

Please pray:

- ✳ **GTCC in Ontario** (Jan. 21–30): Let us pray that: **1)** saints can contact their prayer list of unsaved family members, gospel friends, and saints not meeting regularly; **2)** small teams of local saints can call to follow up on BfC recipients; **3)** saints can set aside 2-3 days to participate in blending, gospel, and shepherding of believers in the nearby localities; **4)** Pray for the gospel seminars being held by the Kitchener Chinese-speaking and Korean-speaking saints. Pray that many of their gospel friends will attend; **5)** Pray for our Young People's time, that all would attend, and through the sharing of the full-timers' testimonies, they would be inspired to give their lives to the Lord.
- ✳ **Shepherding during the pandemic:** that we would have an intimate concern for all the saints in the church, including the ones we don't know so well; that we would take the most excellent way of love in all our dealings with each other; that our hearts would be enlarged to embrace all the brothers and sisters, regardless of their condition; that we all would be transferred from our own personal universe, concerned just for our needs and interests, into the universe of the one new man by caring for each saint by calling them, visiting and inviting them (if the situation permits). May the church build itself up in love.
- ✳ **New government restrictions for meetings:** **1)** When everything seems chaotic, may we all be like Hannah (Samuel's mother in the Old Testament) to pray with desperation and urgency, prevailing prayers for the producing of Samuels and for the establishing of God's kingdom to end this age. **2)** May each saint be taken care of during this time. **3)** May we learn how to enjoy the Lord and be built up together with the means available to us.
- ✳ **Lord's Move in Asia:** **1) East Timor:** Pray for the raising up of the church in Dili. **2) Myanmar:** Pray for the 94 churches to be guarded by the Lord and to bear more fruit. **3) Sri Lanka:** Pray for golden lampstands to be raised up in Mutur, Galewela, Ridigama and Mawathagama soon. **4) Turkey:** Pray for the Turkish people, especially the contacts of the saints; may the Lord touch them and give them a spirit of wisdom and revelation so that they can be saved from religion and darkness.
- ✳ 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: Job 41:1 – Psalms 15:5
- ✳ HWMR: The Intrinsic and Organic Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ, week 2

Announcements

- ✳ All children's meetings will be online until the government regulations allow us to return to the meeting hall. The new online children's meetings schedule is as follows:
 - Group 1: Lord's Day 1:30pm - 1:45pm
 - Group 2: Lord's Day 1:45pm - 2:15pm
 - Group 3: Lord's Day 11:00am - 11:45am
- ✳ 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

- ✳ February 18-20, 2022, online: **International Chinese-speaking Blending Conference**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

23 January	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳ 11:00am - 11:45am: Children's meeting, group 3
	✳ 1:30pm - 1:45pm: Children's meeting, group 1
	✳ 1:45pm - 2:15pm: Children's meeting, group 2
24 Monday	✳
25 Tuesday	✳ 7:30-9:00pm: English/French/Chinese prayer meetings by districts via conference calls
26 Wednesday	✳
27 Thursday	✳
28 Friday	✳ 6:30-9:00pm: Various Home Meetings (English/French/Chinese) via Zoom
29 Saturday	✳
30 January	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table & Prophesying meetings
LORD'S DAY	✳ 11:00am - 11:45am: Children's meeting, group 3
	✳ 1:30pm - 1:45pm: Children's meeting, group 1

☼ 1:45pm - 2:15pm: Children's meeting,
group 2

EARLY RISING

Scripture Reading: S.S. 7:12; Psa. 57:8-9; 63:1; 78:34; 90:14; 108:2-3;
Exo. 16:21

III. WHAT TO DO IN THE EARLY MORNING

C. Read the Bible (continued)

Those who have read the autobiography of Madame Guyon will notice one characteristic of hers. Most autobiographies are written for man. But in Madame Guyon's autobiography, she spoke to man in one instant and to God in the next instant. In one moment she would be speaking to LaCombe (who asked her to write her autobiography), and at the next moment she would be speaking to God. This is fellowship. One does not know where fellowship with God begins and where it ends. Fellowship does not mean to set aside other affairs to pray. Nor does it mean to pray first and then deal with the affairs. It is to do both simultaneously.

Hence, during this early morning hour of gathering manna, you should learn to mingle prayer with God's Word. You should learn to mingle praise and fellowship with God's Word. One moment you may be on earth, but the next moment you are in the heavens. One moment you may be in yourself, but the next moment you are in God. If you maintain this practice before God every morning, you will be filled after some time, and God's word will dwell in you richly. Such reading of God's Word, such gathering of manna, is indispensable to us. Many brothers and sisters are weak and unable to take the wilderness journey. We need to ask them, "Have you eaten anything?" They cannot walk because they have not eaten enough. Manna is gathered in the early morning. This is why we need to rise up a little earlier. We will not have any manna if we are late. We have to rise up early in the morning to labor in God's Word.

D. Pray

In the early morning we should fellowship, praise, and gather the manna. We must also pray to the Lord. Psalms 63:1 [KJV] and 78:34 [KJV] both say that we should seek the Lord early. The prayer spoken of in the previous paragraph is a kind of blending prayer. But the prayer we are talking about here is more specific. After one fellowships, praises, and eats manna, he has strength and can present everything in prayer before God. Prayer surely requires much strength. One must first draw near to God early in the morning and be fed. Then he can set aside about half

an hour or a quarter of an hour to pray for a few urgent things. He can pray for himself, for the church, or for the world. Of course, he can pray also in the afternoon or at night. But if he takes advantage of the fresh power he has gained, the power acquired in the early morning through fellowshiping with God and eating manna, he will receive greater support.

Every believer should do these four things conscientiously before the Lord early in the morning: fellowship with Him, praise Him, read the Bible, and pray to Him. Whether or not a person has done these four things in the morning is manifested in his walk during the day. George Müller confessed that the degree to which he was fed by the Lord in the morning determined his spiritual condition throughout the whole day. His spiritual condition for the day depended on his feeding before the Lord in the morning. Many Christians find themselves weak during the day because their mornings are ill spent. Of course, there are those who are so far ahead in their spiritual journey that they can experience the total separation of the spirit from the soul. Their outward man is broken, and they are not that easily shaken by anything. However, this is another matter altogether. New believers should learn to rise up early. Once they become loose in this, they become loose in everything, and everything will go wrong. There is a great difference between being nourished and not being nourished in the morning.

A very famous musician once said, "If I skip practicing for one day, I will notice it. If I skip practicing for two days, my friends will notice it. If I skip practicing for three days, my audience will notice it." If this is true for practicing music, it is even more true for the spiritual lesson of rising up early. If we fail to have a good morning watch before God, we will know it. Those who are experienced in the Lord also will know it when they come into contact with us. They will know that we have not touched the spiritual source. From the very first day, new believers should strictly discipline themselves. Every morning they should rise up early to exercise this way before the Lord.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believers Series: #12, Early Rising by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.