

Please Pray

- ✳ **The Summer Video and Live Training 2022 (July 5-14):** May the saints attending have ears to hear, be poor in spirit and have a heart to receive the Lord's fresh and up-to-date speaking; may the Lord release what is on His heart through the speaking brothers; may the Lord gain what He is after in this training.
- ✳ **The Nordic-Baltic Conference in Stockholm, Sweden (July 22-25):** Please pray for the Lord's timely speaking and for the blending of the saints in the Nordic countries, the Baltic States, and other Russian and English-speaking churches for the building up of the Body of Christ.
- ✳ **The Bangladesh Perfecting Meetings (July 8-9 and July 22):** May the Lord release the saints' time and strengthen the spiritual atmosphere of the meetings so that more saints can participate and be constituted with the truth.
- ✳ **The Situation Between Russia and Ukraine and the Situation in Europe:**
 - (1) The saints in Russia and Ukraine will be kept in the oneness of the Body and the reality of the new man, where Christ is all the members and in all the members.
 - (2) The shipment of Russian New Testament Recovery Versions that are held up in customs would be released and distributed among the refugees in Europe.
 - (3) The Lord will use the shepherding gospel trips to Warsaw and Krakow, Poland, in June and July to bring many newly saved refugees into the church life, where they can be perfected to be living and functioning members for the building up of the Body.
 - (4) The tripartite being of the saints in the besieged cities will be protected and preserved for the Lord's interests.
 - (5) The Ukrainian families that have been separated by the war will eventually be reunited for God's economy.
 - (6) The spiritual forces that seek to destroy the Lord's interests will be shattered, and God's move in His economy will advance.
- ✳ **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: Eccl. 10:1 – S.S. 4:8.
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-Study of Joshua, Judges and Ruth, Week 7.

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, plus the gas cost of \$60, for a total of \$190 per person. The registration deadline is **TODAY**, July 10. Please contact the YP serving ones for registration details.
- ✳ 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., 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 31 to August 5, Kitchener, ON: **The Eastern Canada Summer School of Truth.**
- ✳ October 6-8, Anaheim: **The International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.**
- ✳ December 26-31, 2022, Anaheim, CA (if safe to do so): **The December Semi-Annual Training.**

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

This Week's Activities

Sun-July-10 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-July-11	✳
Tue-July-12	✳ 7:30pm-9pm: Prayer meetings by district (English, French and Chinese) by conference calls.
Wed-July-13	✳
Thu-July-14	✳
Fri-July-15	✳ 6:30pm-9pm: Home meetings by district (English, French and Chinese) on Zoom.
Sat-July-16	✳
Sun-July-17 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

OUR LIFE

Scripture Reading: Col. 3:4; Phil. 1:21; Gal. 2:20.

II. FOR TO ME, TO LIVE IS CHRIST

There are many Christians who have greatly misunderstood Philippians 1:21. When Paul said, "For to me, to live is Christ," he was stating a fact. They think for to me, to live is Christ is a goal or a hope. But Paul did not say that his goal was to live Christ. Paul was saying, "I live because I have Christ; I cannot live without Him." This was a fact in him, not a goal he was seeking. It was the secret to his living, not the hope he was cherishing. His living was Christ. For him to live was for Christ to live.

Galatians 2:20 is a very familiar verse to many Christians. But many misunderstand it more than they misunderstand Philippians 1:21. They have made Galatians 2:20 their goal, praying with aspiration and hoping they will reach the state when "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." Each time this verse is read, they are full of aspiration. Many people pray, fast, and hope that one day they will be crucified with Christ and reach the state when "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." Galatians 2:20 has become their goal and their hope.

According to our experience, no one with such a hope ever reaches his goal. If you make it your goal and hope to attain such a state, if you aspire to be crucified, that is, to no longer be the one who lives but instead to have Christ living in you, you will wait forever before seeing your aspiration fulfilled, because you are hoping for something that is impossible to achieve.

God has given us a wonderful gift of grace. There is a way. Those who fail can overcome; those who are unclean can be clean; those who are worldly can be holy; those who are earthly can be heavenly; and those who are carnal can be spiritual. This is not a goal, but a way. This way lies in the life of substitution. Just as we found a vicarious death in the Lord's grace, we also can find a vicarious living in Him. On the cross the Lord bore our sins. Through His death we were spared death. Our sins were forgiven, and we were spared judgment. Similarly, Paul tells us that we are spared of our living through the Lord living in us. The implication is simple: Since He lives in us, we no longer need to live. Just as He died once for us on the cross, today He is living for us and in us. Paul did not say, "I hope that I will not live. I hope that I will allow Him to live." Instead, he was saying, "I no longer live anymore. He is the One who is living." "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." This is the secret to victory. This is the way to be victorious.

The day we heard that we did not need to die, we embraced that word as the gospel. Similarly, it should also be a day of the gospel to us when we hear that we do not need to live. I hope that the new believers will pray much for God's enlightenment and will see that Christ lives in us and that we no longer need to live by ourselves.

Unless we see this, maintaining a testimony or living the Christian life is a great burden. It is a great burden to fight temptation, to bear the cross, or to obey God's will. Many believers feel that it is very hard to maintain the Christian life. Daily they try, yet daily they sigh. Daily they struggle, yet daily they fail. Every day they try to maintain their testimony, yet every day they bring shame to the Lord. Many people do not have the strength to reject sin, yet they feel guilty when they do not reject it. They feel condemned when they lose their temper, yet they cannot be patient. They feel sorry for hating others, yet they have no strength to love. Many people are exhausted from trying to live the Christian life. They feel that the Christian life is like climbing a hill with a heavy burden on their back; they can never reach the top. Before they were saved, they had the burden of sin on their back. Now that they have believed in the Lord, they have the burden of holiness on their back. They exchange one burden for another, and the new one is just as tiresome and burdensome as the old one.

This experience clearly shows that they are practicing the Christian life in a wrong way. Paul said, "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." This is the secret of Christian living. It is the Lord in you who is living the Christian life, not you living it by yourself. If you live the Christian life by yourself, endurance will be a suffering to you, as will love, humility, and bearing the cross. But if Christ lives in you, endurance will be a joy; so will love, humility, and bearing the cross.

Note: The content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 26, *OUR LIFE*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.