

## Please Pray

- ✳️ **2023 Spring ITERO Online Training in Montréal (Mar. 31-Apr. 2):** Please pray that the Lord will speak a timely word to the brothers in Montréal, especially to the elders and to the responsible ones, for the advancement of His economy in this region.
- ✳️ **Eastern Canada Young People's Conference in Montréal (Apr. 7-9):** (1) Pray that many young people will be released to attend this conference. (2) Pray for all the preparations and that the saints may be encouraged to serve according to their capacity. (3) Pray that we may be willing to open our homes to receive these dear ones into our homes for hospitality. (4) Pray that the Lord will pour out His blessing upon this conference and upon everyone who will be there.
- ✳️ **Montréal French-Speaking Campuses:** (1) Praise the Lord for opening the way for a Bible study every Thursday night at HEC Montréal this semester. May the Lord preserve and add to this Bible study for His purpose on this campus. (2) May the Lord brood over all the French-speaking campuses in Montréal to cause a hunger for Him and the truth. May we have a burden to cooperate with the Lord to go to the French-speaking campuses to reap the harvest and gather the materials for His building.
- ✳️ **The Lord's Move in Asia:** (1) In Bangladesh: Pray for the propagation in Dhaka to gain more young people and young working saints through continuous door-knocking and shepherding. (2) In Laos: Pray for the goal of propagation in 2023: Three more districts being added to the church in Vientiane, 120 persons being baptized, 242 saints attending the Lord's table, and the church in Paksan being established.
- ✳️ **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 John 1:3 – 2:11.
- ✳️ HWMR, Loving the Lord and Loving One Another for the Organic Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ, Week 3.
- ✳️ Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 21 and 22.

## Announcements

- ✳️ The Church in Montréal Annual General Meeting ("AGM") will be held on April 2, 2023, at 12pm at the Meeting Hall.
- ✳️ The 2023 Spring Eastern Canada Young People's Conference will be held on April 7-9 in Montréal. Cost is \$60 per person and registration is through the online form. Registration deadline: April 2.
- ✳️ Registration is open for the upcoming Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference for the churches in the Northeast, to be held at Camp Penuel on April 21-23, 2023. The registration deadline is April 2. The saints who will stay overnight should register as soon as possible to secure accommodation at the camp, as onsite housing capacity is limited. To register and to find out more details about this conference, please visit: [tinyurl.com/2023youngworkingsaints](http://tinyurl.com/2023youngworkingsaints).

## Announcements (cont'd)

- ✳️ The Eastern Canada Grade 6 Conference will be held on April 29 in Kitchener, Ontario. We would need all Grade 6 children, parents, and serving ones from Montréal to register as soon as possible so that we can plan and organize the transportation logistics. The online registration form is available at: <https://forms.gle/EqbmFMfWzqXDPjrw7>.
- ✳️ This year's International Memorial Day Blending Conference will be held in Chicago, IL, from Friday, May 26 to Monday, May 29, 2023. All meetings will be held at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Hotel. There is a special discount group hotel rate available until Friday May 5. Please see the details on the bulletin board.
- ✳️ [LivingtoHim YouTube channel](#) is releasing a series of four talks by Brother Minoru Chen on the matter of getting into the Life-Studies. The subsequent talks will be released weekly on Mondays. You can [subscribe](#) to the [LivingtoHim YouTube channel](#) to receive updates. All four outlines of this series can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).
- ✳️ Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and send your prayer requests by email to Allan Yeow, [allan.yeow81@gmail.com](mailto:allan.yeow81@gmail.com), before Wednesday evening of every week. Please note that due to the limited space in the newsletter, we may not be able to publish all prayer burdens sent to us. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

## Upcoming Events

- ✳️ April 2, Montréal: Church in Montréal Annual General Meeting ("AGM").
- ✳️ April 7-9, Montréal: The 2023 Spring Eastern Canada Young People's Conference.
- ✳️ April 21-23, Paris, France: French-Speaking Conference.
- ✳️ April 21-23, Camp Penuel: Northeast Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference.
- ✳️ April 29, Kitchener, ON: Eastern Canada Grade 6 Conference.
- ✳️ May 26-29, Chicago, IL: International Memorial Day Conference.

