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.
- 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 during the coming weeks. May all 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 persons in need. 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.
- First Lord's table meeting in Rotterdam, the Netherlands (May 21):
 Praise the Lord for raising up a lampstand in Rotterdam, Netherlands.
 We stand with the saints for the first Lord's table in this city. (1) May the Lord strengthen and encourage the saints to go on in a strong way in Rotterdam. (2) May the Lord continue to grow in life in the saints and grow in number for His testimony in Rotterdam.
- 2023 Spring CEEB Blending Conference in Bratislava, Slovakia (May 19-21): The 2023 Central and Eastern Europe and Balkan ("CEEB") Blending Conference will take place in Bratislava, Slovakia. (1) May the Lord use this conference to speak to the saints in that region. (2) May the Lord's burden be released and may He dispense Himself in the saints in a fresh way. (3) May the Lord use this conference to gain a strong testimony in that region.
- 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: Eze 22:1 30:26.
- HWMR, The Divine Dispensing of the Divine Trinity for the Divine Economy, Week 2.
- Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 35 and 36.

Announcements

There will be an online special all-Canada fellowship concerning the Life-Studies on Saturday, May 20 from 1pm to 3pm. All information is available on Canada Victoria Day Life Study Fellowship.

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. Please see details on the bulletin board.
- The North America College Training will be from July 16-22, 2023 in Champaign, IL. For information, visit <u>collegetraining.org/</u>. 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, <u>allan.yeow81@gmail.com</u>, 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 20 (online): Canada Victoria Day Life Study Fellowship.
- 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-14 LORD'S DAY	• 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-May-15	•
Tues-May-16	• 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-May-17	•
Thurs-May-18	•
Fri-May-19	6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-May-20	• 1pm-3pm: Canada Victoria Day Life Study Fellowship.
Sun-May-21 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 (cont'd)

D. Family

Fourth, one has to pay attention to the family of the other party. There is a familiar expression in the West, which says, "I am marrying So-and-so, not her family." But please remember that there is no such thing. When a person marries a girl, her whole family comes along. Once a person marries another person, the whole family of the other side comes along, because a person is more or less a part of his family. All you need to do is to see if the other side's family has a high standard of morality or a lofty set of values. What is their view toward many things? Do they have a strict standard for everything? How do the males treat the females in this family? And how do the females treat the males? Simply consider these matters a little and you will know what your family's future holds.

A young person has been under his family's influence for over ten or twenty years. He may not be satisfied with his family, but after he is married, his family's traits and ways will unconsciously surface in his new family. Sooner or later these traits will be made manifest. I dare not say that this will be so ten out of ten times. But I dare say that it will be so seven or eight out of ten times. Although the traits may not surface all at once, the other party's family will gradually creep into your own family.

If a father is very strict with his children, the sons and daughters of that family will not be too affectionate. Children from stern families are often lacking in affection. If a family is warm and the parents are full of love, the children from this family will spontaneously be gentle and easygoing. If both the father and the mother in a family are strict, the children from that family will be introspective and inward. It is all right if you want a husband from such a family, but do not expect to find a warm husband. If you find a daughter from such a family, she will be introspective and inward. If a family carries a certain trait, seven to eight out of ten times, the children will carry the same trait. Family traits always resurface in the second generation.

This is why some say, "If you want to marry the daughter, take a good look at the mother." This word may not be altogether true, but there is some truth to it. By looking at the way the mother treats the father, you will know how the daughter will treat her husband in the future. She has been watching her mother for over twenty

years, and this is what she has learned. Daily she has been observing the way her mother treats her father. How can she not treat her husband in the same way? It will be hard for her not to do the same things. I would not say that, in ten out of ten cases, a daughter will be the same as her mother. But I would say that you can expect this to happen seven or eight out of ten times.

For example, some people have a very strong character. They can be very gentle when you speak to them. But they grew up in a family with strong character. Sooner or later these overbearing traits will surface in them. If a family is close, and there is little guarreling or fighting in the family, the one who comes from this family will spontaneously be congenial and quiet. They will not argue or engage in physical fights easily. Children who come from such families will at least consider guarreling to be wrong and serious. To ask them to engage in a brawl would be like asking them to climb over a high mountain. If a brother or a sister grows up in a family that argues or guarrels every day, he or she may be courteous with you today, but this courtesy is undependable; it is only a temporary mask. One day when he lets down his guard, all of the skills that he learned from his family will come out. To him, cursing will require no effort, neither quarreling, and you will not be able to do anything about it.

Before you decide to marry someone, you should study the other party's family, and decide whether you like it or not. If you like it, seventy to eighty percent of the problem is solved. If you feel that something is wrong there, do not expect your future spouse to be an exception.

Please remember that one's habit is different from one's view. One's view may be one way, but his habit may turn out to be something else. If there are arguments, fights, and bad habits in a family, sooner or later the children will argue and fight. It is not easy to change anyone's habit. When one marries a sister, he is marrying her whole family. When one marries a brother, she is also marrying his whole family. This is why one must carefully consider the other person's family.

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.