

Please pray:

- ✳ 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 being 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.
- ✳ College students retreat (Jan 11-13): Pray that the Lord would release the college students that He has already released to attend this retreat; that the college students would be prepared to receive the Lord's personal speaking; pray that the atmosphere would be sanctified and in love; all the preparations would be headed up in Christ; that this retreat would grant the students a fresh and strong start at the beginning of the semester.
- ✳ New college school semester: Pray that the contacts will keep coming to the Bible studies, personal appointments, home meetings, and college meetings; pray that the seeds that have been sown into them will be planted into good earth, guarded from the enemy, take roots and grow up; pray that the Lord would grant the contacts a continual hunger for the truth; pray that the Lord would strengthen our own students for the start of this new semester; that our own students would receive the proper care for their spirit, soul and body; that our own students would be burdened to continually pray, preach the gospel and shepherd the new contacts; that the Lord will gain what He is after in this semester on the campuses in Montreal
- ✳ 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. 3) Pray that the trainees and the saints sent would be strengthened in their tripartite being to testify concerning the Lord in both places; 4) that there may be wonderful coordination, blending and building up between the local saints, sent saints from other localities and trainees.
- ✳ 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 13:1 – James 1:27
- ✳ HWMR: Taking Christ as Our Person and Living Him in and for the Church Life, week 6

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.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

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)
20	✳ Serving: English/French (Rose, Julie ...)
	✳ Cleaning: Whole Church
27	✳ Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...)
	✳ Cleaning: English West, Chinese West and Young People (John Y., Boy, Aaron Chao responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✳ February 15-17, 2019, Anaheim, CA: **International Chinese-speaking Conference.**

The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

6 JAN	✳ 10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
7 Monday	✳
8 Tuesday	✳ 7:30pm: Video training, message 12
9 Wednesday	✳
10 Thursday	✳
11 Friday	✳ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)

12	✠	
Saturday		
13	✠	10am- 12:15pm Lord's Table &
JAN		Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✠	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast

WITHSTANDING THE DEVIL

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

I. SATAN'S WORK

A. Satan's Work in the Human Mind (continued)

2. How to Reject Thoughts from Satan (continued)

Satan attacks our mind mainly through deception. He makes us think that his thoughts are ours when in reality they are from him. Once we expose his lies, we will reject the thought from him. To withstand means to refuse. When Satan gives us a thought, we should say, "I do not want it." This is what it means to withstand. When he injects one thought into us, we should say, "I do not take this." When he injects another thought into us, we should repeat, "I do not accept this." If we do this, he will not be able to do anything with us. One servant of God in the Middle Ages said, "You cannot stop birds from flying over your head, but you can at least stop them from nesting in your hair." This is a good word. We cannot stop Satan from tempting us. However, we can stop him from nesting, from gaining a beachhead in us. This power is ours. If we ignore the thoughts that enter our mind, these thoughts will stop.

On the positive side, we need to exercise our mind. Many people have lazy minds. This makes it easy for Satan's thoughts to lodge in them. Philippians 4:8 says, "What things are true, what things are dignified, what things are righteous, what things are pure, what things are lovely, what things are well spoken of, if there is any virtue and if any praise, take account of these things." We can take account of spiritual matters. We need to exercise our mind concerning spiritual matters. If a person always sets his mind on sinful things, Satan can easily inject his thoughts into him, because his thoughts and Satan's thoughts are not much different. But if we always set our mind on spiritual things, Satan will not be able to inject his thoughts into us easily. Satan is able to inject his thoughts into many people because they are passive, because they have too much spare time, or because their thoughts are unclean in the first place.

There is another point that deserves attention: Our mind must not be attracted to satanic thoughts. There are many people whose minds are attracted to satanic thoughts. They have no interest in the wonderful, spiritual experiences of other

brothers. Yet they become very interested when it comes to gossip. Since they love Satan's work, they cannot reject satanic thoughts. We need to hate Satan's work in order to reject his thoughts. All filthy thoughts that damage one's fellowship with the Lord and love for the Lord are from Satan. These thoughts will not come to us if we are not attracted to them in the first place. But if we incline our heart toward these things, they will come to us easily. Therefore, we must learn to reject everything that comes from Satan.

We must pay special attention to rejecting all filthy thoughts. Satan always places filthy thoughts in man to induce man to sin. The starting point is one filthy thought. If we allow it to continue, it will bear the fruit of sin. Therefore, we must refuse any thought that comes from Satan.

However, there is a great problem: What should we do if the thought refuses to leave after we have rejected it? We need to realize that we only need to withstand unwanted thoughts once. Withstanding is a one-time act; we should never withstand twice. James 4:7 says, "Withstand the devil, and he will flee from you." This verse says to withstand the devil and the devil will flee. We must believe that when we withstand the devil, he will flee. It is wrong to continue withstanding for fear that the devil is still around. Whose words do we believe? The Bible says, "Withstand...he will flee." If there is a voice within that suggests that he has not fled, whose voice is it? It is Satan's voice! Many people choose to believe Satan's words. Therefore, they lose. We must declare after we have withstood him, "I have already withstood the devil. He is gone from me." The feeling that he is still lurking around is a lie; it is not real, and it is not from the Lord. He must run. He has no ground to stay. We must be clear that it is right to withstand once, but wrong to withstand a second time. The first withstanding glorifies God's name. The second withstanding questions God's Word.

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>.