

## Please pray:

- ✳ Semi-annual training (video training): May the Lord continue to train and speak to us in this last stretch of the video training; may we continually be open to the Lord's dispensing; may He gain a proper response from the recovery and may He gain what He is after in this training.
- ✳ Senior coworkers in the Lord's recovery: that the Lord would keep them strong and healthy in spirit, soul and body as they take the lead in the Lord's move; for the health of many older brothers and that of their family members; that the Lord would continue to mature and perfect many saints to take the way of ministry to become genuine ministers of the new covenant for the building up and going on of the churches.
- ✳ GTCA (Jan 27 - Feb 9): (1) Pray for the three Canadian cities: Airdrie (Ab); London / Guelph. Pray that this event eventually leads to raising up of two new lampstands in Airdrie and in Guelph; (2) Specifically pray that the Lord would prepare many hungry people, both believers and unbelievers, to meet the GTCA serving ones, receive Bibles and literature, and open to the gospel; (3) Pray that we can find several outreach venues, such as college campuses, malls, markets and other public locations where people gather.
- ✳ New year 2020: May we learn how to count the Lord's blessings for the year 2019 and praise and thank Him for every situation that He has allowed us to experience this year; may we consecrate ourselves afresh for this new coming year; may we give Him the full ground and opening to accomplish what He has ordained for us in this upcoming year; may this new year be a year of cooperating with the Lord to build the church in truth, in life and in evangelization.
- ✳ 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: Gen 25:1 – 31:55
- ✳ HWMR: Living in the Reality of the Body of Christ by Keeping the Principles of the Body, week 4

## Announcements

- ✳ The 2020 HWMR subscription is now open. The cost will be \$70 for the annual subscription. Please sign up with your district serving ones and pay the \$70 subscription by December 29 so we can order the correct number of books.
- ✳ The upcoming Winter video training schedule for all languages will be as follows:
  - Tuesdays at 7:00pm  
Dec 24: message 1, Dec 31: message 7

- Wednesdays at 2pm and 3:30pm  
Dec 25: messages 2&3, Jan 1: messages 8&9
- Saturdays at 2pm and 3:30pm  
Dec 28: messages # 4&5 and Jan 4: messages 10&11
- Lord's days at 1:30pm  
Dec 29: messages 6, Jan 5: message 12

If you are registered, please submit your donation of \$130 in an envelope with your name into the offering box or the service office.

- ✳ 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 [lsm.org](http://lsm.org). Please stop by the bookroom if you have questions or to place your standing order.

## Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

<b>29 Dec</b>	Serving: French (Julie ...) Cleaning: Whole Church
<b>5 Jan</b>	Serving: English (Rose...) Cleaning: French (Achille, Allan responsible)
<b>12*</b>	*District Meeting Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...) Cleaning: Chinese East 1 and 2 (Xie and John responsible)
<b>22</b>	Serving: Chinese South (陳世山、劉學成...) Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng, Shishan responsible)

## Upcoming Events

- ✳ Dec 24 – Jan 7: **Video Training**
- ✳ January 12: Lord's day meeting in districts
- ✳ February 9: Lord's day meeting in districts
- ✳ Feb. 14-16, Anaheim, CA: **International Chinese-speaking Conference**
- ✳ Feb 21 – 23, Toronto, ON: **College and Working Saints Conferences**
- ✳ March 8: Lord's day meeting in districts  
*The church website lists more events*

## This Week's Activities

<b>29 December</b>	✳ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
	✳ 1:30pm: Video Training, message 6
<b>30 Monday</b>	✳

<b>31</b>	✳ 7pm: Video Training, message 7
<b>Tuesday</b>	
<b>1</b>	✳ 2pm: Video Training, message 8
<b>January</b>	✳ 3:30pm: Video Training, message 9
<b>Wednesday</b>	
<b>2</b>	✳
<b>Thursday</b>	
<b>3</b>	✳ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)
<b>Friday</b>	
<b>4</b>	✳ 2pm: Video Training, message 10
<b>Saturday</b>	✳ 3:30pm: Video Training, message 11
<b>5</b>	✳ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
<b>January</b>	✳ 12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✳ 1:30pm: Video Training, message 12

## TERMINATING THE PAST

Today we come to the question of how a person deals with his past after believing in the Lord. After believing in the Lord, a person still carries many things of the past with him. How should he terminate these things?

### I. THE TEACHING OF THE BIBLE BEING CONCERNED WITH WHAT ONE DOES AFTER SALVATION

The entire Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament, but especially the New Testament, shows that God does not pay attention to what a person does before he believes in the Lord. Try to find a verse from Matthew 1 to Revelation 22 on how believers should terminate their past, and you will see how hard it is to find something on this subject. Even the Epistles, which touch on our wrongdoings in the past, mainly tell us what we should do hereafter, not what we should do about our past. The books of Ephesians, Colossians, and 1 Thessalonians all cover something about our past, but they do not tell us how we should terminate our past; they only tell us how we should go on.

You may recall that someone asked John the Baptist, "What then shall we do?" John answered, "He who has two tunics, let him share with the one who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise." He did not talk about their past but about their future. Some tax collectors came to John and asked what they should do. John answered, "Exact nothing more than what you have been ordered to." Some soldiers also asked, "What shall we do?" John replied, "Extort nothing from anyone by force, nor take anything by false accusation, and be content with your wages" (Luke 3:10-14). This shows us that John, who preached repentance, emphasized the things that we should do hereafter, not the things of the past.

Let us also consider Paul's Epistles. He always emphasized what we should do in the future, not what we should do regarding the past, because everything of the past has been covered under the precious blood. If we err a little in this matter, we will corrupt the gospel; we will corrupt the way of the Lord, the way of repentance, and the way of restitution. We must deal with this subject carefully.

"Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be led astray; neither fornicators nor idolaters nor adulterers nor effeminate nor homosexuals nor thieves nor the covetous, not drunkards, not revilers, not the rapacious will inherit the kingdom of God. And these things were some of you" (1 Cor. 6:9-11a). Here Paul speaks of the believers' past conduct, but he does not say how they should deal with it. "But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God" (1 Cor. 6:11b). The emphasis here is not on dealing with the past, because we have a Savior who has already dealt with all our past. Today the emphasis is on what we should do hereafter. A saved person is already washed, sanctified, and justified.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #2, Terminating the Past by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.