

## Please pray:

- ✳ GTCA: 1) Pray for the three Canadian cities: Airdrie (AB); London / Guelph (Jan 25 - Feb 9). 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. 4) Pray that the Lord would thrust out 300 saints to migrate to the 13 cities of GTCA.
- ✳ 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 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.
- ✳ Distribution of Bibles at the Winter Youth Olympic games in Switzerland (11-12 January): Approximately 1900 young people from 70 different countries will participate in the Winter Youth Olympic games in Switzerland from January 9-22. The churches in Switzerland will distribute Bibles in three languages during this time. Please pray: for Bibles to be received by many seeking young people; for the Lord to use this event to open up the whole country for the gospel; for many local saints and saints from nearby countries to register and come to help distribute Bibles; for a sweet coordination among the churches, for good weather, and for the Lord's rich blessing.
- ✳ Israel: 1) Please pray for sister T, who received a Recovery Version 3 years ago as a college student in Germany. She met the Lord's recovery in Israel during her Master's study and recently spent the weekend with us in Tel Aviv. She is a loving seeker of the Lord and has now received her first inoculation against different teachings. Pray for her acceptance as a PhD student in Israel, so that she could have more opportunities to enjoy the sweet church life with us. 2) Pray for the Arabic hymns project, which includes the recording and translating of hymns. A good number of hymns have already been translated into Arabic and are very useful in the meetings, but many more are yet needed to facilitate the Arabic-speaking saints' function in the meetings and their daily enjoyment of the Lord.
- ✳ 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 32:1 – 41:13
- ✳ HWMR: The Development of the Kingdom of God in the Christian Life and the Church Life, week 1

## Announcements

- ✳ Winter college retreat at Ste Adele is from Jan 17 to 19, 2020. Please register by Jan 12. (space is limited).
- ✳ Prayer for the two week GTCA trip to London and Guelph Jan 25 to Feb 9, 2020. Fellowship if you would like to join.
- ✳ All Canada FTTA Short term training and blending trip is from May 1 to 9, 2020. Registration deadline is March 1.
- ✳ 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 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](http://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

12* Jan	*District Meeting Serving: Chinese South (陳世山, 劉學成...) Cleaning: French (Achille, Allan responsible)
19	Serving: Chinese Central (賈筱榮...) Cleaning: Chinese North and Chinese Central 1 (Jun, Gary Chen responsible)
26	Serving: French (Julie ...) Cleaning: Chinese East 1 and Chinese East 2 (Xie & John responsible)
2 Feb	Serving: English (Rose...) Cleaning: English Central, Chinese Central 3 and College (Dennis, Qiang & Jonathan responsible)

## Upcoming Events

- ✳ 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

12	✳	10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
January LORD'S DAY	✳	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
13	✳	
Monday		
14	✳	7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts
Tuesday		
15	✳	
Wednesday		
16	✳	
Thursday		
17	✳	6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese)
Friday		
18	✳	
Saturday		
19	✳	10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
January LORD'S DAY	✳	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast

## TERMINATING THE PAST

### II. NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES OF DEALING WITH THE PAST

What then should we do with the things of our past? In reading the New Testament, I have spent much time to find out how one should terminate his past after believing in the Lord. I found only a few passages where the subject is mentioned briefly. However, they are not teachings but examples.

#### A. Matters Related to Idols Needing to Be Dealt with Thoroughly

First Thessalonians 1:9 says, "You turned to God from the idols." When a person believes in the Lord, he must deal with all idols. Please remember that we are the temple of the Holy Spirit. What agreement does the temple of God have with idols? Even the apostle John, in addressing the believers, said, "Little children, guard yourselves from idols" (1 John 5:21). Hence, this is not as simple a matter as many may think.

One thing we must take note of is that God forbids man to make an image of anything. We cannot consider a man-made object to be living. The moment we have such a thought, the object becomes an idol to us. Of course, idols are nothing, but if we consider them to be living, we fall into error. This is why God forbids the worship of such things. Even an inclination in the heart towards them is forbidden. One of the Ten Commandments forbids the making of idols (Deut. 5:8).

Deuteronomy 12:30 says, "Be careful...lest you seek after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods?" This shows us that we should not even inquire how the Gentiles worship their gods. Some who are curious like to study how the nations worship and serve their gods. But God forbids us to inquire about such matters. If we inquire about them, the next thing we will do is worship their gods. Hence, we are forbidden from being curious.

Second Corinthians 6:16 says, "What agreement does the temple of God have with idols?" The meaning here is quite obvious. Christians should not visit temples. There are exceptions of course, such as when a person is stranded on a deserted mountain and cannot find a place for shelter at night and there is only a temple for lodging. But generally speaking, believers should not visit any temple. This is because 2 Corinthians 6:16 says clearly that we are the temple of the living God. It also says that there is no agreement between idols and the temple of the living God. Unless one is pressed by special occasion or circumstance, it is inadvisable to go near or purposely tour any temple. John says, "Little children, guard yourselves from idols." Guarding ourselves from idols means staying away from them.

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>.