

Please pray:

- ✳ Beseeching.org: Pray that the saints would be saturated with the truth to the extent that they can share it with others spontaneously—preaching the gospel to them, presenting the truth to them, and ministering life to them in order to help them experience the Lord (Col. 1:27b-29; 1 Tim. 4:6, 15-16; 2 Tim. 2:2). 2)
- ✳ Special fellowship for parents and serving ones: Praise the Lord for the special fellowship that we had for parents and serving ones. May we take heed to the words that have been spoken during this time; may we learn and encourage one another to become patterns in our daily lives so that our children could have a proper model and thus be brought to the Lord; may our next generation be preserved from this present evil age by been attached to the church life; may we have a burden to care for them so that they may be preserved as remaining fruit for the increase of the church.
- ✳ Semi-annual training (July): May the Lord grant us a heart to be trained and be poor in spirit to receive a fresh dispensation; may the saints be released inwardly and outwardly to attend this training; may the Lord speak to His churches what is on His heart.
- ✳ Israel: We thank the Lord that in the present situation, none of the saints have been injured or have suffered loss. The saints are restricting themselves to the minimum movement required to continue daily life, avoiding non-essential travel or going out. We are even more thankful to the Lord that we were still able to have our annual international conference in Israel by Zoom, during which we were joined by over two hundred saints from abroad. We are also thankful to the Lord that some of the new ones in Israel that have recently received a Recovery Version joined the conference as well. We all enjoyed the messages on the intrinsic and organic building up of the church as the Body of Christ. 1) For the **Lord's purpose** to be carried out regarding Israel. 2) For the **intrinsic growth** of the church in Israel as part of the Body of Christ for its **organic increase**. 3) For the Lord to have **mercy on all the people** caught up in this situation, to **preserve their lives**, and to cause them to **seek Him and find Him** as the **unique solution** to all their problems.
- ✳ Purchase of property in Malaga, Spain: The current need to complete the purchase of the property in Malaga is 211,000 euros. The closing date is August 30, 2021. Pray that the Lord will meet this financial need in the Body.
- ✳ 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: Acts 8:1-10:33

- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-study of Jeremiah and Lamentations, week 5

Announcements

- ✳ There will be a special fellowship on Zoom for the parents and serving ones of children, young people, and college students **May 22 from 1:30-2:30PM** and **May 23 from 2:30-3:30PM**. Zoom details will be sent out shortly
 - ✳ The summer 2021 semiannual training will be held from July 5 to 10. Due to the current situation with COVID-19, only the video training will be available. The registration donation is \$155. Please register with your district brothers and pay them the fee by June 1st.
 - ✳ 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

- ✳ May 28-31, 2021: **2021 International Memorial Day Conference**
- ✳ July 5-10, 2021: **The Summer Semiannual Video Training**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

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| 23 May LORD'S DAY | ✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via Zoom Meeting |
| | ✳ 11am-11:45am: Grade 3-6 children (Seniors) via Zoom |
| | ✳ 1:30pm-2:15pm: Grade 2 children and down (Juniors) via Zoom |
| | ✳ 2:30-3:30pm: Special Fellowship for the Parents and Serving Ones |
| 24 Monday | ✳ |
| 25 Tuesday | ✳ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts via conference calls |
| 26 Wednesday | ✳ |

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| 27 | ✳ | |
| Thursday | | |
| 28 | ✳ | 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese) via Zoom |
| Friday | | |
| 29 | ✳ | |
| Saturday | | |
| 30 | ✳ | 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings via Zoom Meeting |
| May | | |
| LORD'S DAY | ✳ | 11am-11:45am: Grade 3-6 children (Seniors) via Zoom |
| | ✳ | 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

B. Being Afraid of Failing to Persevere to the End

Some people think, "If I confess with my mouth and then fail to persevere in my Christian conviction, will this not become a joke to others? Suppose I can no longer make it as a Christian after three or five years, what should I do then? It is better for me not to say anything now. Let me wait for several years, until I find out whether or not I can make it." We can tell such ones that if they do not confess because they are afraid of stumbling or failing, they will surely fail. They have already opened a back door and are trying to avoid the front door. They have already made preparations to back out of their own confession. They want to wait to have assurance before they confess. We are sure that such ones will fail. It is better to stand up and say, "I am for the Lord." If you close the back door first, it will become much harder for you to back out or backslide later. Consequently, you will have a much better chance of going forward than of sliding backward. In fact, this is the only possible way for you to go forward.

If you want to wait until you have good behavior before you confess, your mouth will never open up. You will always be dumb. Even after you have good conduct, you will still be dumb. If you do not open your mouth at the beginning, it will be much harder to open your mouth later. If you open your mouth, the chance of having good conduct will be greater. If you want to wait until your behavior is good before you confess, you will lose both your chance of opening your mouth as well as your chance of having good behavior; both will be lost, and you will fail in both.

One assuring thought is that God is not only the God who redeems us but also the God who preserves us. What should we liken redemption to? Redemption is like buying something. What then is preservation? Preservation is like putting the purchased

object in one's own hand. How many people in this world buy things with the view of throwing them away? When we buy a watch, we want to use it for five or ten years; no one buys a watch with the view of throwing it away. God is saving people everywhere. He does not save them and then throw them away. He wants to preserve what He has saved. Since God has saved us, He will preserve us. Since God has redeemed us, He will preserve us until that day. God loves us so much that He was willing to forsake His Son to redeem us. If He had no intention of preserving us, He would not have paid such a great price. It is God's purpose as well as His plan to preserve us. Do not be afraid to stand up and say, "I believe in the Lord." You may say, "What happens if I fail in a few days?" Do not worry about this; God will be responsible for it. It is better for you to stand up and say, "I belong to God." Commit yourself to God. God knows that you need support, comfort, and protection. We have the assurance to say that God preserves man's salvation. This preservation makes redemption meaningful.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #8, CONFESSION WITH THE MOUTH by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.