

Please pray:

- ✿ Summer school of truth (Aug 2-7) – (1) Pray for the 100 Young People who signed up for the SSOT. (2) Pray that they will give themselves fully to this time to pursue the Lord and to blend with other Young People in eastern Canada. (3) Bless all five days of the SSOT; may the shared messages, their review, the workshops and special fellowship topics, together with the activity sessions and blending time with the Vancouver SSOT fill the YP with much Christ, and gain them for God's purpose and His recovery. (4) Pray for the 40 serving ones; pray that all week-long they would take grace in everything they do, especially in their contact with the YP; pray they would be in sweet one accord with their fellow serving ones.
- ✿ Summer time: Pray that this summer will be redeemed and sanctified; that the young people and the college students will take this time to read the Word, get into the ministry, and spend much time with the Lord; that the Lord will use this summer to grow more in them and gain more of them.
- ✿ FTTA upcoming term: As COVID-19 is still spreading, may we all pray concerning the upcoming FTTA term, which is scheduled to begin in the latter part of August; let us petition the Lord that a suitable environment and venues can be made available for all of the trainees to continue training under the ministry of the age; let's pray that Satan be bound, his tactics be annulled, and that there will be no disruption of this crucial training of our younger generation.
- ✿ Update and prayer request for the gospel meetings held by the church in Toronto: Praise the Lord that so many new ones have come in contact with us through the online gospel meetings held since May. These same ones have also been invited to join a new webinar series entitled Nine Cases: How Christ as life meets man's every need, to open up the Gospel of John in a fresh way. Pray that through this webinar series, and also by the nourishing and cherishing of the saints in the twos and threes, they can be brought home into the pasture.
- ✿ Update and prayer request for the second Rhema virtual seminar that was held on July 25 for Rhema readers in Belgium, France, and Switzerland: Over 20 new ones and about 30 shepherd-saints joined the seminar and participated in the small group discussions. While there were some technical difficulties with sound, the saints and the new ones gave wonderful reports of their enjoyment during the group times. Please pray for the follow-up, that the Lord may connect the saints with these new ones in a solid way for ongoing shepherding.
- ✿ 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: Luke 5:27 – 7:50
- ✿ HWMR: The One New Man Fulfilling God's Purpose in Creating Man, week 4

Announcements

- ✿ All church 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 Central/NDG/West - Dennis L. host
 2. French - Allan Y. host
 3. Chinese East 1, 2 & 3 & Central 1 & 3 - Aaron C./John Y. host
 4. Chinese South - William L./John C. host
 5. Chinese West & North - John Ya. Host**Prayer meeting** - By districts/groups
Group meetings - By districts/groups
- ✿ **The Children's Meeting** will be held via Zoom Meeting on **Saturday's** at **1:00PM** for the **Toddlers to Group 2** children and at **2:00PM** for the **Group 3 and Group 4** children.

Upcoming Events

- ✿ Aug 2-7, Online: **Eastern Canada Summer School of Truth**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

2 August LORD'S DAY	✿ 10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via Zoom Meeting
3 Monday	✿
4 Tuesday	✿ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts via conference calls
5 Wednesday	✿
6 Thursday	✿
7 Friday	✿ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese) via Zoom
8 Saturday	✿ 1-1:30pm: Toddlers to Group 2 meeting via Zoom Meeting ✿ 2:00pm: Children Group 3 and 4 via Zoom Meeting

9	☀	10am- 12pm Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via Zoom Meeting
August		
LORD'S DAY		

Leading Men to Christ

Scripture Reading: Rom. 1:16; 10:14; 1 Tim. 2:1, 4; Mark 16:15

C. The Greatest Obstacle to Prayer Being Sin

Prayer is a test; it exposes your spiritual condition before the Lord. If your spiritual condition is proper and normal, others will be saved one by one. As you intercede continuously before the Lord, you may find one or two persons saved after a few days or half a month. After a while, another three or five may be saved. People should be saved regularly. If your prayers are not answered for a long time, it must mean that you are sick before the Lord. You should go to the Lord for light and find out where your problem lies.

The greatest obstacle to prayer is sin. We must learn to live a holy life before the Lord. We must reject all known sins. The moment we take sin lightly or tolerate it, our prayers will be hindered.

Sin has both an objective aspect and a subjective aspect. The objective aspect has to do with God, while the subjective aspect has to do with us. On the objective side, sin obstructs God's grace and promises. Isaiah 59:1-2 says, "Behold, Jehovah's hand is not so short that it cannot save;/Nor is His ear so heavy that it cannot hear./But your iniquities have become a separation/Between you and your God,/And your sins have hidden His face/From you so that He does not hear." Psalm 66:18 says, "If I regard iniquity in my heart,/The Lord will not hear." If a person does not take care of the problem of sin properly, he will find hindrance to his prayer. Unconfessed sins, sins which are never dealt with by the blood, are a big obstacle before God; they are the cause of unanswered prayer. This is on the objective side.

On the subjective side, sin damages man's conscience. When a person sins, no matter what he says to himself, how much he reads the Bible, how many promises there are in the Word, how much grace God has, and how much He accepts him, his conscience will be weakened and bound. First Timothy 1:19 says, "Holding faith and a good conscience, concerning which some, thrusting these away, have become shipwrecked regarding the faith." A ship may be old or small, but it cannot leak. Similarly, our conscience must not have a leak. As soon as the conscience is not at peace, many prayers cannot be uttered. Thus, there are obstacles not only before God but even within man himself. The relationship between faith and conscience is just like that between a ship and its cargo. Faith is like the cargo, and the conscience is like a ship. When the ship has a leak, the cargo will be damaged.

When the conscience is strong, faith will be strong. But when there is a leak in the conscience, faith will be gone. If our heart blames us, God is greater than our heart and knows all things (1 John 3:20).

If you want to be a man of prayer, you must deal with sin thoroughly. You lived in sin for a long time in the past. If you are not careful with it now, you will not be totally free from it. You have to deal with sin seriously; you have to come before God to confess every sin, putting every sin under the blood, refusing it, and coming out from it. Then your conscience will be recovered. As soon as the blood cleanses, the conscience is recovered. There will be no condemnation, and spontaneously you will see God's face. Never give in to sin. This will weaken you before the Lord. If you are weak before the Lord, you will not be able to intercede for others. As long as sin remains, you will not be able to utter anything in your prayer. Sin is the number one problem. You should pay attention to it all the time, even daily. If one deals with sin properly before the Lord, he will be able to offer proper prayers, and others will be brought to the Lord through him.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #5, Leading Men to Christ by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.