

Please Pray

- ✳ **For a Proper Response to the Summer Video Training:**
(1) Ph 4:9: "The things that you have also **learned** and **received** and **heard** and **seen** in me, **practice** these things; and the God of peace will be with you." May the things that we have learned, received, heard and seen during the video training become our experience, reality and practice day by day. (2) May we respond to the Lord's calling for overcomers by opening our hearts and praying to Him. May He gain us as His overcomers for His purpose.
- ✳ **For the Summer Gospel Outreach and Bibles distribution (locally, during the Eastern Canada gospel trips, and in Poland):** (1) Let us prepare the ground of the hearts of the people by many prayers, so that the harvest to be ready 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) That the persons who we contact 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 persons; (5) May the Lord give us key persons on the campuses and in the community; (6) May these key persons become the remaining fruit.
- ✳ **For the Summer School of Truth (July 31 to August 5):** (1) Pray for the proper coordination among the serving ones in preparation for this week. (2) Pray for the development of the schedule and for all the evening events. (3) Pray that the Lord may brood on the young people so that they may be prepared to have a soft and open heart to receive the Lord's personal speaking. (4) Pray that the Lord will cover all the travelling, services, speaking, young people, serving ones, and all aspects of this time. (5) May the Lord gain the young people for His purpose.
- ✳ **For the Kitchener Property Development:** (1) Pray that the Lord would lead the saints in Kitchener on how to use the property for His purpose in Southern Ontario. (2) Pray that the saints, in their consideration, would be open to share their genuine feelings about this development. (3) Pray that the saints would all strive to be in one accord regarding this matter.
- ✳ **Pray for various local needs in Montréal:** The saints, their contacts, and for the persons in need of care and shepherding.

Weekly Readings

- ✳ Holy Bible Recovery Version with footnotes: Col 2:1-4:18.
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-Study of Joshua, Judges and Ruth, Vol. 2, Week 8.

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. Please contact the YP serving ones for more information.
- ✳ Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and provide us with your prayer requests before Saturday of every week by sending an email to Allan Y., allan.yeow81@gmail.com. Please note that due to the 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, in Kitchener, ON: **The Eastern Canada Summer School of Truth.**
- ✳ October 6-8, in Anaheim, CA: **The International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.**
- ✳ December 26-31, 2022, in Anaheim, CA (if safe to do so): **December Semi-Annual Training.**

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

This Week's Activities

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| Sun-July-17 LORD'S DAY | ✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings. |
| Mon-July-18 | ✳ |
| Tue-July-19 | ✳ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls. |
| Wed-July-20 | ✳ |
| Thu-July-21 | ✳ |
| Fri-July-22 | ✳ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom. |
| Sat-July-23 | ✳ |
| Sun-July-24 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 (cont'd)

Brothers and sisters, you may be tired of trying to live the Christian life. You may feel that the Christian life is consuming you and binding you. But if you see that you no longer need to live, you will agree that this is a great gospel to you. Every Christian can be spared such a wearisome living. This is a great gospel! You no longer have to exert so much effort trying to be a Christian. You no longer have to bear such a heavy burden for your Christian life! You can say, "In the past I heard the gospel which told me that I could be spared death. Thank God, I no longer need to die. Today I am tired and weary of living. God says that I can be spared living. Thank God, I no longer need to struggle to live."

It is, of course, a suffering for us to die. But it is equally a suffering for us to live before God. We have no idea what God's holiness is all about. We do not know what love is and what the cross is. For men like us to try to live unto God is indeed an unbearable burden. The more we try to live, the more we sigh and suffer. It is a big struggle to labor and strive to live the Christian life. In fact, it is altogether impossible for us to do it. We could never satisfy God's demands. Some people always have a bad temper. Others can never be humble; they are always proud. For a proud person to try to live in God's presence and act humbly every day is a very wearisome and tiring task. Paul was a weary and worn-out Christian in Romans 7. He said, "For to will is present with me, but to work out the good is not" (v. 18). Every day he willed, but every day he failed. This is why he could only sigh, "Wretched man that I am!" (v. 24). Actually, being a Christian is not an exercise akin to putting a carnal man in heaven and subjecting him to slavery there. Fortunately, no carnal man can enter heaven. Otherwise, as soon as he entered it, he would run away quickly; he would not be able to stand even one day there. His temperament would be too different from God's temperament, and his thought too far from God's thought. His ways would be too different from God's ways, and his views too different from God's view. How would he ever be able to meet God's demands? There would be nothing he could do before God except run away.

But this is a gospel for you. God does not want you to do good. He does not want you to make up your mind to do good. God only wants Christ to live in you. God does not care about good or bad; He cares about who is doing the good. God is not satisfied with good alone; He wants to know who is doing the good.

Hence, God's way is not for us to imitate Christ or to walk like Christ. Neither is it to plead on our knees for strength to walk like Christ. God's way is for us to experience that it is "no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." Do we see the difference here? This is not a matter of imitating Christ's life, nor of being empowered to live this life, but a matter of no longer being the ones living at all. God does not allow us to live according to ourselves. We do not come to God by ourselves; we come to God through Christ living in us. It is not a matter of imitating Christ or of receiving some power from Christ, but of Christ living in us.

This is the living of a believer. The living of a believer is one in which it is no longer him who lives, but it is Christ living in him. In the past I was the one who lived, not Christ. But today, it is not I who live, but Christ. Another One has come to live in my place. If a person cannot say, "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me," this person does not know what Christianity is; he does not know the life of Christ, nor the life of a believer. He is merely aspiring to be "not I but Christ." But Paul did not say that he was striving to be this way. He told us that this was how he lived. His way was to stop living by himself and to let Christ live instead.

Note: This 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>.