

## Please Pray

- ✿ **The Eastern Canada Victoria Day Conference in Montréal, May 18-19, 2024:** May the Lord cover and head up all the preparations and services. May this be a wonderful time of blending in the Body. May the saints be released to attend this time. May the saints be prepared to be ready to receive a fresh speaking and dispensation from the Lord. May the Lord speak to the churches what He has on His heart during this conference.
- ✿ **Prayer for Israel:** (1) Pray for God's kingdom, that His will be done, as in Heaven, so also on Earth. (2) Pray for the tripartite being of the saints in Israel to be protected and preserved for the Lord's interests, and for the Lord's building work among the saints to be intensified for the shaming of His enemy. (3) Pray for the spiritual forces that seek to destroy the Lord's interests to be shattered, and for God's move in His economy to advance in this region. (4) Pray for the six young brothers and one sister who have been called to serve in the area. (5) Pray for the 8-10 young saints meeting in Haifa who have begun to break bread, for the Lord to continually strengthen and lead them into the reality of the church life.
- ✿ **The 2024 Summer Olympics Games, Paris, France:** We encourage all the saints to open to the Lord regarding this next milestone in the Lord's move in Europe and are inviting the saints in the Lord's recovery to join us in this labour by praying and giving. Please pray for: (1) The fresh and detailed consecration of all saints who will go out. (2) The fire to be cast on French-speaking Europe, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Switzerland. (3) The logistics of all the Bibles going out to the various cities, that they would arrive on time and at the right destination. (4) Many divine appointments to take place for the Lord to gain local French-speakers along with their families. (5) The final approval for the distributions to be granted in a timely manner. (6) The Lord's blessing on the homes that will be open for the gospel for 50 consecutive days in key cities, for the raising up of lampstands. (7) The migration of the saints after the gospel trips.
- ✿ **Earthquake in Hualien, Taiwan:** A major earthquake occurred in Hualien, Taiwan, on April 3. The meeting hall and some of the saints' homes were damaged. About 10 saints were injured and were discharged after being admitted to hospital. About 40 saints were placed in temporary residences. Please pray for the comfort, care, and safety of the saints in Hualien. If the Lord leads you, you may make an offering to cover the needs of the saints and for the rebuilding of the meeting hall.
- ✿ **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: Mark 1:14 – 4:25.
- ✿ HWMR: Living and Serving According to God's Economy Concerning the Church, Week 4.
- ✿ Life-Study of Romans, Messages 14 and 15.

## Announcements

- ✿ The 2024 Eastern Canada Victoria Day Conference will be held in Montréal on May 18-19. Registration is now open and there is a need of hospitality for the saints coming from out of town. Please sign up if you are available to accommodate some of the visiting saints.
- ✿ The 2024 International Memorial Day Blending Conference will be held in Bellevue, WA on May 24-27, 2024. The live meetings will be streamed at [ismwebcast.com](http://ismwebcast.com) for those whose time zone allows them to watch the live meetings by webcast. Please contact the responsible brothers to get information about the registration and about joining the webcast meetings.
- ✿ The 2024 Summer Olympics Games in Paris, France: We believe that this is a wonderful opportunity prepared by the Lord as the Lord of the harvest. Preparations are now being made for the gospel trips and all saints who signed up are preparing to go. Locally, there is a need of financial support to send some saints for this time. Please seek the Lord concerning this matter. May we join the Lord in this move by praying, giving, and going.
- ✿ Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and email your prayer requests to Allan Yeow, [allan.yeow81@gmail.com](mailto:allan.yeow81@gmail.com), 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

- ✿ May 10-12, Kitchener, ON: **Grade 6 Conference.**
- ✿ May 18-19, Montréal: **Eastern Canada Victoria Day Conference.**
- ✿ May 24-27, Bellevue, WA: **2024 International Memorial Day Blending Conference.**
- ✿ July 1-6, Anaheim, CA: **July 2024 Semi-Annual Training.**

## This Week's Activities

Sun-May-05 LORD'S DAY	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-May-06	•
Tues-May-07	• 07:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-May-08	•
Thur-May-09	•
Fri-May-10	• 06:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-May-11	•
Sun-May-12 LORD'S DAY	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

## CONSECRATION

*Scripture Reading: Exo. 28:1-2, 40-41; 29:1-25; Lev. 8:14-28; Rom. 6:13, 16, 19; 12:1; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 5:14-15*

Let us now turn to the matter of Christian consecration.