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

## This Week's Activities

Sun-Mar-26 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Mar-27	♦
Tues-Mar-28	♦ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Mar-29	♦
Thurs-Mar-30	♦
Fri-Mar-31	♦ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-April-01	♦
Sun-April-02 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

## MARRIAGE

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### VII. IF ONE NEEDS TO BE MARRIED YET CANNOT FIND A BELIEVER

This is a real problem; it is not an imaginary one. But we can only say that there is no teaching in the Bible concerning this matter. However, we need to touch Paul's heart. In 1 Corinthians 7 Paul wished that the widows would remain single if possible. But then, he also wished that the widows would marry those who are in the Lord (v. 39). Therefore, widows can remarry if there is the need. According to this principle, we can say that the best thing for a brother to do is to marry a sister in the Lord. If it is not possible to do this, it is best if he does not marry at all. However, if he must marry, we still would be happy to see him marry. Even if the other party is an unbeliever, we still would like to see him marry.

When we say this, we are not advocating, as the world says, "Choose the lesser of two evils." We are saying that we would rather see a person commit a sin against God's government rather than a moral sin. If by not marrying I fall into sin, I commit a moral sin. If I marry an unbelieving woman, I commit a sin against God's government. There are two types of sin; one is moral sin, and the other is sin against God's government. Please bear in mind that moral sin is more serious than sin against God's government. If a brother needs to marry and he cannot find a sister, the best thing for him to do is stay single. But if he must marry, we should let him marry even if it means marrying an unbeliever.

If you marry an unbeliever, you need to have your eyes open and realize that serious problems lie ahead. It is particularly hard for a believer to marry an unbeliever. The hardship is greater than that of an unbelieving couple in which one becomes a believer. A husband or wife who becomes a believer after being married may encounter hardship, but many times the Lord will bring him through. However, a believer who marries an unbeliever will face many difficulties. We need to warn him ahead of time, and he needs to open his eyes to the hardships ahead.

If a person marries an unbeliever, we must warn him of another thing: He should be careful not to be carried away. He has to remember that he is marrying an unbeliever, and if he is careless, he will be easily led away. Of course, those who are married or engaged have to be careful as well, but those who are considering marriage should exercise even more care. In other words, they need special protection, preservation, and prayer, so that they will not be carried away by the other party.

If you have no choice but to marry an unbeliever, you must also lay down the terms clearly beforehand. You need to tell the unbeliever, "I have already believed in the Lord. I will not force you to believe, but you cannot interfere with my faith. You must give me absolute freedom in this respect." You need also to bring up the question of children. "You must give me the freedom to lead our children to the Lord. I want my children to believe in the Lord. I do not want them to worship idols or to be conformed to the world." If you emphasize this point enough, perhaps you can get by with this issue.

I will speak a few words to the more mature brothers and sisters. When you see a new believer struggling with such a problem, you must be very careful. Do not open the door too wide. Do not allow him to arbitrarily marry an unbeliever. On the other hand, do not close the door too tightly. Do not keep him away from governmental sin while exposing him to moral sin. It is better to let someone fall into God's governmental hand than to let him fall into moral sin.

I have something more to say about this. We have many young brothers and sisters in every locality. Most of the problems in finding a spouse arise when too many saints have too many expectations concerning the background and status of others. A brother who has a higher social status does not want to marry a sister with a lower status, and the reverse is also true. Today there is no lack of brothers and no lack of sisters. But the question of status has caused many problems. I think this question would be easily solved if the brothers and sisters would change their concept about occupation. It would be easy for sisters to marry if they did not belittle brothers who are farmers. It would also be easy for brothers to marry if they did not belittle sisters who are farmers. Today we look down upon occupations which God honors and exalt occupations which men worship. This is what makes things complicated. Today we have no lack of sisters and brothers, but we do not have many matching pairs according to status. Since the matter of status is a worldly consideration, we need to have a complete turn in our concept concerning occupation in order to solve this problem.

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Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 30, *MARRIAGE*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.