video training, message 9
	✿	7:30pm: Video training, message 10
30	✿	10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table &
DEC		Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✿	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
	✿	1:30pm: Video training, message 11

WITHSTANDING THE DEVIL

Scripture Reading: James 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8-9; 2 Cor. 2:11

The devil is known also as Satan (Rev. 12:9). He was first a cherubim, created by God (Ezek. 28:12-14), and he was an archangel (Rev. 12:7; Matt. 25:41). Later, he rebelled against God by uplifting himself to be equal to God. Because of this, God judged him (Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:15-19) and he became Satan, the adversary of God. In the original text the word Satan means "an opposer, an adversary." The devil opposes everything that God does. In addition, he always sets himself against God's children.

We want to look at the way the devil attacks God's children and how they withstand him.

I. SATAN'S WORK

We will look at Satan's work in four aspects.

A. Satan's Work in the Human Mind

Second Corinthians 10:4-5 says, "For the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly but powerful before God for the overthrowing of strongholds, as we overthrow reasonings and every high thing rising up against the knowledge of God, and take captive every thought unto the obedience of Christ." This shows us that Satan uses every high thing as a stronghold to surround man's thought. In order for the Lord to gain us, He must first overthrow the strongholds of Satan. He must do this before He can charge into man's thought and take it captive.

1. Satan's Reasonings and Temptations

What are reasonings? This word in Greek can be translated "imagination" or "thought." Satan often surrounds us with many imaginations. Men are foolish; they think that these thoughts are their own. Actually, they are the strongholds of Satan, and they prevent the mind from submitting to Christ. Often Satan injects a kind of imagination into our mind. If we think this imagination is from ourselves, we fall into his snare. Often thoughts develop which have no basis in fact; they are merely imaginations. Many so-called sins are imaginary in nature; they are not real. Many of the so-called problems among the brothers and sisters come from our imagination; they have no factual basis. Often Satan injects a wild thought into our mind,

and we are completely oblivious to his work. When he injects a sudden thought into our mind and we accept it, we are accepting his work. If we reject this thought, we reject his work. Many thoughts are not our own; they are actually concocted by Satan. We must learn to reject these thoughts from Satan.

Most of Satan's temptations come through the mind. Satan realizes that God's children will rise up and withstand him vehemently if he attacks openly. This is the reason he tempts us by sneaking in stealthily and planting a thought in our mind unconsciously. Once the thought gets into us, we begin to think about it. If the more we dwell on a thought the more we feel justified and right, we have fallen into his snare. The thought that we have accepted is Satan's temptation. If we reject Satan's attacks in our mind, we will shut off the most vulnerable entrance of his temptations.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #21, Withstanding the Devil by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.