

Please pray:

- ✳ Montreal brothers retreat (Dec 6 - 7): Pray that many brothers will be released to attend this crucial time for the advancement of the church in Montreal for the years to come; pray that the Lord will speak to the brothers concerning what is on His heart; that the Lord will give us ears to hear His speaking to His church.
- ✳ Church in Ottawa blending meeting (Dec 1): Pray that many saints will be released to attend this blending meeting; may this time be a time of mutual encouragement, mutual shepherding, and mutual building up; may the Lord's testimony in Ottawa be strengthened, grow in life and grow in number.
- ✳ Seven years goals for Canada: Let us pray that in the next seven years there will be at least 23 more churches raised up, more than 2000 new saints to be added to the churches and at least 75 additional full-timers to be raised up by the Lord to serve the Him; pray for the raising up of new local churches in the province of Quebec; pray for a renewed culture of migration for the strengthening of His testimony throughout Canada.
- ✳ There is much unrest in Hong Kong. In the past five months and more, the repeated protest activities have become increasingly intensified, conflicts are heating up, and violence is escalating. The serving saints from the church in Hong Kong have experienced much negative impact on the campus work. These events are warnings to us all, since lawless activities are multiplying in many parts of the world. For His interest and the preparation of His bride, let us live soberly before Him. Let us pray for a peaceable environment to be restored in Hong Kong; our trust is fully in the sovereign One!
- ✳ Egypt: The shipment of 49,000 Arabic for-sale books was successfully received in the office in Cairo! So there will be a large selection – well over 40 titles – available for use at the Cairo book fair in January. Let's pray that these goods will reach the seeking ones in the Arabic speaking world and that the Lord will gain what He is after in this book fair.
- ✳ 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: Matt 4:1 – 5:48
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-study of Numbers (2), week 11

Announcements

- ✳ You are invited to join the wedding meeting of Hoang & Lily Lord's day Dec 8 between 4:30pm and 8pm at the meeting

hall. Please RSVP using the following link by Dec 1.
<https://forms.gle/FYH5mbvaEjHjaVss9>

- ✳ The monthly Ministry digest is now available for order and subscription. It is available in English, Chinese and Spanish and Korean. The purpose of this monthly digest is to help the saints get into the riches contained in the Collected Works of Witness Lee topic by topic. For more information go to ism.org. Please stop by the bookroom if you have questions or to place your standing order.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

24	Serving: French (Julie...)
Nov	Cleaning: Chinese East 3 and Chinese Central 1 (Huiqiang and Gary C. responsible)
1	Serving: English (Rose...)
Dec	Cleaning: French (Achille, Allan responsible)
8*	*District Meeting Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...) Cleaning: Chinese East 1 & 2 (Xie and John responsible)
15	Serving: Chinese South (陳世山, 劉學成...) Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)

Upcoming Events

- ✳ Nov. 28 – Dec 1, Houston, TX: **Thanksgiving Conference**
- ✳ Dec 23 – 28, Anaheim, CA: **Winter Training**
- ✳ Dec 24 – Jan 7: **Video Training**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

24	✳ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
November	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
LORD'S DAY	✳
25	✳
Monday	
26	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
Tuesday	
27	
Wednesday	✳
28	✳
Thursday	
29	✳ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)
Friday	
30	✳
Saturday	

1	☼	10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
December	☼	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
LORD'S DAY		

BAPTISM

Scripture Reading: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:20-21; Rom. 6:3-4; Col. 2:12

I. WHAT BAPTISM DOES FOR A PERSON (continued)

B. Baptism Being for the Forgiveness of Sins

On the day of Pentecost, the apostles told the Jews, "Repent and each one of you be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins" (Acts 2:38). The Protestants have difficulty accepting this verse. But this verse is the plain word of the apostles. "Be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." It is strange that the emphasis of the apostle's word is not upon faith but upon baptism.

Was the focus of Peter's message in Acts 2 on persuading men to believe? No. Does this mean that Peter's preaching was inferior to ours? The Bible tells us that the most crucial thing concerning salvation is faith. How could Peter have left this out? Perhaps he could ignore other doctrines in his message, but how could he not speak about faith? Nevertheless, he did not speak about it. Instead, he spoke about baptism, and the Holy Spirit pricked the heart of those who listened. What about us? We say that faith alone is enough. We think this is orthodox Christianity. Yet Peter said, "Be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ."

Peter spoke only of baptism because those who listened to him were the ones who had killed the Lord Jesus. Fifty days prior to that, they were crying, "Take this man away." These were the same people who were shouting and crying in Jerusalem. Now they needed to be separated from the rest of the Jews. This is why it was not necessary to speak to them about believing. They only needed to be baptized. That would be sufficient for them to get out. As soon as they were baptized, their relationship with that corporate body would be terminated. As soon as they were baptized, they would leave that corporate body and their sins would be washed away. They would no longer be part of that corporate body; they would be out of it. This is why Peter said, "Be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." The act of baptism brought them out. As soon as they came out, all problems were solved.

You need to realize that you were originally in the world and that you were an enemy of God. Since you have come out, you are saved. You need to confess before God and before men that you have come out and have nothing to do with that corporate body. You are through with it. "Be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." This was the main teaching on the day of Pentecost. At this point your mind needs to be directed by God's Word, not by Protestant theology.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #1, Baptism by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.