

Please Pray

- ✳ **Young people and college students' summer vacation:** (1) May each of our young people and college students be covered and sanctified during their summer vacation time. (2) May this be a time to recharge, rest and pursue the Lord. (3) May the college students registered for the College training be prepared to be the proper vessels for the Lord to speak to them a personal word. (4) May the young people be released to attend the upcoming Summer School of Truth in August.
- ✳ **Raising up the children to be proper vessels:** (1) May each parent and serving one be attuned to have the same mind and the same vision concerning the purpose and the way to raise up the children for the Lord's purpose. (2) May each one see the importance of raising up the children to have a proper character and be proper vessels for the Lord's purpose.
- ✳ **Renovations of our meeting hall and financial offerings:** Please continue to pray that: 1. The construction would be completed according to the planned schedule. 2. The final renovation cost would be lower than the estimated budget. 3. The Lord would release the finances through the Body to meet the need, and that we would not need any financial loans to finish this project.
- ✳ **The constitution of the truth through the Recovery version Bible, the footnotes and the Life-Studies:** (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 Recovery version Bible, the footnotes and the Life-Studies. (2) Pray that our appreciation and understanding of the Word would be opened by the footnotes and the Life-Studies. (3) Pray that we would all be open and give ourselves to enter and enjoy the Recovery version Bible, the footnotes and the Life-Studies.
- ✳ **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 5:14 – 3 John 1:14.
- ✳ HWMR, The Divine Dispensing of the Divine Trinity for the Divine Economy, Week 5.
- ✳ Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 41 and 42.

Announcements

- ✳ 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 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 sent to us. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

Upcoming Events

- ✳ 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 ("SSOT").**
- Please refer to the church's website where more events are listed.*

This Week's Activities

Sun-Jun-04 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Jun-05	✳
Tues-Jun-06	✳ 07:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-June-07	✳
Thurs-Jun-08	✳
Fri-Jun-09	✳ 06:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Jun-10	✳
Sun-Jun-11 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)

F. Compatibility in Personality, Goals, and Interests (cont'd)

8. Clean versus Sloppy

One sister cares very much about cleanliness at home. Everything in her house has to be very clean. She walks behind her husband with a rag and cleans up everything. But the husband takes pleasure in sloppiness. One day I visited their home and found her husband throwing a pillow on the floor, turning over a chair, and shuffling everything around. I asked him why he was doing this. He said, "I am so happy today because my wife has gone to her parents' house." He had been so frustrated by her cleanliness that he reveled in sloppiness. This is not a matter of morality. There is nothing wrong with being a little neat, and there is nothing wrong with being a little sloppy.

9. Compatibility of Personality Being the Most Important Factor in Maintaining a Good Marriage

A new believer must see that there are two basic conditions for love. One is natural attraction, and the other is compatibility of personality. When you want to choose a mate, you must first choose one who attracts you. A marriage that has no attraction will not work. Second, choose one whose personality is similar to yours. The mature ones should help the young ones to know their personality. Do not neglect the matter of compatibility in personality just because there is natural attraction.

I know of a couple in Shanghai who are always quarreling. I asked the husband why he married her in the first place. He replied that when he first saw her, he was attracted by her dark eyes. This is natural attraction. He just liked her dark eyes. But soon after they were married, the whiteness and the darkness of her eyes were forgotten. He only remembered that she liked to be tidy, and that he did not like to be tidy. She liked to be cheerful, but he liked to be quiet. She liked to be fast, while he liked to be slow. Please remember that personality is something permanent, while natural attraction is something temporal.

In choosing their mates, young people should not consider only natural attraction. No doubt there should be natural attraction. I like to see young brothers and sisters paying attention to natural attraction. There is nothing wrong with this. But natural attraction is not enough. You must consider also the compatibility of your personalities. This is something altogether different. If personalities clash, natural attraction will soon disappear. Natural attraction may induce you into a marriage, but it will never sustain your marriage. These are actual problems that we must be made aware of.

Some have said that a person can have two heavens or two hells. A person may go up to one heaven and down to one hell. He may also go up to two heavens or down to two hells. The happiest place on earth is a happy family; it is like heaven. The most terrible place on earth is a sad family; it is like hell. When a family is happy, one feels as if he were in heaven. When a family is sad, one feels as if he is in hell. A believer may have one heaven and one hell. An unbeliever may have two hells. He has a hell when he lives on earth and another hell when he dies and goes into hell. There are many Christians who live in hell today but who will go to heaven in the future. They live this way because the harmony of personality is missing from their families.

I recall the case of a brother whose wife fought and quarreled with anyone anywhere. She could be very spiritual when she wanted to be, praying beautifully and acting very spiritual. But when her temper flared up, no one could talk to her. She fought with her neighbors all the time, and no one could do anything about it. Her husband had to go around and apologize to this and that family all the time. Every time he came home, he had to find out whom she had quarreled with in order to apologize to that person. She was in trouble every day. Actually, if that brother had married a quiet sister or that sister had married an active brother, everything would have been fine. When an energetic sister marries a quiet husband or a quiet brother marries an active wife, trouble certainly will arise in the family.

10. Not Expecting the Other's Personality to Change

Many people have a wrong concept. They think they can change someone else's personality. Please remember that this is not possible. It takes a long time for even the Holy Spirit to change a person. How much can you do? Please remember that marriage does not bring with it the power to change a person's nature. Many brothers and sisters know that their spouses have a different personality, and they want to change it. But after two or three years, they find that there is still no change. If there is one hope in the world that is doomed to failure, this is certainly the one. I have yet to see a husband who has managed to change his wife. Neither have I seen a wife who has changed her husband. I once said that in marriage, one can only purchase ready-made goods, not made-to-order goods. Whatever a person is, that is what you get. You cannot order a person to be a certain way. You must first find out if you can accept such a brother's or sister's personality. You can only find out one's present personality; you cannot expect to change it. If you harbor such a hope, you will surely be disappointed. We hope that God's children will pay attention to this matter. This will spare them many headaches.

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>