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 them channels of life and clothed without to make them 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 fruits remain.
- Chinese Gospel Meeting Follow-Up: May the new ones that we contacted during the Chinese Gospel Meeting held on Saturday, August 26 be attracted to us and be willing to be contacted again. May many be willing to have appointments with us to read the Bible together, attend the activities, the home meetings and eventually be added to the church life. May many fruits remain.
- Next Generation Start of the School Year: (1) May the Lord bless each child/young person/college student's transition for this new school year. (2) May the children service serving ones be strengthened for all the changes with the groups and the service. May the Lord be the serving ones' wisdom for all the arrangements. (3) May the Lord cover the young people's and the college students' new school year. May they be sanctified from their environment and learn how to depend on the Lord for their studies. (4) May the Lord gain the next generation for Christ and the church.
- 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.
- Pray for various local needs in Montréal: The saints, their contacts, and for the persons in need of care and shepherding.

Weekly Readings

- \bullet Holy Bible Recovery Version with footnotes: Rev. 8:13 11:19.
- HWMR, Crystallization-Study of 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra Nehemiah, and Esther. Week 11.
- Life-Study of Matthew, Messages 65 and 66.

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</u> <u>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

- August 29, 7:30pm-8:30pm: Corporate Church Prayer Meeting (all languages), in person in the Main Hall as well as on Zoom.
- 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-27 LORD'S DAY	• 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Aug-28	•
Tues-Aug-29	• 7:30pm-8:30pm: Corporate Church Prayer Meeting (all languages), in person in the Main Hall as well as on Zoom.
Wed-Aug-30	•
Thur-Aug-31	•
Fri-Sep-01	6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Sep-02	•
Sun-Sep-03 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

X. THE NEED FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Between the two persons in the family, there must be confession and forgiveness. Many mistakes need to be confessed, not just ignored. Do not be careless about your own faults; you must always confess them. As for the faults of the other party, you must forgive them.

When a Christian does something wrong, the basic principle is to not cover it up. It is not enough to just repent for it. When a Christian does something wrong, the basic principle is to confess. A Christian does not cover up or turn away from a sin; this is not enough to be called a Christian. When a Christian does something wrong, he must confess and say, "I was wrong in this." Every wrong must be confessed. Whenever there is any wrong between the husband and wife, there must be confession. One must acknowledge, "I have done wrong."

You confess when you are wrong. But what happens when the other person is wrong? You have to treat it the same way that you treat all Christian relationships. When there is any wrongdoing, learn to forgive. Do not delve into the matter and do not be vindictive. Love does not take account of evil. This means that it does not remember the sins of others. Learn to forgive them before the Lord. Once you forgive, you should forget. You have to lay aside what you have forgiven. Do not be like Peter, who tried to count the number of times others offended him (Matt. 18:21-22). As long as you are counting, you are not forgiving. Real forgiveness does not count the number of times one forgives. As soon as you forgive, the matter is over. In order for a family to go on, there must be forgiveness.

XI. CONSENT OF BOTH PARTIES IN SEEKING HELP FROM THE CHURCH

When a family has a problem, it must try to solve it first by calling a family meeting. In some cases one should forgive. In other cases one should confess. It is difficult for a third party to settle disputes within a family. The disputes between two persons are most easily solved between themselves. When a third party is involved, the situation becomes complicated. We should try to settle any dispute in as simple a way as possible. Do not look for complicated solutions. Referring a dispute to a third party is like adding mud to an injured leg. An injured leg without any mud is easily treated. But when mud is added, it is hard to deal with the wound. Disputes between two persons are more easily solved when a third party is not involved. As soon as a third party is informed, the problem is complicated. Therefore, a couple should learn to solve their own problems and should not try to inform a third party about it.

However, sometimes one needs to refer a certain matter to the church. Please remember that a person should not bring the matter to the church alone. The husband must seek the consent of the wife and vice versa before they can bring their dispute to the church. The two persons must have exhausted their means of handling the situation, and they now want the church to step in to help them. They should not come with their quarrels, but as those who are seeking help from the church. Both must come, and both must speak. Suppose both are willing to come to the church and say, "We are Christians. There is something between us. We would like the church to point out what is wrong." One will tell the church how he feels, and the other will tell the church how she feels as well. When both do this, it is easy for the church to step in to solve the problem. This is not an occasion for vindication. It is not the time for each person to expose the other's faults. Neither is it a time to get into a brawl. The purpose of telling the church is for both parties to sincerely discover where the problem lies.

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 http://www.ministrybooks.org.