

Please pray:

- ✳ **Gospel outreach and Bibles distribution:** (1) Let us prepare the ground of the hearts of the people by many prayers, for the harvest to be ready at the time when we go out for gospel outreach and Bibles distribution; (2) Let us beseech the Lord of the harvest to thrust out workers to reap the harvest; (3) Pray that the ones that we come in contact with 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.
- ✳ **Districts in Montréal:** That the Lord might lead us as He brings us back into various district meetings; pray for a genuine blending between the saints in the districts regardless of language; pray that the Lord may infuse the burden for propagation of the gospel of the kingdom in each of our neighbourhoods; pray for a way to provide proper spiritual care for the saints, the college students, the young people and the children in each district.
- ✳ **Pray for different service groups:** May we be encouraged to meet in person with proper sanitary 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, the services and the blending times in person be fully recovered according to the Lord's timing.
- ✳ **University and Cégep students' summer break:** The university and Cégep students have entered into their summer break. May this summer be sanctified to the Lord. May this time be a time of recharging, resting, blending with the saints, reading and being constituted with the truth and growing in the Lord.
- ✳ **Situation between Russia and Ukraine and the situation in Europe:** (1) Pray for overflowing grace and the health for the saints who are caring for the Ukrainian saints and refugees and that many Ukrainian saints would be supplied to rise up to preach the gospel of the kingdom to their fellow Ukrainians. (2) Pray for the saints affected by the war – may they see what the Lord is doing on earth today and function in the matter of binding and loosing, the corporate God-man living and the shepherding that will end this age.
- ✳ **Pray for various local needs in Montréal:** saints, contacts, and those in need of care and shepherding.

Weekly Readings

- ✳ Holy Bible Recovery Version with footnotes: Eph 6:1 – Phil 1:26.
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-Study of Joshua, Judges and Ruth, Week 2.

Announcements

- ✳ The Eastern Canada Summer School of Truth will be held from July 31 to August 5 at the Kitchener, Ontario Meeting Hall. The registration cost will be \$130 per person, plus gas and food for the car ride. Please contact the Young People serving ones for registration details.
- ✳ The July 2022 Semi-Annual Training will be held from July 4 to 9 in Anaheim, California.
- ✳ Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and provide us with your prayer burdens before Saturday of every week by sending an email to Allan Y. at allan.yeow81@gmail.com. Please note that due to limited space in the newsletter, we may not be able to publish all prayer burdens that are sent to us. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

Upcoming Events

- ✳ July 4-9, Anaheim: **Summer Semi-Annual Training.**
- ✳ October 6-8, Anaheim: **International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.**

Please refer to the church's website where more events are listed.

This Week's Activities

Sunday June 5 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Monday June 6	✳
Tuesday June 7	✳ 7:30-9pm: Prayer meetings by districts (English, French and Chinese) by conference calls.
Wednesday June 8	✳
Thursday June 9	✳
Friday June 10	✳ 6:30-9pm: Home meetings by districts (English, French and Chinese) on Zoom.
Saturday June 11	✳ 4:30-6pm: Chinese Gospel Meeting.
Sunday June 12 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

DELIVERANCE

Scripture Reading: Rom 7:15—8:2

I. SIN BEING A LAW

Romans 7:15-25 says, "For what I work out, I do not acknowledge; for what I will, this I do not practice; but what I hate, this I do... For to will is present with me, but to work out the good is not. For I do not do the good which I will; but the evil which I do not will, this I practice. But if what I do not will, this I do, it is no longer I that work it out... I find then the law with me who wills to do the good, that is, the evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God according to the inner man, but I see a different law in my members, warring against the law of my mind and making me a captive to the law of sin which is in my members... So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh, the law of sin."

In verses 15 through 20, Paul repeatedly uses the word will and the phrase do not will. The emphasis is on willing or not willing, resolving or not resolving. In verses 21 to 25, there is another emphasis on the law. These two things are the keys to this passage of the Word.

First, we need to understand the term law. The common understanding of a law is that it is something that remains the same all the time, something that allows no exceptions. Moreover, there is power in a law. This power is a natural power, not an artificial power. All laws have power. For example, gravity is a law. If you throw something up, it will eventually fall back to the ground. You do not have to pull the object down with your hands; the earth has a force that pulls it down for you. If you throw a stone up, it will fall. If you throw an iron up, it also will fall. If you throw something up in China, it will fall. If you throw the same thing up in other countries, it will fall. An object in the air will fall the same today and tomorrow. Any object in the air, as long as nothing is holding it, will fall regardless of time and space. A law remains the same all the time and allows no exceptions. It is a natural force which requires no human effort for its perpetuation.

Romans 7 shows us that Paul was trying to be victorious. He was trying to free himself from sin. He wanted to please God. He did not want to sin or to fail. However, he eventually admitted that his resolutions were all futile. He said, "To will is present with me, but to work out the good is not." He did not want to sin, yet he sinned. He wanted to do good and walk according to God's law, yet he could not do it. In other words, what he willed he could not do, and what he resolved to do, he was unable to accomplish. Paul

willed again and again, but the result was only repeated failure. This shows us that the way to victory lies not in the human will or human resolution. Paul willed and resolved again and again, but he still failed and sinned. Obviously, to will is present, but to work out the good is not. The best that a man can do is make resolutions.

The willing is present but not the good, because sin is a law. Following verse 21 Paul showed us that he remained defeated even after he made numerous resolutions. This is because sin is a law. This law of sin was present with him every time he resolved to do good. He was subject to the law of God in his heart, but his flesh yielded to the law of sin. Whenever he willed to obey God's law, a different law rose up in his members, subjecting him to the law of sin.

Paul was the first person in the Bible to point out that sin is a law. This was a very important discovery! It is a pity that many who have been Christians for years still do not realize that sin is a law. Many people know that gravity is a law and thermal expansion of objects is another law. But they do not know that sin is a law. Paul did not know this at first. After sinning repeatedly, not voluntarily but involuntarily by a potent force in his body, Paul discovered that sin is a law.

Our history of failure tells us that whenever temptations come, we try to resist them. But we are never successful in this resistance. When temptations come again, we again try to resist them, only to end up in another defeat. This experience repeats itself ten times, a hundred times, or a thousand times, and we still find ourselves defeated. This is the story of our failure. We fail again and again. This is not something that happens by chance; it is a law. If a person committed only one sin in a lifetime, he could consider sin as something incidental. However, those who have sinned a hundred or a thousand times will say that sin is a law; it is something that continually drives them on.

Note: The content is extracted from New Believer's Series: #15, *Deliverance*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org/alphabetical.cfm>.