

Please pray:

- ✿ Although God has a will for everything, He does not act independently; rather, He wants the human will on earth to echo His will before He does anything. May we have a daily life of abiding in the Lord and of His word abiding in us so that His desire could become our desire and we will pray according to this desire; may the Lord gain our prayer life especially in this time; may we rise up as the church to cooperate with the Lord to exercise the ministry of prayer by loosing and binding what has already been loosed and bound in the heavens.
- ✿ World epidemic situation: Pray that the COVID-19 pandemic will be fully under the ruling of the throne in heaven; that the Lord will protect all His interests, including the churches and the saints; that the speaking of the ministry will continue in the conferences and trainings; that the saints will continue to meet and minister Christ to build up the Body; and that the white horse of the gospel will ride on victoriously.
- ✿ Shepherding of the saints during this time: Let us pray that in these times, more saints will pick up the burden to contact the weak and dormant members and reconnect them to the Body. We should give ourselves to set our mind on things which are above (Col. 3:2), and to join ourselves to the Lord in His heavenly ministry; He is interceding as our High Priest, He is ministering as the heavenly Minister, and He is executing God's administration. May the saints in all the age groups be taking care of during this time.
- ✿ Prayer for the persecuted, oppressed, & suffering: For the God of all grace to comfort, perfect, and establish the brothers and sisters throughout the world, especially those who are persecuted, oppressed, and suffering deprivation and trials (1 Pet. 4:12-14; 5:9-10).
- ✿ Lord's move in Asia - Bhutan: Pray for the saints to stand firm for the Lord, grow in life and gain more people; Azerbaijan: Pray for proper channels for the distribution of the ministry books.
- ✿ 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: Exo 23:1 – 27:21
- ✿ HWMR: The Experience of Christ, week 5

Announcements

- ✿ All meetings continue to take place online/via conference calls. These include the following: **Lord's Table Meeting** - Will be conducted online or via conference calls by the following districts/groups:

1. English West - Martin P. host
2. English Central/NDG - Dennis L. host
3. French - Allan Y. host

4. Chinese East 1, 2 & 3 & Central 1 & 3 - Aaron C./John Y. host
 5. Chinese South - William L./John C. host
 6. Chinese West & North - John Ya. Host
 7. Prayer meeting - By districts/groups
 8. Group meetings - By districts/groups
- ✿ The co-workers in the Lord's recovery feel that now is the time to call on the saints in every place to pray in one accord as the one new man for the Lord's interests on the earth. To facilitate this burden, there is a website to:
 - Sign up to receive prayer burdens and reminders via email
 - Read an introductory letter from the co-workers
 - Select 15-minute daily time slots to pray
 - Pray over 21 suggested points for the saints' intercession
 - Confirm participation in this prayer ministry
 Please contact the serving brothers to obtain the website link.
 - ✿ To help facilitate the **daily prayer times**, the following groups have been set up. Please contact the saints in the group to join them at those times. If you already have a daily prayer time set up, feel free to continue.
 - 7:00am Lito, Liza, Anusha: Lito hosts
 - 11:00am Laura, Anusha: Laura hosts
 - 12:00pm Dennis, Brian: Dennis hosts
 - 10:00pm Ivan, Johnathan, Dennis, Taras: Dennis hosts
 - ✿ **The Lord's Day Children's Meeting** will be cancelled to simplify the joining of online meetings for the parents. However, we do not abandon the assembling of the children! In these times, we would like to encourage the children and the parents to continue to see each other and be encouraged by one another in the midst of these difficult times. A separate email will be sent out next week with the details to join the call.

Lord's Day Lunch Serving and Cleaning Schedule

5	Serving: Cancelled
April	Cleaning: Cancelled Serving: Cancelled Cleaning: Cancelled
12	Serving: Cancelled
April	Cleaning: Cancelled Serving: Cancelled Cleaning: Cancelled
19	Serving: Cancelled Cleaning: Cancelled Serving: Cancelled Cleaning: Cancelled
26	Serving: Cancelled Cleaning: Cancelled

Upcoming Events

- ✿ May 22-25, Atlanta, GA: **Memorial Day conference**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

5 April LORD'S DAY	✿ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via conference calls
6 Monday	✿
7 Tuesday	✿ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts via conference calls
8 Wednesday	✿
9 Thursday	✿
10 Friday	✿ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese) via conference calls
11 Saturday	✿ 1-1:30pm: Childrens' meeting by conference calls
12 April LORD'S DAY	✿ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via conference calls

SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD

Scripture Reading: Exo. 10:8-11, 21-26; 12:6-11, 37-42; 2 Cor. 6:17

II. AREAS THAT REQUIRE SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD (continued)

C. Anything That Quenches Our Spiritual Life

It is difficult for us to point out the world item by item; the list is endless. But we should grasp one basic principle: everything that quenches one's spiritual life in the Lord is the world. The world is anything that kills one's zeal for prayer to God. The world is anything that takes away one's interest in God's Word. The world is anything that frustrates one from testifying before men. The world is anything that hinders one from coming to the Lord, anything that results in confession. The world is an atmosphere that chokes and dries a person up. It is anything that discourages a man's heart from loving and yearning for the Lord. Here we see a broad principle—anything that quenches our spiritual condition before the Lord is the world. We must reject all of it.

Some people say, "This thing is not sinful at all. Can you say that it is worldly?" Many things appear to be very good to our eyes, but they quench the fire within us after we touch them once or twice. Our conscience becomes weak before God. After we become involved with these things, our Bible reading becomes tasteless. We may have the time, but we no longer have the heart for reading. After we participate in such things, we feel empty inside and have nothing to testify before men. Such things may not be a matter of sin. Our question is whether or not these things are quenching our spiritual life. Everything that quenches our spiritual life is the world and must be rejected totally before the Lord.

D. Everything That Fails to Give Others the Impression That We Are Christians

We need to mention one more thing—our relationship with other people. Any kind of social function, communication, or activity that causes us to hide our lamp under the bushel is the world. Many social friendships, functions, and contacts with worldly people force us to put our lamp under the bushel; there is no way under those circumstances for us to stand up to declare that we are Christians. When others engage in such conversation, you have to pretend to be courteous. You have to listen to them and laugh with them. You feel quenched within, but you have to put on a smiling face. Inwardly you feel that this is the world, yet outwardly you have to go along with it. Inwardly you know this is sin, yet outwardly you cannot say that it is wrong. You should not remain in this kind of social environment. Many of God's children are gradually sucked into the world through indiscriminate social activities and contacts.

All new believers must know where they stand from the very beginning, and they must make a choice. We are not trying purposely to be antisocial. We are not John the Baptist who did not eat or drink. We follow our Lord who ate and drank. But when we contact people, we must maintain our stand. No one should be able to insult our Christian stand. They should respect our stand. When I take a stand as a Christian, I must maintain my stand even if others criticize me.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #3, Separation from the World by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.