

Please Pray

- ✳ The current situation in Poland: A report on the current situation in Poland can be downloaded from me.org/reports.html. Please pray for: (1) The blending and building up of the Polish saints and the Ukrainian saints in Warsaw and Krakow. (2) The feeding and shepherding of the Ukrainian refugees gained through the gospel. (3) The 15 trainees in the Warsaw extension of the full-time training in Moscow. (4) The raising up of new lampstands in Wroclaw, Lodz, and Poznan.
- ✳ **Renovations of our Meeting Hall and financial offerings:** Our Meeting Hall will have many necessary renovations to be done in the coming months, such as replacing the whole roof, replacing all the air conditioning units, etc. These renovations will be necessary for the proper functioning of the Meeting Hall and will require a large amount of funds. The brothers will provide more details in the coming weeks. May each one of us consider before the Lord concerning our financial offerings. May He direct us in our giving to the needs of the church, the saints and the needy ones. May we store up for ourselves “treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not dig through nor steal” – Mat. 6:20. May our hearts be on the things of heaven and not on the things of the earth. “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” – Mat. 6:21.
- ✳ **2023 Grade 6 Conference in Kitchener, Ontario (April 28-30):** (1) May many grade 6 children in the Eastern Canada region be released to attend this conference. (2) May the grade 6 children be prepared by the Lord to be empty vessels to receive a personal speaking from Him. May they receive the Lord as their personal Saviour and consecrate themselves to the Lord. (3) Pray that all the preparations be headed up by the Lord and may each serving one be strengthened in their services. (4) Pray that the Lord will pour out His blessing upon this conference and everyone who will be there.
- ✳ **Bibles distribution at metro station Université de Montréal (May 6):** (1) May the Lord go before us and brood over the surface of the ground to make it a fertile land. May the hearts of men be prepared and be ready for harvesting. (2) May the Lord bring to us seekers and those who are hungry and thirsty for the truth. May they be open to meet with us again for Bible studies or personal appointments. (3) May many become remaining fruits and good materials for God’s building.
- ✳ **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: Ezek 22:1 – 30:26.
- ✳ HWMR, Loving the Lord and Loving One Another for the Organic Building Up of the Church as the Body of Christ, Week 6.
- ✳ Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 27 and 28.

Announcements

- ✳ The registration for the July 2023 Semi-Annual Training in Anaheim, CA is now open. The live training will be held from Monday, July 3, 2023 to Saturday, July 8, 2023. Video training will also be available. The registration cost is CAD\$275 for the live training and CAD\$175 for the video training. If you would like to attend either the live or video training, please let the serving brothers know. Registration deadline is May 1.

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 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, 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 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-April-09 LORD’S DAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 10am-12pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings. ◆ Eastern Canada Young People’s Conference.
Mon-Apr-10	◆
Tues-Apr-11	◆ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Apr-12	◆
Thurs-Apr-13	◆
Fri-Apr-14	◆ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-April-015	◆
Sun-April-16 LORD’S DAY	◆ 10am-12pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings.

MARRIAGE

IX. DIVORCE (cont'd)

B. One Being Allowed to Separate Only When the Oneness Is Broken

Divorce is allowed in the case of adultery because the oneness has already been broken. Originally, the wife was one with her husband. When the husband commits adultery, she becomes free. When the oneness was there, she had to preserve it. Now that the oneness has been broken by the husband, the wife is free. Thus, adultery is the only condition for divorce. A wife can leave her husband if he has committed adultery. If a sister finds her husband committing adultery or taking another woman, she can divorce her husband, and the church cannot stop her. She can divorce her husband, and she can remarry. Anything that destroys the oneness is sin. A person can leave his or her spouse only where adultery is involved, because adultery has destroyed the oneness. Divorce is but a declaration that the oneness between a husband and a wife is gone. Since the oneness is gone, one can remarry.

Matthew 19 and Luke 16 are two clear passages concerning this subject, and we have to pay much attention to them. Divorce is based on adultery. Adultery breaks the original oneness between a husband and a wife. The two are no longer one, but have become two. Therefore, they can divorce. They can divorce each other because there is no more oneness between them. Actually a divorce has already occurred when one party commits adultery; it does not begin with the divorce proceedings. The so-called divorce proceedings are but a procedure. Marriage begins with the declaration of oneness, and divorce is a declaration that such a oneness no longer exists. This is why divorce is permitted where adultery is found. A divorce that is not based on adultery means that both parties are committing adultery. Suppose neither a husband nor a wife has committed adultery. They cannot have a divorce even if they cannot get along with each other. Once they divorce each other, they have committed adultery. If the oneness has not yet been broken when one tries to remarry, he or she is in reality committing adultery. Only when the oneness no longer exists can a person remarry.

We need to know what marriage is. Marriage means oneness; it means that two persons are no longer two, but one flesh. Adultery destroys this oneness, while divorce is but an announcement of the destruction of this oneness. Today if the oneness is gone between two persons, a remarriage is justified. But suppose the oneness is still there. The two may quarrel bitterly, they may not get along with each other, and they may threaten to divorce each other. The world and civic laws may even allow them to divorce each other. But in God's

eyes, the two still cannot divorce each other. If they divorce each other, they have committed adultery in reality. Divorce is allowed only where adultery has already occurred. We must see that no one can separate what God has joined together. Since there is already a union, one must never try to break it for any reason at all.

X. WIDOWS

The Bible allows widows and widowers to remarry for the same reason. Marriage is something that lasts till death. In resurrection there is no marriage relationship. In resurrection men neither marry nor are given in marriage (Matt. 22:30). Marrying and being given in marriage are things of this world. The angels neither marry nor are given in marriage. Resurrected men likewise neither marry nor are given in marriage. Marriage is a thing of this age, not of the next age. Therefore, marriage ends with death. After one's partner dies, he or she may remain unmarried for the sake of cherished affection. But the Bible says nothing to forbid him or her from remarrying someone else.

Consider the teaching in Romans 7 which says that every Christian is a remarried person. We were remarried through the death and resurrection of Christ. Romans 7 shows us that a wife is bound by the law to her husband as long as he is alive. After the husband dies, the wife can marry another man. Whoever marries another man while her husband is alive is an adulteress. If we are not yet dead to the law or if we are Seventh-day Adventists, yet we are married to Christ, all of us are adulteresses. Thank God, we have only one husband. The Seventh-day Adventists have two husbands. Romans 7 says that we could not belong to Christ as long as the law was still alive; if we had belonged to Christ then, we would have been adulteresses. We were originally married to the law, and we belonged to the law. However, we have died through Christ. Today, when we turn to Christ, we are not adulteresses. All of us have been remarried to Christ. We are dead to the law, and we are not adulteresses. Romans 7 tells us that a wife is bound to her husband until his death. After the husband dies, the wife is free. It is wrong for anyone in the church to think that widows should not remarry. This is a heathen concept.

It is all right if a widow wants to remain single like a virgin. Paul said, "It is good for them if they remain even as I am" (1 Cor. 7:8). To live alone like a virgin for the sake of serving the Lord is right, but to remain unmarried because of criticism and social pressure is wrong. I hope that this concept can be removed from the church.

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>.