

Please Pray

- ✳ **Proper follow-up after the gospel trip:** Pray for the contacts that we have encountered during the gospel trips for the proper follow-up and shepherding by the saints. Pray that many saints will rise up to have a heart to take care of the contacts. Pray that some may be added to the churches as remaining fruits.
- ✳ **The Summer School of Truth (SSOT) (Jul. 31-Aug. 5):** The topic for this time will be "The Bible." (1) Pray that the serving ones can instill a love for God's Word into our young people. (2) Pray that the Lord may brood over the young people so that they may have a soft and open heart to receive the Lord's personal speaking during the week. (3) Pray that the Lord will cover all the travelling, the services, the speaking, the young people, the serving ones, and all the aspects of this time. (4) May the Lord gain the young people for Himself.
- ✳ **The European Young People's Conference in Male Ciche, Poland (July 31-August 6):** Please pray for the Lord's speaking to the European young people and their response by loving and enjoying the Lord Jesus as the tree of life.
- ✳ **The Lord's Move in Metz, France:** In October 2021, a group of seeking saints in Metz, a city in northeast France, contacted us through Rhema; they began joining our church meetings on Zoom and were attracted by the rich supply of God's Word and the practices of the church life. As we were praying and considering how to care for this group of saints, more and more seeking ones from this region of France were contacted by saints of different localities. These believers are now meeting regularly with us and are enjoying blending with different localities, both online and through visitations. Some also participated in this year's French-Speaking Conference in Paris. These believers are burdened for their Christian friends and bringing them to our meetings. Please pray that the Lord would raise up a strong testimony for Himself in Metz as well as in the entire northeast France and that it will be a pattern that could be duplicated in many other localities for the Lord's move in French-speaking Europe.
- ✳ **Turkey:** Pray for the Rhema Christian readers in Adana to know and practice the truth, see the Body and the church life, and be the Lord's testimony in that city.
- ✳ **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: 1 Thes 1:1-5:11.
- ✳ HWMR: Crystallization-Study of Joshua, Judges and Ruth, Vol. 2, Week 10.

Announcements

- ✳ 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

- ✳ 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

Sun-July-31 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Aug-1	✳
Tue-Aug-2	✳ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Aug-3	✳
Thu-Aug-4	✳
Fri-Aug-5	✳ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Aug-6	✳
Sun-Aug-7 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

OUR LIFE

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

III. I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST (cont'd)

Romans 6 says that God has crucified us with Christ. But Romans 7 tells us of one person who is still trying to will. Even though God has crucified him, he still wills to do good. He cannot die, yet he cannot do good either. If he would say, "Lord, I cannot make it, and I do not believe I will make it. I cannot do good, and I will not will to do good," everything would be fine. But Romans 7 tells us that man is not willing to die. God has already crucified our old man, but we are unwilling to die; we still exercise our will to do good. Today many Christians are still trying when they know very well that they cannot make it. Nothing can be done about these Christians. Suppose there is a person who cannot be patient. What can he do? He may try his best to be patient by himself. Whenever he prays, he asks for patience. Even while he is working, he thinks about patience. But the more he tries to be patient, the less patient he becomes. Instead of trying to be patient, he should say, "Lord, You have already crucified this impatient person. I am impatient. I do not want to be patient and do not intend to be patient." This is the way to victory.

The Lord has crucified you. You should say simply, "Amen." He has crucified you, and it is futile for you to try to be patient by yourself. God knows you cannot make it. This is why He crucified you. Even though you still try to be patient, God considers you hopeless. He has even crucified you. It is a great mistake to think you can make it. It is also a great mistake to try to live the Christian life. God already knows that you cannot make it; the only way He has for you is crucifixion. Even though you think that you can make it, God says that you cannot make it and that you should die. How foolish it is to still make resolutions and to struggle! God knows that you cannot make it, and it would be well with you if you agreed with Him. God knows that you deserve to die. If you would say, "Amen, I will die," everything would be well. The cross is God's assessment of us. In God's view we cannot make it. If we could make it, God would not have crucified us. He knows that the only way for us is death. This is why He crucified us. If we saw things the same way God sees them, everything would be settled. Brothers and sisters, God must bring us to the point where we accept His verdict.

Here we see two aspects: First, Christ died, and we were crucified. This is something God has done. Second, we have to acknowledge this fact; we need to say, "Amen." These two sides must work together before God's work can take effect on us. If we constantly frustrate Him by trying to do good and be patient and

humble, the work of Christ will have no effect on us. Our resolution to be humble or to be patient only makes things worse. Instead, we should bow down our head and say, "Lord, You have said that I am crucified, and I will say the same thing; You have said that I am useless, and I will say the same thing; You have said that I cannot be patient, and I will no longer try to be patient; You have said that I cannot be humble, and I will no longer try to be humble. This is what I am. It is useless for me to try to make any further resolutions. I am only fit to remain on the cross." If we did this, Christ would live Himself out of us!

We should not think that this is a difficult thing to do. Every brother and sister should learn this lesson after he or she is saved. From the beginning we must learn not to live. Instead, we should let the Lord live. The basic problem is that many Christians have not given up on themselves. They still try to solve their problems themselves. The Lord Jesus has already given up on them, but they are still struggling and trying to come up with ways to live. They stumble again and again, only to rise up to try again and again. They sin again and again, only to make more and more resolutions. They have not given up on themselves. The day will come when God grants mercy to them and opens their eyes. On that day they will see that as God considered them hopeless, they should consider themselves hopeless as well. Since God has pronounced death to be the only way, they also should pronounce death as the only way. Only then will they come to God and confess, "You have crucified me, and I do not want to live anymore. I have been crucified with Christ. From now on, it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me."

For years we have been so wrong. We have committed so many sins and have been bound by so much weakness, pride, and temper. It is about time that we give up on ourselves. We should come to the Lord and say, "I have done enough; nothing has worked. I give up. You take over! I have been crucified on the cross. From now on live in my place!" This is the meaning of "it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me."

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>.