

Please Pray

- ✿ **The 30 Days of Prayer for the North America College Training (July 16-22):** A list of prayer burdens was sent out to the saints in the churches in the Lord's Recovery to pray, petition, and intercede for the Lord to move during the North America College Training. The duration of prayer is 30 days, beginning on June 17 and concluding on July 16, the first day of the NACT. ♦ June 27: Let's pray for the speaking brothers – There will be many brothers, including some senior co-workers, who will be ministering the Word during this week. Please pray for the rich anointing and outpoured Spirit of power upon each of the brothers (Acts 2:4); ♦ June 28: Let's pray for the blending among all the students – Each trainee will be placed in a small group and cohort, and this is a unique opportunity for students from all different cultures, nationalities, and backgrounds to be brought together to enjoy the Lord and His rich speaking, and to experience blending for the building up of His Body. (Col. 3:10-11); ♦ June 29: Let's pray for the high school graduates – There are 341 incoming freshmen registered to attend the college training. Pray that they would genuinely and personally touch the Lord and consecrate their college years to the Lord (Psa. 110:3).
- ✿ **The 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 Young People, College Students and Each Saint's Summer Time:** (1) May each of us, including the young people and college students, be covered and sanctified this summer. (2) May this be a time to recharge, rest, and pursue the Lord. (3) May the young people be released to attend the upcoming Summer School of Truth in August. (4) May this Summer be a time when the Lord could speak to us through all the conferences and trainings. (5) May we seize this Summer to blend among ourselves and visit other localities for the building up of His Body.
- ✿ **The Third Edition of the European Games in Krakow, Poland (June 21 to July 2):** This multi-disciplinary sports competition will serve as this year's European championships and/or as the qualifications for the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris for many of the sports represented. 7,000 athletes from 48 European countries are registered. We ask for prayer for this special time: for the repentance and conversion of many people, for remaining fruit in the church life, for the preparations, coordination, for the official approval of the distribution, for the blending and building up of the local saints with visiting saints, for practical matters, and ultimately, that our God the Father would be glorified and the incense of Christ would permeate the entire city of Krakow.
- ✿ **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. 47:1 – Dan. 4:37.
- ✿ HWMR, Crystallization-Study of 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther, Week 2.
- ✿ Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 47 and 48.

Announcements

- ✿ The North America College Training will be held from July 16-22, 2023 in Champaign, IL. For information, visit collegetraining.org/. Please contact the serving brothers if you are interested in attending.
- ✿ 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

- ✿ 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-25 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Jun-26	♦
Tues-Jun-27	♦ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Jun-28	♦
Thurs-Jun-29	♦
Fri-Jun-30	♦ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Jul-01	♦
Sun-Jul-02 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)

J. Being Consecrated

We have covered the matter of physical health, the matter of character, and the matter of the soul. Now we want to cover the matter of the spirit. Spiritually, a person must be consecrated to the Lord.

We should not marry a non-Christian. However, more is involved than just this; we should have a higher vision before the Lord. A successful marriage must not only be one with natural physical attractions and compatible personalities, but also be one in which both parties have the same spiritual goals. This means that both must want to serve the Lord. Both must be totally given to the Lord. One lives for God; so does the other. In all things great or small, both are for the Lord. This means that there is the need of consecration. Consecration is more important than good character. Once a couple is consecrated, the marriage will have a solid foundation. In such a marriage both sides will have a strong common interest before God.

In such a family, there is no question as to who should be the head and who should obey. Instead, both will say that Christ is the Head, and they will both obey Him. Then there is no need for any side to save his "face." Many times the wife argues with the husband, not because she is right or he is wrong, but because she wants to save her "face." It has nothing to do with right or wrong. She is merely trying to "save face." But the question of "face" will not come in if both are consecrated. Both can lose their "faces" before the Lord. Both can confess their faults before the other. We are those who are for God's will. Any problem can be resolved if both parties are for God's will.

In a family, if both the husband and the wife are fully consecrated to the Lord, and if both of them serve the Lord in one accord, the chance for such a marriage to be successful will be very high. Even though there may be natural differences, and even though physical attraction may fade away, none of these will become hindrances to them, and the family will still go on in a positive way.

These ten factors have to be considered in choosing a mate. They can be classified under physical (or outward) attributes, psychological (or character) attributes, and spiritual attributes. We must take care of all three things. We have to pay attention to a person's physical attributes, personality, and spirituality. All three must be placed in their proper perspective. We must consider all three things and study them one by one.

III. PAYING ATTENTION TO CHOOSING A MATE

Before you consider marrying someone or entering into an engagement, you should jot down all his attributes one by one. What about the natural attraction of such a person? What about his physical health? What about his heredity? How is his family? Everything needs to be written down in detail. This is a serious matter. Do not do it carelessly. You should write down every attribute one by one. What is his personality like? What are his weaknesses? How many attributes can you find in such a person that you can appreciate? Is he able to get along with people? How well does he relate to his family? How is his relationship with his friends? Does he have any friends? Please remember that those who have no friends make very poor wives and husbands. A person who cannot relate well to others has little chance of relating well to you. You must observe privately how he treats people, friends, family members, younger brothers and sisters, children, and parents. Then you need to know whether he is fully consecrated and whether he wants to live for the Lord. Find out how much he has given up for the Lord and how much spiritual experience he has.

The mature ones who oversee the young ones must also write down every point concerning the two persons and make a comparison. They will then have an idea of whether or not the two will quarrel or argue in the future. Many become aware of problems only after the problems have surfaced. We must study this carefully beforehand. This will tell us the chance of a couple's future success.

I would like to say emphatically that the family life of our next generation has much to do with the church life of our next generation. I want to speak a word to the elderly ones: You must take care of the families of our next generation. The church life of the next generation will be strong only if you take care of this matter well. If our next generation has terrible families, the church will suffer great drawbacks. Today those who already have families have no way to change their families. We can only ask them to exercise more forbearance, endurance, care, and love. But we hope that those who are not yet married will exercise themselves to build up a good family. This is indeed an excellent endeavor. In the coming days may God bestow His grace to the church so that many young families will be raised up in which both the husband and the wife serve the Lord and walk in His way together in one accord. How beautiful such a picture will be!

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>.