

Please pray:

- ✳ Past weeks of distributions and gospel outreach: Pray that the ones that we have contacted in the past few weeks will be interested to meet with us, join the Bible studies, home meetings, personal appointments and activities; may the Lord show us how to shepherd these ones; may He give us key ones on the campuses and may they become remaining fruit.
- ✳ Children/YP/College students: **(1)** Pray for our children, YP and for those who attend university, that the Lord keep and preserve them, to stand against the tide of this age. Pray that they would have a heart to stand for the Lord and share Him with their classmates. **(2)** Pray for our parents to have the wisdom to guide and converse with their children about healthy companions. **(3)** Pray for the Lord's protection as they return to school and are confronted with many matters and teachings contrary to the truth. **(4)** Pray for the ongoing shepherding of all the children, YP and college saints.
- ✳ The all-inclusive, extensive Christ replacing culture for the one new man: That we may see and realize the urgent need for our culture to be replaced by the all-inclusive, extensive Christ; may we grow up in Him in all things and arrive at a full-grown man by allowing Him to replace all the good and bad aspects of our culture.
- ✳ Pray that the Lord would preserve the United States for the preparation of His bride and that the saints would bear their responsibility to live Christ, to have Christ as the reality, the real contents of the church life, so that the Body life may reach the reality of Romans 12 as the spontaneous preparation of Christ's bride for His coming back (Phil. 1:21a; Rom. 12:1-2, 5; Rev. 19:7).
- ✳ Europe: University Training (4 September — 3 October): The 2021 autumn training for European university students is being carried out in-person throughout Europe in different locations on the following dates: Poland — 4-5 and 18-19 September; UK and Ireland — 12-17 September; Spain — 23-26 September; Germany — 29 September - 3 October. The subject of the training is Rise up and Build, closely following the content of the past Summer College Training in the United States. **Please pray:** **1)** That the health of all the participants will be fully covered and protected for the duration of the training; **2)** that nothing will happen to hinder the completion of the training; **3)** That all the university students will be "wrecked" with a vision of the desire of God's heart and offer themselves to Him willingly for His building.
- ✳ 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: 2 Chron 9:1 – 22:12

- ✳ HWMR: The All-inclusive, Extensive Christ Replacing Culture for the One New Man, week 2

Announcements

- ✳ We will do a whole meeting hall cleaning the first Lord's table of the Month. Please bring your lunch on that day. The cleaning will begin after lunch.
- ✳ Please consider before the Lord carefully and provide us with the prayer burdens before Saturday of every week. Please send the prayer burdens to Allan Y. His email address is allan.yeow81@gmail.com. Note that due to limited space on the newsletter, we may not be able to put all the prayer burdens that are sent to us. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

Upcoming Events

- ✳ October 8-10, Online: **International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones**
- ✳ November 13, Online : **Canada Brothers Conference**
- ✳ November 25-28: **International Thanksgiving Weekend Conference**
- ✳ December 20-25: **Semiannual Training**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

| | | |
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| 19 | ✳ | 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings |
| September | | |
| LORD'S DAY | ✳ | 1pm: Children's Service Orientation |
| 20 | ✳ | |
| Monday | | |
| 21 | ✳ | 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts via conference calls |
| Tuesday | | |
| 22 | ✳ | |
| Wednesday | | |
| 23 | ✳ | |
| Thursday | | |
| 24 | ✳ | 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese) via Zoom |
| Friday | | |
| 25 | ✳ | |
| Saturday | | |
| 26 | ✳ | 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings |
| September | | |
| LORD'S DAY | ✳ | 1pm: Children's Service Orientation |

MEETING

Scripture Reading: Heb. 10:25; Matt. 18:20; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 14:23, 26

II. THE CHURCH AND THE MEETING (continued)

The Bible gives explicit commandments as well as clear examples of people meeting together. When the Lord was on the earth, He often met with His disciples. He met with them on the mountain (Matt. 5:1), in the wilderness (Mark 6:32-34), at home (2:1-2), and at the seaside (4:1). On the last evening before His crucifixion, He borrowed a large upper room and met with the disciples (14:15-17). After His resurrection, He appeared in the midst of their gathering (John 20:19, 26; Acts 1:4). Before the day of Pentecost, the disciples gathered together in one accord to pray (v. 14). When the day of Pentecost came, they were also gathered together (2:1). After that they continued steadfastly in the teaching and fellowship of the apostles, in the breaking of bread and the prayers. Shortly thereafter, they were persecuted and went back to their own places. Yet they still met together (4:23-31). After Peter was released, he went to the house where the disciples were gathered together (12:12). First Corinthians 14 tells us clearly that the whole church gathered together (v. 23). It was the whole church that gathered together. No one who is part of the church can be exempt from meeting together with the church.

What is the meaning of the word church? The word church is ekklesia in Greek. Ek means "to come out," while klesia means "to congregate or to gather." Thus, ekklesia means the gathering of those who have been called out. God is not only after some called out ones; He wants the called out ones to gather together. If all the called out ones are separated from one another, we will not have the church; the church will not be produced.

After we have believed in the Lord there is a basic need we must take care of, that is, to come together with other children of God. We should never have the strange thought that we can be "self-taught" Christians. We must eliminate such a thought from our mind. Christianity does not have "self-taught" Christians; it only has the gathering of the whole church. Do not think that we can be Christians who just shut ourselves up to pray and to read the Bible alone at home. Christianity is not built on just individuals but also on the assembling together.

III. THE FUNCTIONING OF THE BODY MANIFESTED THROUGH THE MEETING

First Corinthians 12 speaks of the Body, and chapter fourteen speaks of the meeting. Chapter twelve speaks of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and chapter fourteen also speaks of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Chapter twelve speaks of the gifts in the Body, whereas chapter fourteen speaks of the gifts in the church. According to these two chapters, it seems that the mutual functioning of the members of the Body is expressed in the meeting.

When we put chapters twelve and fourteen together, we see clearly that chapter twelve shows us the Body while chapter fourteen shows us the Body in function. One chapter speaks of the Body, while the other speaks of the meeting. One speaks of the gifts in the Body, while the other speaks of the gifts in the meeting. The functioning of the Body is realized specifically through the meeting. The mutual help, mutual influence, and mutual care of the members (e.g., the eyes helping the legs, the ears helping the hands, the hands helping the mouth) are more clearly manifested in the meetings. Through the meeting, we receive many answers to prayer. We often receive no light individually. But when we come to the meeting, we find light. What we see individually through our own pursuit can never match what we see in the meetings. All the ministries ordained by God operate through the meeting and are for the meeting. If a person rarely meets with others, he will have little opportunity to realize the functioning of the Body.

In addition to being the Body of Christ, the church is also the dwelling place of God. In the Old Testament the light of God was in the Holy of Holies. There was sunlight in the outer court, and there was the lamp with olive oil burning before the veil in the Holy Place. But in the Holy of Holies, there was no natural or artificial light. There was only the light of God. The Holy of Holies is the place where God dwells. Wherever God dwells, there is His light. Today when the church gathers together as the dwelling place of God, we find God's light. When the church meets together, God manifests His light. We do not know why this happens. We can say only that this is one of the results of the mutual functioning of the members. The mutual functioning allows God's light to be expressed through the Body.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #9, Reading the Bible by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.