

Please pray:

- ✳ **Gospel outreach and Bible distributions in the months to come:** 1) Let us prepare the ground of the hearts of the people for the months to come by many prayers, for the harvest to be ready at the time when we go out for gospel outreach and Bible distributions; 2) Let us beseech the Lord of the harvest to thrust out workers to reap the harvest; 3) Pray that the ones that we will come in contact will be interested to meet with us, join the Bible studies, home meetings, personal appointments and activities; 4) may the Lord show us how to shepherd these ones; 5) may He give us key ones on the campuses and in the community; 6) may they become remaining fruit.
- ✳ **Prayer meeting of the church:** May the saints in all languages be released to join the prayer meetings of the church; may the Lord infuse in them the burden to attend the prayer meeting and pray as the church; may we learn how to join ourselves to the Lord and to one another to be one in our spirit and pray in one accord so that we may grant the Lord the way to move on this earth for the advancement of His economy.
- ✳ **Situation between Russia and Ukraine and the situation in Europe:** Let us pray for the running of the white horse of the gospel in Europe and for the increase of the Lord's testimony in the churches there. May the saints in Europe and the saints who are going there for the gospel be thoroughly supplied and filled with the all-sufficient grace to freely overflow to all those around.
- ✳ **Pray for different service groups:** As the government of Quebec is easing up the restrictions for meetings, may we be encouraged to meet in person with proper measures; may all the service groups be recovered adequately according to the Lord's timing; may the Lord grant us the burden to serve the saints and the church; may the Lord cover all the saints and bless the assembly of the saints; may the meetings and the blending times in person be fully recovered according to the Lord's timing.
- ✳ **Montreal brothers retreat (May 14):** May the brothers be released to attend this retreat; may we come fully unloaded and poor in spirit to receive a fresh and up-to-date speaking from the Lord; may this time be a time of encouragement and re-building; may the Lord gain what He is after in this retreat.
- ✳ 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: Psa 108:1 – 119:120
- ✳ HWMR: Knowing the Truth, Being Absolute for the Truth, and Proclaiming the Truth in the Present Evil Age, week 1

Announcements

- ✳ The July 2022 Semiannual Training will be held from July 4 to 9 in Anaheim, California. The registration deadline is on May 8 for both the live training and the video training. Please let the leading brothers know if you are interested in attending the training live in Anaheim. The registration for the Video training is on the bulletin board.
- ✳ For Children's meetings, all groups are in person at meeting hall at 11am. Only group 3 and YP will have zoom hybrid meetings for a few more weeks.
- ✳ 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

- ✳ May 27-30: **International Memorial Day Blending Conference**
- ✳ July 4-9, Anaheim: **Summer Semiannual Training**
- ✳ October 6-8, Anaheim: **International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones**
The church website lists more events

This Week's Activities

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

FORGIVENESS AND RESTORATION

Scripture Reading: Matt. 18:21-35, 15-20; Luke 17:3-5

C. God's Expectation

God expects to see one thing from us: Whoever wants to receive grace must first learn to dispense grace. Whoever receives grace must first learn to share grace. If a man receives grace, God expects him to share this grace with others.

Matthew 18:28-29 says, "But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and he took hold of him and began to choke him, saying, Repay me what you owe. Then his fellow slave fell down and begged him, saying, Be patient with me and I will repay you." Here the Lord shows us that we owe Him ten thousand talents, while others only owe us only a hundred denarii. When we say to the Lord, "Be patient with me and I will repay you all," He not only releases us but also forgives our debt. Our fellow slave, our brother, owes us a hundred denarii at the most. When he says, "Be patient with me and I will repay you," he has our same hope and request. How can we not be patient with him? But the slave "would not; instead, he went away and threw him into prison until he would repay what was owed" (v. 30).

The Lord spoke such a parable to expose the unreasonableness of those who do not forgive others. If you do not forgive your brother, you are the very slave spoken of in these verses. When we read this parable, we are indignant at this slave. The master had forgiven his debt of ten thousand talents, but he would not forgive his fellow slave's debt of a hundred denarii. He put his fellow slave into prison and kept him there until the latter would pay what he owed. He acted according to his standard of "righteousness"! A believer should treat himself according to righteousness but should treat others according to grace. Your brother may owe you something, and the Lord knows clearly that your brother owes you something. But He also clearly shows us that if a believer does not forgive his brother, he is not dealing with others according to grace. Such a one is short of grace in God's eyes.

Verses 31-33 say, "His fellow slaves, seeing what had taken place, were greatly grieved and came and explained fully to their master all that had taken place. Then his master called him to him and said to him, Evil slave, all that debt I forgave you, because you begged me. Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave even as I had mercy on you?" The Lord expects us to do to others as He has done to us. He has not made demands on us according to righteousness. In the same way He expects us to not make demands on others according to righteousness. The Lord has forgiven our debts according to mercy, and He expects us to forgive others' debts according to mercy as well. With what measure the Lord measures to us, He expects us to measure the same measure to others. The Lord dispenses grace to us according to a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. He expects us to do the same thing to others

according to a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. The Lord expects us to do to our brother as He has done to us.

The ugliest thing in the eyes of God is for a forgiven person to refuse to forgive others. Nothing is uglier than refusing to forgive when one has been forgiven or refusing to be merciful when one has obtained mercy. A person should not receive grace for himself on the one hand and refuse to share grace with others on the other hand. A person must realize before the Lord that he should treat others the same way that the Lord has treated him. It is very ugly for a man to receive grace while refusing to share grace. Being forgiven yet refusing to forgive others is a most uncomely sight. God condemns a debt-ridden person's attempt to demand payment from another debt-ridden person. He has no pleasure in those who remember others' shortcomings when they themselves have come short.

The master asked the slave, "Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave even as I had mercy on you?" God wants us to have mercy on others as He has had mercy on us. We need to learn to have mercy on others and to forgive them. A man who has experienced grace and who is forgiven by God should learn to forgive others' debts. He should learn to forgive others, to have mercy on them, and to be gracious to them. We need to lift up our eyes and say to the Lord, "Lord, You have forgiven my debt of ten thousand talents. I am willing to forgive those who have offended me today. I am also willing to forgive those who will offend me in the future. You have forgiven me of my great sins. I also will learn to be like You in a small way by forgiving others."

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