

## Please Pray

- ✿ **Québec City:** There are two to three families and one student who meet regularly on Lord's day in the city of Québec. Let us pray that the saints may be encouraged to go on strongly in the Lord; may there be healthy circulation and fellowship of the body; may the Lord increase in life in the saints and in number of people meeting in this city; may an adequate testimony be raised up in the city of Québec.
- ✿ **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 Conflict in Ukraine:** Please pray that the Lord will protect the tripartite being of all the saints and will rule in the heavens over every aspect of this conflict so that the result will advance His economy on earth.
- ✿ **Semi-Annual Training in July:** May the Lord use this time to release what is on His heart to the churches with His up-to-date speaking; may the saints have an ear to hear what the Spirit will be speaking to the churches; may we advance with the Lord in His move on this earth; may the speaking become our reality and person.
- ✿ **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 11:1 – 14:26.
- ✿ HWMR: The Enjoyment of Christ and Our Growth in Life Unto Maturity, Week 1.
- ✿ Life-Study of Romans, Messages 26 and 27.

## Announcements

- ✿ Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and send 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

- ✿ July 1-6, Anaheim, CA: **July Semi-Annual Training.**
- ✿ Oct. 4-6, Warsaw, Poland: **October International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones (ITERO).**
- ✿ Nov. 28–Dec. 1, Atlanta, GA: **International Thanksgiving Blending Conference.**
- ✿ Dec. 23-28, Anaheim, CA: **December Semi-Annual Training.**

## This Week's Activities

Sun-Jun-16 LORD'S DAY	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Jun-17	•
Tues-Jun-18	• 07:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Jun-19	•
Thur-Jun-20	•
Fri-Jun-21	• 06:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Jun-22	•
Sun-Jun-23 LORD'S DAY	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

**CONFESSION WITH THE MOUTH**

*Scripture Reading: Rom. 10:10; Prov. 29:25; Matt. 10:32-33*

**II. Common mistakes (cont'd)**

**B. Being afraid of failing to persevere to the end**

Some people think, "If I confess with my mouth and then fail to persevere in my Christian conviction, will this not become a joke to others? Suppose I can no longer make it as a Christian after three or five years, what should I do then? It is better for me not to say anything now. Let me wait for several years, until I find out whether or not I can make it." We can tell such ones that if they do not confess because they are afraid of stumbling or failing, they will surely fail. They have already opened a back door and are trying to avoid the front door. They have already made preparations to back out of their own confession. They want to wait to have assurance before they confess. We are sure that such ones will fail. It is better to stand up and say, "I am for the Lord." If you close the back door first, it will become much harder for you to back out or backslide later. Consequently, you will have a much better chance of going forward than of sliding backward. In fact, this is the only possible way for you to go forward.

If you want to wait until you have good behavior before you confess, your mouth will never open up. You will always be dumb. Even after you have good conduct, you will still be dumb. If you do not open your mouth at the beginning, it will be much harder to open your mouth later. If you open your mouth, the chance of having good conduct will be greater. If you want to wait until your behavior is good before you confess, you will lose both your chance of opening your mouth as well as your chance of having good behavior; both will be lost, and you will fail in both.

One assuring thought is that God is not only the God who redeems us but also the God who preserves us. What should we liken redemption to? Redemption is like buying something. What then is preservation? Preservation is like putting the purchased object in one's own hand. How many people in this world buy things with the view of throwing them away? When we buy a watch, we want to use it for five or ten years; no one buys a watch with the view of throwing it away. God is saving people everywhere. He does not save them and then throw them away. He wants to preserve what He has saved. Since God has saved us, He will preserve us. Since God has redeemed us, He will preserve us until that day. God loves us so much that He was willing to forsake His Son to redeem us. If He had no intention of preserving us, He would not have paid such a great price. It is God's purpose as well as His plan to preserve us. Do not be afraid to stand up and say, "I believe in the Lord." You may say, "What happens if I fail in a few days?" Do not worry about this; God will be responsible for it. It is better for you to stand up and say, "I belong to God." Commit yourself to God. God knows that you need support, comfort, and protection. We have the assurance to say that God preserves man's salvation. This preservation makes redemption meaningful.

**C. Fear of men**

Some people dare not confess because they are afraid of men. Many people can honestly say that they have no other reservation in their heart; they are willing to stand up and confess, but when they see the faces of others, they become afraid. When they look at their parents' faces or their friends' faces, they feel too shy to speak up. This is where many people are stumbled; they are afraid of men and do not have any boldness to open their mouth. Some people are naturally timid; they are timid not only in confessing the Lord but also in other things. If you want them to tell others about their faith, you are asking them for their life. They simply dare not open their mouth.

However, this kind of person needs to hear what God has to say. Proverbs 29:25 says, "The fear of man bringeth a snare." If you are afraid when you see someone, you will fall into a "snare." As soon as you become afraid, you fall into a snare. Your fear becomes your snare. Whenever your heart is afraid of men, you are creating a snare for yourself. Once you are afraid, you fall into a snare. This snare is created by your own fear. Actually, the person you fear may be very willing to listen to you. Even if he is not inclined to listen, he may not be as fearsome as you think.

There is a story about two persons who were colleagues. One was a believer and the other was not. The one who believed was very timid; the one who did not believe was also very timid. The timid believer did not dare tell his colleague that he was saved. The one who did not believe was puzzled by the great changes that were happening to his colleague. His colleague used to have a quick temper but had now changed. He dared not ask his colleague the reason. The two of them shared a table and sat face-to-face every day. One was too timid to speak, and the other was too timid to ask. Every day they just looked at each other. One was afraid to speak, and the other was afraid to ask. One day the believer could not hold back any longer. After praying about it, he went to the other one and shook his hand tightly and said, "I am a very timid person. For at least three months I have been struggling to tell you something. Now I am going to tell you. I have believed in Jesus." After saying these words, his face turned pale. The other one said, "I too have waited for three months. I wanted to ask why you have become so different, but I was too afraid to ask." The believer mustered enough courage to open his mouth. From that time on, the opportunity opened up, and he was able to bring his friend to the Lord.

Those who are fearful of men will fall into a snare. Please remember that while you are afraid of others, others may be afraid of you too. We must never have a fear of men. We who follow God should not fear men. If you have a fear of men, you cannot be a good Christian and you cannot serve God. A Christian must be bold to speak to his relatives and friends. He must be bold to confess the Lord both in private and in public. We must take this way from the beginning.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 48, Messages for Building Up New Believers (1), Chapter 4, *CONFESSION WITH THE MOUTH*, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.