

Please Pray

- ✳ **The Life-Study Messages Pursuit:** (1) Pray that we would all enter into the reality of being the proper pillar and base of the truth, especially through the reading of the Life-Studies. (2) Pray that our appreciation and understanding of the Word would be opened by the Life-Studies. (3) Pray that we would all be open and give ourselves to enter and enjoy the Life-Studies.
- ✳ **We still pray during the ongoing conflict in Russia and Ukraine so that:** (1) the Lord will keep all the saints in these countries open to Him for their experience of the divine dispensing in their daily living; (2) the Lord will meet all the saints' practical needs during the winter months; (3) the Lord will continue shepherding the refugees and establish them in the church life; (4) the Lord's interests will be preserved in Russia, Ukraine and Europe.
- ✳ **The 2023 Spring University Conference in De Hoof, Someren, The Netherlands (March 17-19):** The subject will be Living for the Fulfillment of God's Eternal Purpose. (1) Please pray that the Lord will release 400 open and consecrated vessels to register this week. (2) That the Lord will gain a group of people in Europe who know and live for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose.
- ✳ **The Lord's Move in Asia:** (1) Sri Lanka: Pray for the printing of the Sinhala Recovery Version of the Gospel of Matthew this month. (2) Vietnam: Pray for the plan of printing 10,000 copies of the Vietnamese Recovery Version for free distribution. (3) Pakistan: Pray for the brothers in Rawalpindi to have the Lord's appearing, be drawn by the Lord to follow Him, and be recovered in their function so that they can take responsibility in the church life.
- ✳ **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: 2 Pet 3:1 – 1 John 1:2.
- ✳ HWMR, Loving the Lord and Loving One Another for the Organic Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ, Week 1.
- ✳ Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 17 and 18.

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. Registration is through the online form. Early registration on the Lord's Day, March 19 at \$50 per person. \$60 per person after March 19. Deadline: April 2.
- ✳ Registration has opened 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 see other conference details, please visit: tinyurl.com/2023youngworkingsaints.

Announcements (cont'd)

- ✳ 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 email your prayer requests to Allan Yeow, 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 that are sent to us. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

Upcoming Events

- ✳ March 10-12, Kingston, NY: Northeast Spanish-Speaking Conference.
- ✳ March 24-26, Anaheim, CA: International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.
- ✳ 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.
- ✳ 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-12 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Mar-13	♦
Tues-Mar-14	♦ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Mar-15	♦
Thurs-Mar-16	♦
Fri-Mar-17	♦ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Mar-18	♦
Sun-Mar-19 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

MARRIAGE

IV. MARRIAGE PARTNERS (cont'd)

B. In the New Testament

Paul's word in the New Testament is clear enough. In 1 Corinthians 7:39, he told the widows to marry those who were in the Lord.

Second Corinthians 6:14 is a well-known portion of the Bible. It says that believers and unbelievers should not share the same yoke. These words do not refer to only marriage. But they certainly speak also of marriage. Believers and unbelievers should not be engaged in the same business; they should not join themselves in one goal, like two animals plowing the field with one yoke. God does not allow this. He does not allow a believer and an unbeliever to bear the same yoke. In the Old Testament, an ox and a horse could not be yoked together, and an ass could not be equally yoked with a horse. You cannot have one that is fast and another that is slow. It is impossible to have one going one direction and the other going another direction, or one turning to heaven and the other turning to the world. You cannot have one seeking after spiritual blessings and the other seeking after worldly riches. It is impossible for one to pull in one direction and the other to pull in the other direction. If you do, the yoke will break.

Of all unequally yoked relationships, none is more serious than the marriage relationship. One may be unequally yoked with others in business ventures or in other things. But no yoke is more severe than the marriage yoke. When a believer and an unbeliever share the responsibility of a family together, the result will be nothing but problems. The ideal marriage partner is a brother or a sister. Never choose an unbeliever capriciously. If you pick out an unbeliever carelessly, you will surely encounter problems later. One will be pulling to one side, and the other will be pulling to the other side. One will turn to heaven, and the other will turn to the world. One will seek a heavenly gift, and the other will seek worldly riches. The difference between the two is tremendous. This is why the Bible charges us to marry those in the Lord.

V. IF MARRIED TO AN UNBELIEVER

But here is a problem: Suppose a brother is already married to an unbeliever, or a sister is already married to an unbelieving husband. What should they do? We mentioned earlier that a single person should seek a partner who is in the Lord. However, there are some who are already married. They already have an unbelieving wife or an unbelieving husband. What should they do?

A. If He Wants to Go Away

First Corinthians 7 has something to say about this matter. Verses 12, 13, and 15 address this point. They tell us what to do when a dispute arises in a family that has only one member who is a Christian. Please bear in mind that many such families today complain little, simply because the believers in these families are not absolute enough. The Lord Jesus predicted in the Gospels that there would be much contention within the family. If a believer is absolute, there is bound to be contention in the family. There are cases of "three against two and two against three," as in Luke 12:52, because some family members have become believers. Suppose a husband leaves his wife because she has believed in the Lord. Suppose he says, "You have believed in the Lord; I do not want you anymore." What should the wife do? The Lord's word in 1 Corinthians 7 is clear enough: "Let him separate" (v. 15). Therefore, if a husband wants to separate because the wife has believed in the Lord, or vice versa, the word is, "Let him separate."

However, one thing must be clear: You must not be the one who initiates the separation. You must not be the one who asks for the separation. The other party must be the one who asks for it. He is the one who is not happy with your faith in the Lord. He is the one who thinks that there is no future with you now that you have believed in the Lord. It is he who wants to go. If he wants to separate, "Let him separate."

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>.