

Please pray:

- ✳ **2021 December Semi-annual training:** 1) Pray for the ministering brothers, that they may be anointed and burdened from the Lord with His utterance. 2) Pray that the saints would give the Lord the way that they can be gained through this time. 3) Pray that the saints will register without delay or hesitation. 4) Pray for the release of the Lord's speaking to His churches for the advancement of His economy.
- ✳ **Church in Guelph:** 1) Please pray that our close contacts would open to the Lord for salvation, be caught by the vision of God's economy and that they would see the principle of one city-one church. 2) Pray that our young children could be raised up with the proper humanity and character and that our young people would remain faithful, pursuing the Lord and becoming gospel seeds when they attend college. 3) Pray for the process of registering the church with the CRA and eventually be incorporated.
- ✳ **GTCC in Southern Ontario:** 1) May the Lord gain many volunteers for these GTCC visits, from among the full-timers, the FTTA trainees (on break) and saints in the surrounding churches. 2) May the needs be met for smaller churches, for seeking saints not in an assembly, for the unbelievers, and for the hungry Christians not in the Lord's recovery.
- ✳ **Church in Airdrie, Alberta:** 1) Please pray for a stable meeting place in Airdrie; 1) Pray for the release of the brother's schedule to coordinate and serve; 3) pray for the completion of incorporating and registering with CRA.
- ✳ 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 Cor 7:1 – 10:4
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-study of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes, week 7

Announcements

- ✳ The 2022 HWMR subscription is now open. The cost will be \$75 for the annual subscription. Please sign up with your district serving ones and pay the \$75 subscription to them directly by December 19, 2021.
- ✳ 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

- ✳ December 20-25: **Semiannual Training**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

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

PRAYER

Scripture Reading: John 16:24; James 4:2-3; Luke 11:9-10; Psa. 66:18; Mark 11:24; Luke 18:1-8

II. CONDITIONS FOR PRAYERS BEING ANSWERED

3. The Lord's Act—God Has Done (continued)

God has listened to our prayers! God has accomplished everything! If we believe that we have received it, we will receive it. Very often, our faith is a faith that believes in what we will receive. As a result, we never receive anything. We should have the faith that we have already received. Faith is always a matter of "having been done" rather than of "will be done."

Consider a simple illustration. A person has just heard the gospel. If you ask him, "Have you believed in the Lord Jesus?", he may answer, "I have." You may then ask, "Are you saved?" If he says, "I will be saved," you know that he is not saved. Suppose you ask him again, "Do you really believe that you are saved?" If he says, "I will surely be saved," you know that he is still not saved. You may want to ask him again, "Are you really sure that you will be saved?" If he answers, "I think I

will," his words do not sound like someone who is saved. If one says, "I will be saved," "I will surely be saved," or "I think I will surely be saved," there is no guarantee that he is saved. If the person says, "I am saved," he has the right tone. Once a man believes, he is saved. Any faith, if it is faith at all, believes in what has been accomplished. For example, once a person possesses faith at the time of his salvation, he immediately says, "Thank God, I have received." Let us lay hold of these three things—God can, God wills, and God has done.

Faith is not a psychological exercise. Faith is receiving God's word and believing with much assurance that God can, God wills, and God has done. If you have not received His word, do not take the spiritual risk of trying to tempt God. The exercise of psychology is not faith. Take illness as an example: All who are healed through genuine faith are not afraid of a medical checkup (Mark 1:44). The result of a medical checkup for those who have experienced a genuine divine healing will prove that it was a genuine healing rather than something psychological.

When new believers learn to pray, they should pray in two stages. In the first stage they should pray until they receive a promise. They should pray until they receive God's word. All prayers begin by asking God for something. Such prayers can continue for a period of time, sometimes lasting for three to five years. One needs to keep asking. Some prayers are answered quickly, while other prayers continue to go unanswered for years. This is the period of time when one needs to continue to ask. The second stage begins from the time one receives a promise and extends to the time the promise is realized. It begins from the time one receives God's word and extends to the time His word is fulfilled. This stage is not for praying, but for praising. In the first stage one prays, but in the second stage one praises. In the first stage he prays until he receives a word. In the second stage he praises the Lord continuously until the word is fulfilled. This is the secret to prayer.

Some people only know two points about prayer: First, they pray on their knees for what they do not have, and second, they have it; God has given it to them. Suppose I ask for a watch from the Lord, and after a few days the Lord gives me a watch. There are only two events: being without something and having something. Some do not realize that there is another event in between these two—the event of faith. Suppose I pray for a watch and one day say, "Thank God, He has already heard my prayer." Although my hands are still empty, I am clear within that I already have the watch. Indeed, after a few days the watch arrives. We cannot be concerned with just two events: not having and then having. We must be concerned with a third event—an additional event between not having and having, in which God gives us a promise, and then we believe and rejoice over it. Perhaps we have to wait three days before we actually receive the watch. But in our spirit, we received it three days ago already. A Christian should

experience this kind of receiving in the spirit. If a person never experiences this kind of receiving in the spirit, he does not have faith.

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>.