Please Pray

- Europe Blending Trip, European Young People Conference & European Family Conference (July 19-Aug 6): Ten young people and three YP serving ones from Montréal will leave this Friday on a Europe blending trip and also attend the European Young People Conference in Poland. In addition, two families from Montréal will attend the European family conference in Poland. (1) May the Lord cover all the travelling of these dear saints. (2) May this trip be a heart enlarging trip to see the Body of Christ. (3) May the Lord gain these young people and speak to them a personal word through the blending trip and the conference for His move. (4) May the families going to the family conference be refreshed and strengthened in their going on in the Lord through this conference. (5) May the Lord gain what He is after in these conferences.
- The Burden for France Borne out of the special gospel move during the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in France: For the special gospel move, there has been much prayer by the coordinating team beginning in 2021. The entire recovery has been praying for this time. The gospel teams are formed into WhatsApp groups to meet and pray even before they arrive in France. Due to the prayers of the entire Body, we firmly believe that this special gospel move is having and will have a significant impact on France as it had with the special gospel moves in the respective countries during the London Olympic Games in 2012, during the refugee crisis in Germany in 2016, and during the refugee crisis in Poland in 2022. So far, all the gospel teams have witnessed a new phenomenon in France not seen before, that the people are more receptive to the gospel in general. In particular, the young people and college students are unprecedentedly open and eager to receive the Bible and desirous to know about God. There is a definite sense, as shown by the response of the people, that the Spirit is moving according to our petitions to the throne that the Lord would change the atmosphere and attitude of the French people toward God and His economy. A group of 11 saints from Montréal will leave on July 20 to join this gospel trip. (1) May the Lord cover all the travelling and the safety of all the saints joining these gospel trips. (2) Pray that the existing churches are strengthened by the gospel teams. (3) That the Lord would raise up new lampstands in Marseille, Toulouse, Montpellier, Rouen, Caen, Nantes, Lille, Mertzig (Luxembourg), and Geneva, Switzerland. (4) That by Summer 2025, there would be a team of 20 full-time serving ones in Paris to take care of the Lord's needs throughout France. (5) That many students, families and mature saints will within the next couple of years migrate to France for the Lord's interest.
- Gospel Time and Bible Distributions for the Beginning of the School Year (Aug. 19-Sep. 5): The beginning of the school year is the season to fish on the campuses such as McGill, Concordia, UdM, HEC, and Polytechnique. We will be having gospel and Bible distribution times on all these campuses. (1) May the Lord go before us to brood over these campuses to prepare the soil and make it ready. (2) May we have a heart to cooperate with the Lord by participating in these gospel and Bible distribution times. (3) May many seeking ones be brought to the tables. (4) May many be open to have further contacts with us. (5) May the Lord gain remaining fruit on these campuses.

Please Pray (cont'd)

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: Luke 1:5 2:39.
- HWMR: The Enjoyment of Christ and Our Growth in Life Unto Maturity, Week 5.
- Life-Study of Romans, Messages 34 and 35.

Announcements

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

- 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

Sun-Jul-14 Lord's Day	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Jul-15	•
Tues-Jul-16	07:30pm-09:00pm: English, French, and Chinese Districts prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Jul-17	•
Thur-Jul-18	•
Fri-Jul-19	06:30pm-09:00pm: English, French, and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Jul-20	•
Sun-Jul-21 Lord's Day	10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD

Scripture Reading: Exo. 10:8-11, 21-26; 12:6-11, 37-42; 2 Cor. 6:17

I. The type of Israel's exodus from Egypt (cont'd)

C. Our way being in the wilderness

Just to confess the Lord with our mouth and say, "I have believed in the Lord today," is not enough for a testimony. We must come out from the world and be separated. This takes us one step further than confessing Jesus as Lord with our mouth. We cannot be dumb Christians. However, opening up our mouth alone is not enough; we must be separated from the world. We cannot continue our previous friendships, social ties, or other previous relationships. We must treasure our present position in the Lord and turn far away from our previous position. The person has to go out, and the possessions have to go out as well. Others may say that we are foolish, but we should not listen to them. Today we have to come out from Egypt. From the time we become a Christian, our way is that of the wilderness, not of Egypt.

