

Please Pray

- ✳ **Spanish-Speaking Conference in London, Ontario (June 23-25):** (1) Pray that many Spanish-speaking saints from many localities will be released to attend this time. (2) May these Spanish-speaking saints be prepared to be open vessels to receive fresh dispensing from the Lord. (3) May the Lord use this conference to encourage and strengthen the Spanish-speaking saints in this region.
- ✳ **North America College Training (July 16-22):** Once every four years, the regional college trainings come together for a North America College Training. This gathering from July 16–22 will be on the subject of “Love Prevails,” with nearly 2,900 college-age saints and serving ones registered to attend. We pray for all brothers and sisters who registered, that they would gain much spiritual benefit from this week-long training. We also bring all the details of this time to the Lord, including the saints’ health and transportation. May all these saints be captured for the Lord’s interest.
- ✳ **North America Chinese-Speaking Perfecting Training (July 26-30):** The North America Chinese-Speaking Perfecting Training is being held as a way for the saints in the churches to be perfected in the areas of truth, life and service. Pray that many seeking saints would separate this time so that they can grow, mature in life, and be strengthened in function in their service to build up the Body of Christ.
- ✳ **The Conflict in Ukraine:** Please continue to pray that: (1) The Lord would keep all the saints in the countries involved open to Him for His divine dispensing. (2) The Lord would meet all the practical needs of the saints. (3) The brothers who are fighting in the war would be preserved by the Lord in their tripartite being. (4) The Lord would shepherd the refugees and establish them in the church life. (5) The local saints, serving ones, and trainees in Europe would be blended with the refugees. (6) The saints in all the countries involved would be kept in the oneness of the Body and the reality of the new man. (7) The tripartite being of the saints in the besieged cities would be protected and preserved for the Lord’s interests. (8) The Lord would comfort and sustain those who have lost loved ones in the war. (9) The enemy would be bound in his attack on the Lord’s interests in Russia, Ukraine, and Europe.
- ✳ **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: Jude 1:1 – Rev 1:11.
- ✳ HWMR, Crystallization-Study of 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther, Week 1.
- ✳ Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 45 and 46.

Announcements

- ✳ The registration deadline for the October International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones is **July 1**. All brothers who would like to join in person or by video must contact the leading brothers by June 30.
- ✳ [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 also 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

- ✳ June 23-25, London, ON: **Spanish-Speaking Conference**.
- ✳ July 3-8, Anaheim, CA: **July Semi-Annual Training**.
- ✳ July 16-22, Champaign, IL: **North America College Training**.
- ✳ July 26-30: **North America Chinese-Speaking Perfecting Training**.
- ✳ August 6-11, Kitchener, ON: **Summer School of Truth (“SSOT”)**.
- ✳ October 5-7, Manila, Philippines: **Fall International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (“ITERO”)**.

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

This Week’s Activities

Sun-Jun-18 LORD’S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Jun-19	♦
Tues-Jun-20	♦ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Jun-21	♦
Thurs-Jun-22	♦
Fri-Jun-23	♦ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Jun-24	♦
Sun-Jun-25 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)

H. Character

For a marriage to be successful, both parties must have character attributes that the other one appreciates. The wife must not despise the husband, and the husband must not despise the wife. Once there is contempt of any kind, the family is finished. Both sides should respect the other's character. The husband must respect his wife's character, and the wife must respect her husband's character. Hence, we have not only the matter of personality and weakness, but also the matter of character.

For example, it is excusable for a wife to hide things occasionally when she speaks. But it becomes a problem of character if she lies all the time. Some husbands by nature are somewhat selfish; they care only for themselves and not others. But they cannot carry their selfishness so far as to lose their wife's respect. Within a family, the husband must have some character traits that the wife respects. This is different from the matter of compatibility of personality. It is difficult enough for a couple to adjust to friction and conflict in personality. If, in addition to this, there is any contempt in character, the very foundation of the family is shaken. Then nothing can be done to save the situation.

Sometimes we see husbands who are very obnoxious. At other times we see wives who are very calculating; they will do things that are profitable only to themselves, and nothing more. Clearly these are character flaws. They are not merely weaknesses. This is a matter of contempt and disrespect. Once such elements exist, the basic ingredient of a marriage is gone. This is why we have to ask ourselves whether we can tolerate the other side's character.

Some people are quite cruel. They are harsh to others, no matter who they may be. They are insensitive to others' problems and feelings. They only want to express their own feelings, caring little if others are hurt. This is not a matter of incompatibility of personality but of a character flaw which opens the door for disrespect.

Some people have no control over themselves. They do not have any self-discipline. They are wild in everything, including their temper. When a problem arises, their anger flares up. Why does a person lose his temper? He loses his temper because he is selfish and because he is only after his own satisfaction. In the final analysis this is not a problem of temperament or weakness, but a problem of character. Once this element comes in, contempt and disrespect also come in.

Therefore, before two persons marry each other, they have to discover the admirable attributes in the other party. This is particularly true with marriages among God's children; there should always be some noble traits on each side. If a man has nothing in him that others can appreciate, this man is not qualified to marry. You must have at least one or two noble traits in the eyes of God before the other party will respect you.

I. Getting Along with Others

There is another aspect of personality and human consideration that we have to take care of. When you contemplate marrying a person, you must ask whether that person can get along with others. Marriage means a living together, and it is a big question whether or not a person can live together with others. Some people are by nature very individualistic. They cannot live together with others. If a brother is at odds with his father, mother, brothers, and sisters, you can only expect an unhappy marriage if you marry him. If a sister cannot get along with anyone and is always in conflict with others, you can be sure that there will be little happiness if you take her for your wife.

Everyone who wishes to marry must meet one basic requirement—he (or she) must be able to get along with others. Because marriage is a living together, if one cannot get along with others, he surely cannot live with you. If he cannot get along with others, how can you expect him to get along with you? The chances are very slim; it will be very difficult for him to change. If he has no respect for anyone in the world, can you imagine that he will have respect for you? If you wait until you are married, you will see that he also will have no respect for you. It is difficult for such ones to marry. In choosing a spouse, you must make sure that the other party has the basic human factors necessary for a marriage. You must find out whether he can get along with others.

Suppose a sister has reached the age of marriage. If she goes around and tells everybody, "My mother is terrible. My father is terrible. My brothers and sisters are all terrible. Everyone in the family treats me terribly," you can be sure that she will complain later; she will say also that you are terrible. Such a person lacks the ability to get along with others.

Please remember that if you can get along with others easily, the chance of success in marriage will be high. If you cannot live with anyone, the chance of success will be low. I am not saying that no one will be able to live with such a person. But I am afraid that it will not be an easy thing. This is a very important factor.

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>.