Please Pray

- * Fall 2025 Bible Distribution (Aug. 23-28, Sep. 2-4): (1) Pray for the saints to be released from every preoccupation and be energized to offer the Lord two days during the seven-day Bible distribution period for the labour on the gospel. (2) Pray that the saints would be brought into the one accord through prayer and a vital church life this summer, for the release of God's commanded blessing in the fall. (3) Pray for the sons of peace to be prepared on the campuses of McGill, UdeM, Concordia, and UQAM, to be gained as remaining fruit for the increase of the Church in Montréal and the building of His Body.
- Supporting the Full-Timers and the FTTA Trainees: We praise the Lord for His move in Montréal. The Lord has been faithful to bring us the full-time serving ones for His work in Montréal. For the start of the school year, we will have two new full-time serving ones, which will give us a total of eight full-time serving ones. In addition, the Lord has been faithful to call our young ones to be trained to be useful to the Lord. For the start of the new term at the Full-Time Training in Anaheim in August, we will have a total of five trainees. To support the full-timers and the trainees, there is a total cost of \$240,000 per year, which is \$20,000 per month for the next two years. Pray that we may see the need to support these ones for His interest and His move here in Montréal.
- The Direction of the Church in Montréal: The Lord desires to move forward and increase in Montréal, and He desires that we cooperate with Him. The leading brothers feel that the way to take the church forward is through the God-ordained way, which requires the participation of all the saints. As we have announced during the all-church serving ones' meeting, in order to give the saints opportunities to participate and function, we will multiply into two halls by the beginning of the school year. May the Lord bring us into the one accord concerning this matter, so that He could continually bless us for His move in Montréal. May the Lord head up and direct all the responsible ones in each service in their considerations with the two meeting halls. May many saints rise up to serve, function, and take more responsibilities in the church. May all the preparations for this move be an opportunity for us to learn how to depend on the Lord for our services. May the Lord bless us with much increase in life and in number.
- Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference (Kingston, New York, Sept. 12-14): Over the past few years, a small number of young working saints and young families in Montréal have joined this conference in the Fall and Spring. Each time it has been a timely speaking for this generation of saints to be supplied and shepherded in His Word to face the challenges of their daily life, and strengthened to be the backbone of the church. The conference also provides a way for families with children to come together to be blended and spend time together in an atmosphere of love and mutual care. Pray that more young working saints and young families in Montréal would be released for this time to be encouraged and raised up for the going on the church.
- 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: Acts 27:7 Romans 1:25.
- HWMR: Living a Christian Life and Church Life under the Government of God for the Economy of God, Week 3.
- Life-Study of Ephesians, Messages 35 and 36.

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

- August 23-28 and September 2-4, Montréal: Fall 2025 Bible Distribution.
- September 12-14, Kingston, NY: Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference.
- September 25-27, Klang, Malaysia: September International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.
- October 5-19, Europe: Gospel Trips to German-Speaking Countries.
- November 7-9, Vancouver, BC: Fall 2025 Canada Brothers' Conference.
- November 27-30, Indianapolis, IN: International Thanksgiving Blending Conference.
- December 22-27, Anaheim, CA: December Semi-Annual Training.

This Week's Activities

Sun-Aug-24 Lord's Day	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Aug-25	•
Tues-Aug-26	07:30pm-09:00pm: English, French, and Chinese prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Aug-27	•
Thur-Aug-28	•
Fri-Aug-29	06:30pm-09:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Aug-30	•
Sun-Aug-31 Lord's Day	• 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

