

Please pray:

- ✳ GTCA – London: 1. Pray that through this second GTCA, London will experience an exceedingly rich infusion of Christ through the supply of the Body. 2. Pray that the saints in London will be sweetly blended with the visiting GTCA team and will see, like never before the value of being in harmony with the churches and with the Lord's move in north America.
- ✳ GTCA – Aylmer/Dresden: 1. Pray for the Team's going to Aylmer and Dresden (Jan.28) for outreach to those communities and for blending with the saints there. 2. Please pray for these two towns that the Lord would open the doors to many meaningful contacts with seeking Christians and with sons of peace waiting to hear and receive the glorious gospel. 3. Pray that the Southwest saints would be supplied, strengthened and encouraged by the visiting GTCA team and that the Lord would have a solid advance for His move in the southwest.
- ✳ GTCA – Guelph: 1. Pray that those chosen and called by God would make it to the venues on the UoG campus and the Senior Centre. 2. Pray that when they contact the team members they would be brought into the light and be fully supplied with life. 3. Pray that many unbelievers would repent, believe and be baptized, while many Christians would be brought into the unsearchable riches of Christ. 4. Pray that the GTCA week in Guelph will uplift and encourage the saints there to stand for the ground of the church and cooperate with the Lord to raise up a lampstand in that city.
- ✳ Eastern Canada College/Working saints conference (Feb 21 - 23): Pray for all the fellowship and preparation for this conference; may the Lord release the saints to attend this conference; may the Lord speak to the saints a timely word for the advancement of His work in Eastern Canada.
- ✳ 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 41:14 – 47:31
- ✳ HWMR: The Development of the Kingdom of God in the Christian Life and the Church Life, week 3

Announcements

- ✳ There will be the Parents Training Video message 3 on Lord's Day, Feb 2 at the meeting hall at 1:30pm. Translation from Chinese will be provided in English and French.
- ✳ 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 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

26 Jan	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)
9*	*District Meeting Serving: Chinese East (陳劉淑真...) Cleaning: Chinese South (Xuecheng & Shishan responsible)
16	Serving: Chinese South (陳世山、劉學成...) Cleaning: Whole Church

Upcoming Events

- ✳ February 2: Parents Training Video Message 3
- ✳ 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

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

1	✿	
February		
Saturday		
2	✿	10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
February	✿	12:15pm - 1:30pm: Love Feast
LORD'S DAY	✿	1:30pm: Parents Training Video Message 3

TERMINATING THE PAST

II. NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES OF DEALING WITH THE PAST (continued)

B. Improper Objects Needing to Be Terminated

"And a considerable number of those who practiced magic brought their books together and burned them before all; and they counted up the price of them and found it to be fifty thousand pieces of silver" (Acts 19:19). This is another matter which new believers should deal with and terminate.

This is not a command or a teaching; it is the result of the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit moved in such a strong way that the Ephesians brought out all the improper books in their possession. Here it says the price was "fifty thousand pieces of silver," which is a considerable sum. They did not sell their books and give the money to the church. Instead, the books were burned. If Judas had been present, he certainly would not have allowed this. This was much more than thirty pieces of silver which could have been given to the poor. But the Lord was pleased to have them burned.

Apart from the kind of objects mentioned above, there are many other questionable objects that need to be dealt with. Some of them are clearly related to sins. Gambling instruments and improper books and pictures are some examples. These must be burned or destroyed. There may be many luxury items and objects of indulgence which cannot be burned. However, they still need to be removed. Burning, however, is the general principle in dealing with these things.

After a person believes in the Lord, he should go home and check through his personal belongings. In an unbeliever's home, there is always something related to sin. He may have things which do not befit the saints. Things related to sin must be burned or destroyed; they cannot be sold. Luxury items should be converted and altered if possible. If they cannot be altered, we must sell them.

The garments of the lepers in Leviticus 13 and 14 are a good illustration. Garments which have become leprous and cannot be washed must be burned. However, those which can

be washed should be washed for reuse. If the style of our clothes is unbecoming, we can alter them. Some garments may be too short, and we can lengthen them; others are odd-looking, and we can make them look more inconspicuous. Some objects cannot be salvaged; they have the element of sin in them, in which case we have to burn them. Those that can be sold should be sold, and the money should be given to the poor.

There should be a termination of improper things. If every new believer will go through all his belongings thoroughly, he will have a very good start. Superstitious objects have to be burned. Others can be altered or sold after being altered. Once we learn this lesson, we will not forget it for the rest of our lives. We must realize that being a Christian is a very practical matter; it is not just a matter of going to "church" and listening to some sermons.

C. Repaying Debts

"And Zaccheus stood and said to the Lord, Behold, the half of my possessions, Lord, I give to the poor, and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore four times as much" (Luke 19:8). Zaccheus did not do this as a result of doctrinal teaching; he did this as a result of the working of the Holy Spirit. If it had been the result of doctrinal teaching, only the exact amount would have been repaid, no more and no less. But since it was the working of the Holy Spirit, the amount could vary; it could be a little more or a little less. Zaccheus said, "If I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore four times as much." Actually, a double compensation would have been more than adequate. The principle in the book of Leviticus is to add one-fifth to the original amount. For one thousand dollars, you would have to repay one thousand two hundred dollars. But if one is touched, he can pay as much as the Lord's Spirit directs him to pay. He can be moved to repay four times or ten times as much. What is spoken of here is only a principle. In reading the Bible, we must be clear that what is covered is not a mere teaching. It is the result of the leading of the Holy Spirit when He operates in man.

Suppose that before you became a believer, you had extorted or defrauded others, stolen from them, or obtained things by improper means. Now that the Lord is working within, you have to deal with these things in a proper manner. This has nothing to do with the forgiveness you received from the Lord, but it is very much related to your testimony.

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>.