

## Please Pray

- ✳️ **July Semi-Annual Training:** 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 becomes our reality and person.
- ✳️ **College Training (July 12-16):** The topic of this year's college training will be on "A Vessel Unto Honor." The goal of the training is to supply college students with a vision, equip them with truth, help them in their experience of life, perfect them in the preaching of the gospel, and develop their character so they can become useful vessels for the building up of the Body of Christ. (1) May the college students be prepared in the days leading up to the training to be proper vessels, emptied and unloaded from anything else and ready to receive a fresh dispensation and vision from the Lord during the college conference. (2) May the Lord strengthen all the serving ones in preparation for this college training. (3) May the Lord's burden be released to the students at this time. (4) May the speaking brothers be covered in the Lord and in the Body. May they be one with the Lord to speak forth His heart. (5) May the Lord gain what He is after in this training.
- ✳️ **Kitchener Bible Camp:** (1) Pray for all the coordination and fellowship currently going on. (2) Pray for the oneness and one accord among all the serving ones. (3) Pray that the higher number of children coming would not negatively affect, but rather uplift the atmosphere at the camp. (4) Pray for the Lord to strengthen all the serving saints.
- ✳️ **2024 Summer Olympics Games in Paris:** Over the past three trips in Marseille, Montpellier, and Toulouse, we distributed 1,955 Bibles, received 295 contacts, led 20 to pray, had 26 appointments, and had Bible seminars with 41 contacts. The local saints have been amazed at the unprecedented openness and hunger among the French people. We thank the Lord for such a strong beginning to these gospel trips, and may He continue to have His way in France for His testimony! (1) Pray that the Lord would release the long-term care of the contacts from these three cities through the coordination of the saints, both local and overseas. (2) Pray that the Lord would continue to bless the next trip in Bordeaux. Pray for the weather. (3) Pray that the Lord would thrust out the workers to labour with Him in France, not only during these gospel trips, but especially afterwards. (4) Pray for the health of the saints participating in the gospel trips.
- ✳️ **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: Exo. 13:1 – 16:17.
- ✳️ HWMR: The Enjoyment of Christ and Our Growth in Life Unto Maturity, Week 2.
- ✳️ Life-Study of Romans, Messages 28 and 29.

## Announcements

- ✳️ 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

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

## This Week's Activities

<b>Sun-Jun-23</b> <b>LORD'S DAY</b>	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
<b>Mon-Jun-24</b>	•
<b>Tues-Jun-25</b>	• 07:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
<b>Wed-Jun-26</b>	•
<b>Thur-Jun-27</b>	•
<b>Fri-Jun-28</b>	• 06:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
<b>Sat-Jun-29</b>	•
<b>Sun-Jun-30</b> <b>LORD'S DAY</b>	• 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)

#### D. Being shy

Some people are shy. They feel that it is a shameful thing to be a Christian. It is true that this kind of shame may exist when we face unbelievers. If you tell others that you are engaged in technical research, they will congratulate you for having a good future. If you say that you are studying a certain philosophy, others will also say that you are a thoughtful person. You are not ashamed to talk about doing many things. But if you say that you are a Christian, many will say that you are too simple-minded or not intellectual enough. They will not esteem you highly. You are not ashamed to talk about other things, but as soon as you confess your Christian faith, you feel ashamed within. It is unavoidable for a new believer to feel shameful when he opens his mouth to confess his faith. However, we must overcome this feeling. It is true that the world feels shameful about someone becoming a Christian, but we must overcome this feeling.

How can we overcome this feeling of shame? We must deal with it from two aspects:

On the one hand, we have to realize that when the Lord Jesus was crucified on the cross, He bore our sins as well as our shame. When our Lord bore our sins, He suffered great humiliation. Today, in the eyes of God, it is only proper that we suffer humiliation from men. The humiliation we suffer before man can never be compared with the humiliation our Lord suffered on the cross for us. Therefore, we should not be surprised at humiliation. We should know that we belong to the Lord.

On the other hand, there is a good hymn which says, "Our shyness is like the early morning sky disowning the sun! But the Lord radiates the divine light which illuminates our consciences which are as dark as the night." Since the Lord has been gracious to us and has redeemed us, being ashamed of confessing Him is like the early morning sky being ashamed of the illumination of the sun. Today the Lord has graced us. He has redeemed us and preserved us. He will even bring us to the heavens. Yet we consider it a shame to confess Him! If that is a shame, then all the grace we have received should also be considered a shame to us, and we should deny it all! The Lord has done so much for us, and yet we feel ashamed of confessing Him! How can this be?

We should feel shameful for such things as carousing, drunkenness, unrestrained dissipation, works of darkness, sinning, and evil works. The Lord has delivered us from all these. We should feel glorious. How can we have a sense of shame? It is not shameful for us to confess the Lord; it is glorious and joyous for us to confess Him! We are those who will never perish, who will never be condemned or judged by God, and who will never have to depart from the glorious face of God. We are those who follow the Lamb and who will

always be with Him (Rev. 14:4). It is altogether wrong for others to plant the seed of shame in us. We should stand up boldly and say that we belong to God. We should rejoice and glory in Him.

By nature Peter was a strong-willed person. He wanted to distinguish himself among the disciples and to be ahead of others in everything. But one day he denied the Lord and became like a little mouse. When he was questioned, he was afraid. Humanly speaking, Peter was a "hero" and a born leader among the disciples. Yet he trembled even before others tried to take his life. He trembled and swore when all that was said to him was, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene." This was indeed too poor. All those who refuse to confess the Lord are poor. Peter was most shameful; it was a shame for him to deny the Lord (Matt. 26:69-75).

All those who are too shy to open their mouths are full of shame. The really noble ones are the ones who confess their allegiance to Jesus of Nazareth, even at the point of being burned at the stake or thrown into the sea. They may be beaten, burned alive, or thrown into the lions' den, but they still proclaim, "I belong to Jesus the Nazarene." This is the most glorious thing in the whole world. The most shameful ones are those who are ashamed to confess the Lord. This kind of people are useless. They will even loathe themselves and be ashamed of themselves! The most shameful thing is for a person to despise himself and be ashamed of what he has.

Therefore, we should not have any fear or shame. All those who learn to follow the Lord should learn to confess Him boldly before man. If light is shameful and darkness glorious, if holiness is shameful and sin glorious, if spirituality is shameful and carnality glorious, and if following the Lord is shameful and following man glorious, then we would rather choose shame. We would rather suffer humiliation with Christ as Moses did, which humiliation is far better than the glories of men (Heb. 11:26).

#### E. Love of man's glory

Why did the rulers in John 12 not confess the Lord? They did not confess the Lord because they loved the glory of men more than the glory of God. Many people dare not confess because they want both; they want Christ, and they also want the synagogue. They want Christ; this is why they believe. But they also want the synagogue; this is why they will not confess Him. If a person wants both, he will not be absolute in either.

If you want to serve the Lord, you must make a choice between the Lord and the synagogue. Otherwise, you can never be a good Christian. You must make a choice between the Lord and man. The rulers were afraid of losing men's favor. They were afraid that if they confessed the Lord they would be put out of the synagogue. But a person who chooses the Lord in an absolute way will not be afraid of being put out of the synagogue.

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>.