## **Please Pray**

- Start of the School Year Gospel Preaching and Bibles distribution (mid-Aug. to mid-Sep.): (1) May the Lord direct and guide us in every aspect of the preparation. May all the preparation be headed up in Christ; (2) May the Lord of the harvest thrust out the workers into His harvest. May we be willing to cooperate with the Lord in this move by praying and by going. (3) May the Lord prepare those who will be going to be filled with the Spirit within to make us channels of life and clothed without to make us His representative with His authority. (4) May the Lord go before us and brood over the campuses, the metro stations and the streets. May the Lord prepare the hearts of men to make them ready to receive the word when we meet them. (5) May many be attracted to us and willing to be contacted again. May many be willing to have appointments with us, come to the Bible studies, the activities, the home meetings and eventually be added to the church life. May many fruit remain.
- Renovations of Our Meeting Hall and Financial Offerings: The renovation work began in June and we have completed the air conditioning system and windows. The work on the roof began during the week of August 13. It was estimated to be completed by the end of August. We received enough money to pay for the first instalment for the roof. However, we are still short of money to pay for the rest of the instalment. May all of us continually consider our financial offerings before the Lord. May the Lord direct us in our giving for the needs of the church, the saints and 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.
- \* Full-Time Training in Anaheim ("FTTA") and Extension in Boston ("FTTA-XB") began Aug. 13; Middle-Age Training ("FTTA-MA") begins Sep. 11: We thank the Lord for all trainees who registered to give themselves to be trained by the Lord. May all the trainees in these trainings be perfected by Him in life, truth, and service for the building up of His Body.
- 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: Hosea 13:1 Amos 2:16.
- HWMR, Crystallization-Study of 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra Nehemiah, and Esther, Week 10.
- Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 63 and 64.

#### **Announcements**

- 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 <u>LivingtoHim YouTube channel</u> 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, <u>allan.yeow81@gmail.com</u>, by 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**

- October 5-7, Manila, Philippines: Fall International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones ("ITERO").
- November 23-26, Dallas Texas: The 2023 International Thanksgiving Blending Conference.

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

#### This Week's Activities

Sun-Aug-20 LORD'S DAY	• 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Aug-21	•
Tues-Aug-22	7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Aug-23	•
Thur-Aug-24	•
Fri-Aug-25	6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Aug-26	•
Sun-Aug-27 LORD'S DAY	• 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

#### **HUSBAND AND WIFE**

Scripture Reading: Col. 3:18-19; 1 Pet. 3:1-7; Eph. 5:22-23

### IX. THE WAY TO SOLVE FAMILY PROBLEMS

What should we do when there are disputes between the husband and the wife? How do we solve family disputes? It is inevitable for husbands and wives to encounter problems and enter into arguments. However, since both are adults and are children of God, they must learn to know what the other person's problem is, and where they differ. Before they can solve any disputes, they must know where the problem lies.

## A. Any Settlement Needing to Be Fair

Any settlement must be fair. If it is not fair, it will not last. Do not expect one party to endure to the end. One out of ten Christians may endure to the end. But the other nine will not be able to endure to the end. If a solution is not fair, sooner or later the problem will come back again. When I was in Shanghai, I arbitrated in some family disputes. Many people wondered why tiny matters could be blown up to such a big scale. You must realize that when small matters are blown up, they are not blown up because of the matters themselves but because of history. It is the accumulation of a series of things that leads to the explosion. The explosion may be ignited by small matters, but the underlying cause may have been an accumulation of grudges over the years. Do not consider any matter to be trivial. Problems surface today because they were not dealt with in a fair way in the first place, and patience ran out in the meantime.

# B. Holding Conferences between Husbands and Wives

It is best for outsiders to stay out of family disputes. Let the couple hold their own conference. Let them settle their own disputes when they get into an argument. Do not allow news to leak out of the family, while the family itself is left in the dark. Sometimes, news regarding the husband is heard twenty miles away and yet he does not know about it himself. Sometimes news about the wife travels the same way. Let the wife tell her own husband about their own affairs, and let the husband tell his own wife about their affairs. In this way both are clear. Our experience tells us that husbands seldom

know what their wives are thinking about and vice versa. Everyone else knows what they are thinking about, but they themselves do not know what each other is thinking about. Therefore, allow both to have the opportunity to speak to each other, and each should wait for the other to finish before he or she speaks. Do not allow the talkative side to dominate the talk. The husband must listen to the wife, and the wife must listen to the husband.

Many times, problems are solved as soon as the husband hears a word from the mouth of his wife, or the wife hears a word from the mouth of her husband. Many wives will only speak but will not listen to their husbands. If they would just listen, their problems would go away.

Both husband and wife should sit down and discuss the matter in an objective way, not in a subjective way. Once they become subjective, the discussion will fall apart. While they are talking, they should try to find the right judgment and the right feeling. They may not know who is right, but they should try to find out what is right. They should try to understand what each one is saying. Both must do this objectively, not subjectively. Both should speak, and after speaking, they should pray together. Always seek settlement through prayer. Ask the Lord to clearly show them where the problem lies. If they can follow this advice, the problem will be more or less settled by the time they pray together a second time. Many problems arise because they have not sat down to listen to each other and to listen objectively. As soon as they sit down and listen objectively, half of the problem is solved. As they sit and listen some more, they will discover where the problem lies.

During the first few years of a marriage life, a family should have this type of meeting two or three times a year. Each side will then learn where problems lie and how to deal with them. Many families need to learn this lesson. It will surely solve many problems within the family.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 32, *HUSBAND AND WIFE*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <a href="http://www.ministrybooks.org">http://www.ministrybooks.org</a>.