

## Please pray:

- ✳ Prayer for the saints' personal fellowship with the Lord to be deepened: Pray that the saints would seek the Lord that their fellowship with Him would be deepened so that the Lord would have a way to mingle with them in a deep and thorough way (Isa. 37:31; Hosea 14:5; Matt. 13:3, 5-6, 20-21 and note 51).
- ✳ French speaking gospel meeting (Mar 12) at 7:30 p.m.: May the Lord head up all the preparation; may the Lord prepare the hearts of those whom He has chosen to be at the gospel meeting; may these new ones be ready to receive the Lord's speaking in this time; may the Lord gain remaining fruit from this gospel meeting.
- ✳ Prayer burdens related to the Middle East: Pray for the follow-up of the more than 60 Arabic-speaking saints and new ones who attended the virtual conference a week ago; pray for more saints to participate in an effort to form reading groups among the Arabic-speaking saints and new ones to read the ministry in Arabic every week; pray for the Lord to develop the seekers in the city of El Minya 3 hours south of Cairo – that they could become the nucleus of the church life there; pray for a revival of the work among the children, including outreach to children of the friends, relatives and neighbors of the saints.
- ✳ May 2021 be a year where we gain one remaining fruit each, being built up and vitalised in twos and threes with our vital group and have at least three people under our care by shepherding, cherishing and nourishing. May this year be a year where the church gains the increase in life and in numbers.
- ✳ 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: 1 Sam 1:1 – 11:15
- ✳ HWMR: The Will of God, week 6

## Announcements

- ✳ There will be a whole church parents fellowship on February 21 at 3:00PM on Zoom. This will be for parents of children and young people.
- ✳ 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

## Upcoming Events

- ✳ April 16-18, 2021, Online: **International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones**

*The church website lists more events*

## This Week's Activities

<b>21</b>	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via Zoom Meeting
<b>February</b>	✳ 11am-11:45am: Grade 3-6 children (Seniors) via Zoom
<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✳ 1:30pm-2:15pm: Grade 2 children and down (Juniors) via Zoom
	✳ 3pm, online: <b>Whole Church Parents Fellowship</b>
<b>22</b>	✳
<b>Monday</b>	
<b>23</b>	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts via conference calls
<b>Tuesday</b>	
<b>24</b>	✳
<b>Wednesday</b>	
<b>25</b>	✳
<b>Thursday</b>	
<b>26</b>	✳ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese) via Zoom
<b>Friday</b>	
<b>27</b>	✳
<b>Saturday</b>	
<b>28</b>	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via Zoom Meeting
<b>February</b>	✳ 11am-11:45am: Grade 3-6 children (Seniors) via Zoom
<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	✳ 1:30pm-2:15pm: Grade 2 children and down (Juniors) via Zoom

## CONFESSION WITH THE MOUTH

Scripture Reading: Rom. 10:10; Prov. 29:25; Matt. 10:32-33

## II. COMMON MISTAKES (continued)

## C. Fear of Men

Some people dare not confess because they are afraid of men. Many people can honestly say that they have no other reservation in their heart; they are willing to stand up and confess, but when they see the faces of others, they become afraid. When they look at their parents' faces or their friends' faces, they feel too shy to speak up. This is where many people are stumbled; they are afraid of men and do not have any boldness to open their mouth. Some people are naturally timid; they are timid not only in confessing the Lord but also in other things. If you want them to tell others about their faith, you are asking them for their life. They simply dare not open their mouth.

However, this kind of person needs to hear what God has to say. Proverbs 29:25 says, "The fear of man bringeth a snare." If you are afraid when you see someone, you will fall into a "snare." As soon as you become afraid, you fall into a snare. Your fear becomes your snare. Whenever your heart is afraid of men, you are creating a snare for yourself. Once you are afraid, you fall into a snare. This snare is created by your own fear. Actually, the person you fear may be very willing to listen to you. Even if he is not inclined to listen, he may not be as fearsome as you think.

There is a story about two persons who were colleagues. One was a believer and the other was not. The one who believed was very timid; the one who did not believe was also very timid. The timid believer did not dare tell his colleague that he was saved. The one who did not believe was puzzled by the great changes that were happening to his colleague. His colleague used to have a quick temper but had now changed. He dared not ask his colleague the reason. The two of them shared a table and sat face-to-face every day. One was too timid to speak, and the other was too timid to ask. Every day they just looked at each other. One was afraid to speak, and the other was afraid to ask. One day the believer could not hold back any longer. After praying about it, he went to the other one and shook his hand tightly and said, "I am a very timid person. For at least three months I have been struggling to tell you something. Now I am going to tell you. I have believed in Jesus." After saying these words, his face turned pale. The other one said, "I too have waited for three months. I wanted to ask why you have become so different, but I was too afraid to ask." The believer mustered enough courage to open his mouth. From that time on, the opportunity opened up, and he was able to bring his friend to the Lord.

Those who are fearful of men will fall into a snare. Please remember that while you are afraid of others, others may be afraid of you too. We must never have a fear of men. We who follow God should not fear men. If you have a fear of men, you cannot be a

good Christian and you cannot serve God. A Christian must be bold to speak to his relatives and friends. He must be bold to confess the Lord both in private and in public. We must take this way from the beginning.

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Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #6, If Anyone Sins by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.