17. PRAISING

Scripture Reading: Psa. 22:3; 50:23; 106:12, 47; 146:2; Heb. 13:15

Praising

IV. Obedience bringing praise

Our problems mainly fall within two categories. The first category is problems arising from the environment and the affairs around us. This was Jehoshaphat's problem. The way to overcome this kind of problem is by praise. The second category is the problems within us. Words may hurt us. Others may offend, persecute, mistreat, oppose, hate us for no reason, or slander us without any basis. We may find these things unbearable, and we cannot get over them. These problems have to do with our personal victory. A brother may say something which is not proper. A sister may treat you in an unreasonable way. You may find it almost impossible to overcome these things. Your whole being may struggle, complain, and cry for justice. You may find it difficult to forgive or pardon others. It is hard for you to overcome your feeling. You are wronged, slandered, persecuted, and you cannot get over it. Prayer does not help much. You want to fight and struggle against it, but you cannot. The more you try to shake off this burden, the worse you become. You find it hard to overcome. Please remember that when you suffer great personal hardship and severe injustice, it is not the time for you to pray, but the time for you to praise. You should bow your head and say to the Lord, "I thank You. You are never wrong in what You do. I accept all these things from Your hands. I thank You. I praise You." If you do this, all your problems will go away. Victory has nothing to do with struggling with the flesh. It has nothing to do with trying to forgive others or striving to pardon others with one's own strength. Victory comes when one bows his head and praises the Lord: "I praise You for Your way. Your arrangement is always good. Whatever You do is right." When you praise the Lord this way, your spirit will soar above your problems; it will soar above your inner wounds. Those who are wounded in their feelings are short of praise. If you can praise the Lord, your hurt will turn into praise. Your spirit will transcend to the heights, and you will say to God, "I thank and praise You. You are never wrong in all Your ways." This is the pathway we should take before the Lord. Leave everything behind. What a glory this is. This is truly a sacrifice.

The Christian life soars through praises. To praise is to transcend everything to touch the Lord. This was the pathway our Lord Jesus took when He was on earth. We should take the same way. We should not murmur against heaven when we are under trials. We should soar above the trials. Once we praise, we are above the trials. The more others try to put us down, the more we should rise up before the Lord and say, "I thank You and praise You!" Learn to accept everything. Learn to know that He is God. Learn to know the works of His hands. Nothing can ripen and mature a man like sacrifices of praise. We need to learn not only to accept the discipline of the Holy Spirit but also to praise the discipline of the Holy Spirit. We need to learn not only to accept but also to glory in the Lord's dealing. We need to learn not only to accept the Lord's chastisement but also to accept it willingly with joy. If we do this, a clear and glorious door will be opened to us.

V. Praising before understanding

Finally, in Psalm 50:23 God says, "Whoever offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving glorifies Me." Here, the word thanksgiving can also be translated as praise. The Lord is waiting for our praises. Nothing can glorify our God as praises can. One day, all the prayers, works, prophesying, and labor will be over. But on that day our praises will be more than today's. Praise will last for eternity; it will never cease. When we reach heaven and arrive at our final home, our praises will swell even higher. Today we have the opportunity to learn the best lesson; we can learn to praise God even today.

Today is still the time when we see in a mirror obscurely (1 Cor. 13:12). Although we can see a little of many things, we cannot understand the meaning behind them. We can only feel the pain of all the inward wounds and outward trials that we have encountered and experienced. We cannot comprehend the significance behind them. This is why we do not praise. We believe that praises will abound in heaven because there will be full knowledge in heaven. The fuller the knowledge, the fuller the praise. Everything will be clear when we go before the Lord on that day. The things that are unclear to us today will be clear to us on that day. On that day we will see the Lord's excellent will in every step of the Spirit's discipline. Had there been no discipline of the Spirit, we cannot imagine how much we would have fallen! If some of our footsteps had not been stopped by the Holy Spirit, we cannot imagine how pitiful our fall would have been! Many things, thousands and even millions of things which we do not see today, will become clear to us on that day. When we see everything on that day, we will bow our head and praise Him saying, "Lord, You were never wrong." Every step of the Spirit's discipline is God's work in us. Had we not become sick that one time, what would have become of us? Had we not failed that one time, what would have become of us? What we faced may have been a problem, but through facing that problem we may have avoided greater problems. What we encountered may have been a misfortune, but through that encounter we may have avoided greater misfortunes. On that day we will see why the Lord allowed all these things to happen to us. Today the Lord is leading us on, every step of the way. On that day we will bow our heads and say, "Lord, I was a fool, because I did not praise You that day. I was a fool, because I did not give thanks to You that day." When our eyes are opened and we become clear on that day, how very shameful we will be when we recall our murmurings. Therefore, today we must learn to say, "Lord, I cannot understand what You are doing, but I know that You cannot be wrong." We have to learn to believe and to praise. If we do, we will say on that day, "Lord! I thank You for Your grace which saved me from unnecessary complaints and murmurings. Lord! I thank You for the grace which kept me from murmuring during those days." For many things, the more knowledge we have, the greater will our praises be. We have a desire to praise the Lord because He is good (Psa. 25:8; 100:5). We need to always say, "The Lord is good." Today we have to learn to believe that the Lord is good and that He is never wrong, even though we cannot always understand what He is doing. If we believe, we will praise. Our praises are His glory. To praise is to glorify God. God is worthy of all glory. May God gain abundant praises from His children.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 48, Messages for Building Up New Believers (1), Chapter 17, PRAISING, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at http://www.ministrybooks.org.