

Please Pray

- ✳️ **College Students' End of Semester and Final Exams:** The college students are entering into the last stretch of their semester and will soon take their final exams. May they learn how to study for their final exams with the Lord and be strengthened in their studies. May they still give time to the Lord to attend the Bible studies and the end of semester meeting. May they have a desire to still be connected with the saints during the vacation time. May their vacation be sanctified.
- ✳️ **Needs of the Saints (Eph 6:18):** (1) May we learn how to persevere in petitioning concerning all the saints. (2) Pray for all the saints who have been going through various health crises. (3) Pray that the Lord would cover their whole being, spirit, soul, and body, and also their family members. Pray for the restoration of their health and function in the church. (4) Pray that the Lord would gain them more for His eternal purpose through their current afflictions.
- ✳️ **Roof Repair and Financial Offerings:** After the completion of the roof renovation, there are still some areas on the roof that need to be fixed. May the roof be fixed and not have any leaks in a timely manner. There are also renovations and reparations for the inside of the meeting hall left to do. Through fellowship and the support of the Body, we received enough funds to pay the roof contractor. As part of the funds, we received a loan from another locality of \$75,000 that needs to be paid back within two years. May all of us continually consider our financial offerings before the Lord. May the Lord direct us in our giving toward 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.
- ✳️ **Meeting Halls in Malaga and Barcelona, Spain; Paris, France; and Stuttgart, Germany:** We thank the Lord for providing the funds needed to purchase meeting halls in Malaga and Barcelona, Spain; Paris, France; and Stuttgart, Germany. Please pray that the Lord will continue to provide for the remodeling of these properties. Those who are burdened can give as the Lord leads.

Weekly Readings

- ✳️ Holy Bible Recovery Version with footnotes: Gen 4:1 – 10:32.
- ✳️ HWMR: Knowing, Experiencing, and Living the All-Inclusive Christ for the Genuine Church Life, Week 7.
- ✳️ Life-Study of John, Messages 19 and 20.

Announcements

- ✳️ The 2024 HWMR [annual](#) subscription is now open at the cost of **\$75.00**. Please sign up and make your payment directly to your district serving ones by the Lord's Day, December 17, 2023.
- ✳️ The 2024 International Chinese-Speaking Blending Conference will be held in Taipei, Taiwan, from Saturday, February 10 through to the Lord's Day, February 11, 2024. There will also be an opportunity to visit churches in Taiwan before and/or after the conference. Should you be interested to attend this conference, please contact brother [Xie Li](#) or brother [Jonathan Lin](#) for information and registration.
- ✳️ Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and email your prayer requests to Allan Yeow, allan.yeow81@gmail.com, no later than 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

- ✳️ December 25-30, Anaheim, California: **2023 December Semi-Annual Training.**
- ✳️ February 10-11, 2024, Taipei, Taiwan: **The 2024 International Chinese-Speaking Blending Conference.**

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

This Week's Activities

Sun-Nov-26 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Nov-27	♦
Tues-Nov-28	♦ 7:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Nov-29	♦
Thur-Nov-30	♦
Fri-Dec-01	♦ 6:30pm-9pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Dec-02	♦
Sun-Dec-03 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10am-12pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

PARENTS

Scripture Reading: Eph. 6:1-4; Col. 3:20

G. Nurturing children in the discipline and admonition of the Lord (cont'd)

3. Teaching children to accept defeat and to learn humility (cont'd)

Many children say that their teacher plays favorites when others do well on tests. When they do not do well themselves, they say their teacher does not like them. Here we see the need for humility. Christians must have the virtue of accepting defeat. If others are good, we have to say promptly that they are good. We also have to accept defeat and concede that others are smarter, more hard working, or better than we are. It is a Christian virtue to accept defeat. When we win, we should not look down upon everyone else. This attitude is unworthy of a Christian. When others are better than we are, we have to appreciate them. Others may be stronger or jump higher than we do. We should train our children to acknowledge achievement in others, while they are still living at home with us. This training will help them understand themselves when they grow up as Christians. We should know ourselves and appreciate those who are better than we are. If our children are this way, it will be easy for them to experience spiritual things.

4. Teaching children to choose

I hope that we will pay attention to this matter. In many aspects we have to teach our children according to the discipline of the Lord. From their youth, we should give them a chance to make their own choices. We should not make every choice for them until they reach the age of eighteen or twenty. If we do, it will be impossible for them to make any decisions when they grow up. We have to always give them the opportunity to make decisions. Give them the chance to choose what they like and what they do not like. We have to show them whether their choices are right. Give them the chance to choose and then show them the right choice. Let them see it for themselves. Some like to wear short dresses. Some prefer one kind of color, while others prefer another kind of color. Let them make the choices by themselves.

Some people do not give their children the opportunity to make choices. As a result, when their children reach their twenties and marry someone, they do not know how to be the head. You can tell them that the husband is the head of the wife, but they will not know how to be the head. You must not allow them to wait until they are married to find out that they do not know how to be the head. If at all possible, give your children plenty of opportunity to make decisions. When they grow up, they will then know what to do. They will know what is wrong and what is right. Give a child opportunities to make choices from the time he is young.

I will say a word to all those who have children: "Give them a chance to choose." Otherwise, many Chinese children will be damaged when they grow up. The damage is often manifested when the children are between the ages of eighteen and twenty. They act in irresponsible ways at this age because they have never been called upon to make any choices. We must teach our children according to the discipline of the Lord. We must teach our children to make choices rather than making all the choices for them. We have to let our children know whether they have made the right choices.

5. Teaching children to manage things

We must also teach our children to manage things. We must give them the opportunity to take care of their personal belongings, to manage their own shoes, socks, and other affairs. Give them a little instruction and then let them try to manage things by themselves. Let them know how things should be handled from their youth. Some children have a bad start because their fathers love them blindly and do not know how to train them. As Christians, we have to train our children to manage their things properly.

I believe if the Lord is gracious to us, we will gain half of our increase from among our own children and the other half from the "sea" (i.e., the world). If all the increase is from the sea and none is from among our own children, we will not have a strong church. Paul's generation could be saved directly from the world, but the generation after Paul, men like Timothy, came in through their families. We cannot expect our increase to always come from the world. We have to expect the second generation, men like Timothy, to come from our own families. God's gospel does save men from the world, but we also need to bring in men like Timothy. Before the church will be rich, there must be grandmothers like Lois and mothers like Eunice who raise, edify, and nurture their children in the discipline of the Lord. If there are no such people, the church will never be rich. We must give our children the opportunity to manage things from their youth. We must give them the chance to learn to arrange things by themselves. Hold family meetings frequently and allow the children to make decisions. If we have to rearrange the furniture, involve them in its rearrangement. If we have to rearrange the cupboard, involve them in its rearrangement. Teach them to manage things. Whether we have daughters or sons, we have to teach them to manage things. Then they will become a good husband or a good wife in the future.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 33, PARENTS, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.