

Please Pray

- ✳️ **Renovations of Our Meeting Hall and Financial Offerings:** Our Meeting Hall will have many necessary renovations to be done during the coming months, such as replacing the roof, the air conditioning units, etc. These renovations are essential for the proper functioning of the Meeting Hall and will require a large amount of funds. The brothers will provide more details during the coming weeks. May each one of us consider our financial offerings before the Lord. May the Lord direct us in our giving for the needs of the church, of the saints and of 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.” – Matt. 6:20. May our hearts be on the things of heaven and not on the things on the earth. “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” – Matt. 6:21.
- ✳️ **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.
- ✳️ **North America College Training (July 16-22):** This is an opportunity for college-age saints to be together under the Lord’s speaking on the topic of “Love Prevails.” Let us pray that more students in this region can be released from all preoccupations to attend this training. The final deadline is May 15, so students are encouraged to register as soon as possible at <https://www.collegetraining.org>.
- ✳️ **Oakville, Ontario:** Let us pray for the people in the town of Oakville, Ontario, that their eyes would be open, that they would turn from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God. Let us also pray that the saints in Oakville would gather together in prayer more regularly, that the Lord would grow in the saints, and that a lampstand would be raised up for His glory.
- ✳️ **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 2:12 – 3:10.
- ✳️ HWMR, The Divine Dispensing of the Divine Trinity for the Divine Economy, Week 1.
- ✳️ Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 33 and 34.

Announcements

- ✳️ At 6pm **TODAY**, there will be fellowships on Zoom concerning the topic of migration, as we consider the burden of the Lord’s move in the United States, Europe and throughout the earth. The link for this fellowship will be posted on the front page of [GTCA.US’s website](http://GTCA.US).
- ✳️ There will be a “Special All-Canada Fellowship Concerning the Life-Study” on Saturday, May 20 from 1pm to 3pm. The sharing will be online and a link will be sent out.

Announcements (cont’d)

- ✳️ This year’s International Memorial Day Blending Conference will be 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.
- ✳️ The North America College Training will be from July 16-22, 2023 in Champaign, IL. For information, visit collegetraining.org. Please contact the serving brothers if you are interested to attend.
- ✳️ [LivingtoHim YouTube channel](#) released a series of talks by Brother Minoru Chen about the Life-Studies. Weekly subsequent talks are released on Mondays. You can subscribe to the [LivingtoHim YouTube channel](#) to get updates. All outlines are available for [download](#).
- ✳️ 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

- ✳️ May 26-29, Chicago, IL: **International Memorial Day Conference.**
- ✳️ July 3-8, Anaheim, CA: **July Semi-Annual Training.**
- ✳️ July 16-22, Champaign, IL: **North America College Training.**
- ✳️ August 6-11, Kitchener, ON: **Summer School of Truth (“SST”).**

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

This Week’s Activities

Sun-May-07 LORD’S DAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✳️ 10am-12pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings. ✳️ 6pm: Zoom fellowships on the topic of migration.
Mon-May-08	✳️
Tues-May-09	✳️ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-May-10	✳️
Thurs-May-11	✳️
Fri-May-12	✳️ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-May-13	✳️
Sun-May-14 LORD’S DAY	✳️ 10am-12pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings.

CHOOSING A MATE

Scripture Reading: Gen. 2:18

II. FACTORS AFFECTING THE CHOICE OF A MATE

B. Physical Health

Second, physical health must be taken into consideration. It is true that great love overcomes physical weaknesses. We know that some people marry for the purpose of attending to the physical weakness of their spouse. One brother in England wanted to marry a sister because she was blind. There are many cases like this in church history. Where love is great, physical weakness is overcome.

But we must realize that under normal circumstances, not everyone will have such great love. Normally, physical weakness can become a damaging factor to the success of a marriage. As the physical weakness of one party becomes more acute, the need for sacrifice in the other party becomes more severe, and this spontaneously leads to the possibility of failure in the marriage.

There are only two possible scenarios for a married person who is handicapped in some way and who is being cared for by the other party. Either he is very selfish, or he is self-conscious. A selfish person only receives; he does not give. He only takes but does not spend. If a handicapped person is selfish and always thinks of his own need, after some time this selfishness will become apparent to the other party. The other party will despise such a person and will think, "My husband (or wife) is so selfish. He (or she) thinks only of himself (or herself) and not of others." She (or he) will begin to despise the other half.

Perhaps such a person is not selfish but is very self-conscious. This will also pose a problem. When a person is very self-conscious, he will feel guilty about his spouse's constant service and sacrifice for him. It will be hard for him to receive this service or special treatment. This is why under normal circumstances, illness affects the success of a marriage.

I believe that a man and a woman should be comparable in health for a marriage to be successful. You cannot have one party who is healthy and the other party who is seriously ill. Otherwise, it will be hard and unbearable for the couple to go on during times of special trials. One must pay attention to the health of the other party when it comes to marriage.

C. Heredity

Marriage must be viewed as a long-term endeavor. As such, the matter of heredity must be taken into account. One should consider the health of the individual as well as the health of his or her progenitors.

Heredity is not only medically valid, but it is also spoken of in the Bible. God's law says that God is a jealous God. God will visit the iniquity of those who hate Him until the third and fourth generations. He will also show loving-kindness to the thousandth generation of those who love Him and keep His commandments. Many live dissipated and lawless lives in their youth because their fathers or grandfathers before them sowed to whirlwinds. The Bible says that those who sow to whirlwinds are those who walk in a wanton way. They may be forgiven and saved and they may receive new life one day, but some who are qualified for salvation may not be qualified for marriage. The Lord may forgive their sins and conduct and may save them. But if they marry and bear children, the children may not be saved easily. They will transmit their evil seed to the next generations, but they cannot transmit their regeneration to them. They can only sow the seed of sin but not the life of God; they cannot pass their regeneration on to their children.

Many times when such persons bear children, the next generation falls into gross sin and serious lawlessness. This brings much sorrow to the parents. I am not saying that this will occur when they are first married. I am saying that they will have a difficult time with their children during the latter years of their life. Some have wondered how some spiritual persons could have given birth to the kind of children they have. You may wonder why a sister has such an undisciplined daughter. You should realize that there is such a thing as the law of heredity. In many cases the second and third generations inherit the evil seed of the first generation. What one sows in the whirlwind he will reap in the whirlwind. Your next generation will reap the seed that you have sown. On the one hand, this sowing will give the church one more difficult sinner to work on, and on the other hand, it will give you one more rebellious son in your family. This can present quite a problem to everyone.

What should be done if there are some who have a hereditary problem but who are already married? They have to ask God for mercy so that they would be delivered from God's governmental hand. This has to do with God's governmental hand and His arrangement. They should pray that God's governmental hand will pass over them and spare them these dire consequences.

Young brothers and sisters should pay attention to the factor of heredity in the opposite party, because it has much to do with the rest of their life.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 31, *CHOOSING A MATE*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.