In New Testament terms, both Egypt and the wilderness represent the world. Egypt refers to the world in its moral sense. The wilderness refers to the world in its physical sense. Christians are in the physical world but not in the moral world. We must see that there are two aspects of the world: the first as a place and the second as a system. There are many things related to the physical world which are attractive, which arouse the lusts of the eyes, the lusts of the flesh, and the vainglory of life. This is Egypt. But there is another meaning to the world — the physical world as a place where one's body resides.

D. Leaving the moral world

Today we Christians must come out of the system and the organization of the world. Leaving the world refers to our deliverance from the moral world, not the physical world. We need to leave the moral world behind, not the physical world. In other words, we are still living in the world, but this world has become a wilderness to us.

What is the world to us? Mr. D. M. Panton put it well when he said, "While I am living, it is a journey to me; when I die, it is a tomb to me." While a believer is living on this earth, the world is a journey to him; when he dies, the world is only a tomb in which he is buried. We must be separated from the people of the world. Every believer must be separated from the world. In the eyes of the world, we are in the wilderness; we are pilgrims. They are the ones who are in the world.

E. Sojourners and pilgrims in this world

We must realize that we are sojourners and pilgrims in this world. As far as the moral world is concerned, we have come out of it. It wants to keep us, but if we stay, we will not be able to serve God. The world wants to be closer to us, but if we allow it to come too close to us, it will be impossible for us to serve God. The world wants to keep our people and our treasure, but if these things are kept in the world, we will not be able to serve our God.

We have been separated from Egypt, and our faces are toward the promised land. The basis of that separation is the blood, the blood that has bought us back. The Egyptians have not been bought by the blood; the worldly ones have not been redeemed. As redeemed ones, we have been transferred to another world. Therefore, we must leave this world.

Suppose you go to a watch shop to buy a watch. What do you do after you have bought it? Once the purchase has been made, you take the watch away. I should not buy the watch and leave it behind. I should not tell the proprietor, "Here, you use it!" This is not reasonable. Buying means taking away. Whenever there is a purchase, there is a taking away. If I buy a sack of rice, the rice is taken away from the shop. After one buys something, the purchased item is taken away. Please remember that since the blood has bought us, we must be taken away from the world. Once a person is bought by the Lord's blood, he should leave for the promised land. As soon as one is bought, he should leave. Those who are not bought can stay behind. But as soon as a person is bought, he should leave. Once a person is bought, he has no choice but to go with the Lord. If I have been bought by the Lord, I must leave the world and go with Him.

II. Areas that require separation from the world

A. Things which the world considers improper for Christians to do

We should refrain from anything that the world considers improper for Christians to do. Our Christian life at the minimum should meet the standard of the worldly people. Everyone in the world has set up a yardstick and a standard for Christians. If you do not meet this standard, you have failed them. When you do something, you should not give the Gentiles any ground to ask, "Do Christians do this?" If others say this, you are finished. As soon as you are rebuked, you are finished. Suppose you are caught visiting certain places. The Gentiles may say, "Do Christians come to places such as this?" There are many places Gentiles like to visit. If you tell them that it is wrong to visit those places, they may insist and argue with you. But if you visit those places yourself, they will ask, "How can you also go to these places?" Some matters are sinful. When the Gentiles do them, they keep quiet about it. But if you do the same things, they will speak up. Therefore, we must refrain from things that the Gentiles consider improper. This is a minimum requirement. When a Gentile says, "Christians should not do such a thing," we should turn away from it immediately.

Some young people are saved, but their parents are still unsaved. Sometimes these children ask for something from the parents. The parents may say, "Do you Christians want these things as well?" It is most shameful for a Christian to find himself adjusted by the Gentiles. Abraham lied and was rebuked by Abimelech. This is a most shameful thing in the Bible. We must refrain from things that are considered improper by the Gentiles. We must stay away from things that the worldly people, the Egyptians, consider inappropriate for Christians to do. We must be separated from them.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 48, Messages for Building Up New Believers (1), Chapter 6, SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at http://www.ministrybooks.org.