Whether or not a person consecrates himself depends on whether he has a healthy salvation experience. If he views his faith in the Lord Jesus as being a favor to the Lord and his faith in God as a courtesy to Him, it will be impossible to talk to him about consecration. It is equally futile to talk about consecration to a person who feels that he is promoting the cause of Christianity and that his conversion is a great honor to it. Such a one does not have a good start in his Christian faith; he does not have a good beginning. It is impossible to expect him to consecrate himself. We must realize that it is the Lord who has graced us and granted mercy to us. It is the Lord who loves us and has saved us. This is why we consecrate our all to Him.

Teaching concerning consecration can be found in both the Old Testament and New Testament. Many passages in the New Testament, such as Romans 6 and 12, speak of consecration. In the Old Testament consecration is spoken of with special reference to Aaron and his household. Exodus 28 and 29 and Leviticus 8 speak of the consecration of Aaron and his household. Although consecration is the first basic experience of our service to God, we do not find many direct teachings from God's Word concerning it. In order to understand the meaning of consecration, we need to study the above referenced verses.

### I. The basis of consecration

Second Corinthians 5:14-15 clearly shows us that the constraining power of the Lord's love is the basis for God's children to live unto Him who died for them and has been raised. A man lives unto the Lord because he is constrained by the Lord's love. According to the original language, the word constrained can be translated "pressed on from all sides," that is, tightly confined on all sides. It means to be tightly bound and wrapped up. Love has bound us up, and we cannot run away. When a person is in love, he will have a sense of bondage. We are bound by Him; we have no way out. He has died for us, and we should live unto Him today. Hence, love is the basis of consecration. A man consecrates himself to the Lord because of the Lord's love. No one can consecrate himself unless he first touches the Lord's love. A man must touch the Lord's love before he can consecrate himself to Him. When one touches the Lord's love, consecration spontaneously follows.

Consecration is based on the Lord's love. But it is also based on the Lord's right. This is the truth revealed in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20: "You are not your own...For you have been bought with a price." Our Lord gave His own life for us; He even became the ransom to purchase us back to Himself. We are those who are purchased by the Lord. Because the Lord has redeemed us, we willingly lose our own freedom for Him. We are no longer our own; we are the Lord's. We must glorify God in our bodies because we are not our own; we have been bought by the Lord with a price. The blood which the Lord shed on the cross is the price He paid. Therefore, as far as the Lord's right is concerned, we belong to the Lord.

We must be clear that we are those purchased by the Lord. He has purchased us with the highest price. He bought us, not with silver or gold, but with His own blood. Here we see the Lord's love as well as His right. We serve the Lord because He loves us, and we follow Him because He has a right over us. The right secured through redemption constrains us to give ourselves to the Lord. The love that results from redemption also constrains us to give ourselves to Him. The basis of consecration is His right as well as His love. It is a legal right, and it is beyond all human sentimental love. These are the two reasons that we have to give ourselves to the Lord.

### II. The meaning of consecration

Merely being constrained by love or acknowledging His legal right does not constitute consecration. After a person has been constrained by the Lord's love and has acknowledged His right, there is a further step that he should take. This step will bring him on to a new position. Through the Lord's constraining and based on His purchase, we separate ourselves from every other thing. Henceforth, we live for and unto the Lord. This is consecration. In some instances in the Old Testament, the Chinese Union Version translates the word consecration as "the receiving of the holy service." To receive the holy service is to receive the ministry of service to God. This is a holy service. This is consecration. Consecration is receiving the ministry of serving God. It is to say to the Lord, "Today I will separate myself from everything to serve You, because You have loved me."

### III. A consecrated person

Let us look at Exodus 28:1-2 and 29:1, 4, 9-10.

After reading these verses, we can see that consecration is a very special matter. The nation of Israel was a nation chosen by God (Exo. 19:5-6), but it did not become a consecrated nation. There were twelve tribes among the Israelites, but not all the twelve tribes received the holy service. The tribe of Levi was one of the twelve tribes. They were a tribe chosen by God (Num. 3:11-13), but they were not a consecrated tribe. Among the many Levites, only the household of Aaron received the holy service. Not all of the Israelites received the holy service, not even all of the Levites. Only the household of Aaron received the holy service. In order to be consecrated, one had to belong to this household. If one were not a member of this household, he could not consecrate himself. Only the members of this household — the household of Aaron — were qualified to be priests, and only they could consecrate themselves.

Thank God, today we are the members of this household. Those who believe in the Lord are the members of this household. All who have been saved by grace are priests (Rev. 1:5-6). God has chosen us to be the priests. Initially, only the members of Aaron's household could consecrate themselves; if anyone else came near, he would have been put to death (Num. 18:7). We must remember that only those chosen by God to be priests can consecrate themselves. Thus, only the members of this household could consecrate themselves. Today God has chosen us to be the priests; therefore, we are the members of this household. Hence, we are qualified to consecrate ourselves.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 48, Messages for Building Up New Believers (1), Chapter 3, *CONSECRATION*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.