

Please Pray

- ✳️ **Young People in the Church Life:** Pray for the young people in the church life, that they would be kept and encouraged after the church's multiplication into two halls. Pray for their shepherding by the saints including in the homes, that they would have companions to pursue the Lord within their daily life and church life.
- ✳️ **The Direction of the Church in Montréal:** The brothers feel that the way to move forward in Montréal this year is through the strengthening and building up of the home meetings (group meetings). The strength and vitality of the home meetings will depend on the vital groups and the mutual care in the home meetings. The home meetings need to have many vital groups in order to be vital, living, and active. May the Lord burden us to form vital groups with our companions (in twos and threes). May all the vital groups be living and active so that we can bring vitality to our home meetings. May the home meetings be full of the divine love and mutual care.
- ✳️ **2026 Spring Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference at Camp Penuel (April 17-19, 2026):** May the saints who registered gain the maximum benefit during this time. May the Lord speak to this age group what is on His heart. May this age group be encouraged and gained by the Lord to be the backbone of the Church.
- ✳️ **FIFA World Cup 2026 (soccer) in North America:** The world's most watched sport will be hosted by Canada, U.S., and Mexico in June and July of 2026. Toronto and Vancouver will be hosting the games in Canada. Let us grasp this opportunity to advance the divine history in the midst of this event in the human history by praying, giving and going. Let's pray for the sanctifying work of the Spirit to prepare the sons of peace; pray for the fellowship and coordination among the brothers and localities; pray for the release of the proper venues and permits for the distributions; pray that we will surpass our goal of distributing 10,000 Bibles and books (5,000 in Toronto and 5,000 in Vancouver); pray that many saints will be released to participate in this gospel move.
- ✳️ **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: Galatians 1:1 – 3:14.
- ✳️ HWMR: The Preparation of the Bride, Week 4.
- ✳️ Life-Study of Philippians, Messages 2 and 3.

Announcements

- ✳️ The Church in Montréal Annual General Meeting ("AGM") will take place **TODAY**, Lord's Day, April 5, 2026, at 12pm in the Meeting Hall.
- ✳️ There will be a Northeast Young Working Saints and Families Conference at the Kingston Penuel Christian Center (KPCC) in Kingston, NY on April 17-19. Registration deadline is **TODAY**, April 5. The cost is USD\$125 for one night and USD\$165 for two nights. For more details, speak to brother Aaron Chao.

Announcements (cont'd)

- ✳️ The 2026 International Memorial Day Blending Conference will be held in Dallas, TX, from May 22-25. Please contact the responsible brothers to get information about attending the conference. Details to join the conference online will be shared just before the conference starts.
- ✳️ The June/July Semi-Annual Training will take place from Monday, June 29 (4pm), to Saturday July 4 (9:30pm), at the Ministry Conference Center, Living Stream Ministry Campus, 2431 W. La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801. Registration is required and the deadline is Thursday, May 1, 2026. The registration fee is CAD\$290 for the live training (in person), and CAD\$185 for the online/video training. Please contact your respective district serving leader to register and to get more information.
- ✳️ Please consider your needs carefully before the Lord and email your prayer requests to Allan Yeow, allan.yeow81@gmail.com, by Wednesday evening of every week. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

Upcoming Events

- ✳️ April 17-19, Kingston Penuel Christian Center (KPCC), Kingston, NY: **Northeast Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference.**
- ✳️ May 8-9, Kitchener, ON: **Grade 6 Conference.**
- ✳️ May 16-17, Montréal: **Victoria Day Conference.**
- ✳️ May 22-25, Dallas, TX: **International Memorial Day Blending Conference.**
- ✳️ June 29—July 4, Anaheim, CA: **June Semi-Annual Training.**
- ✳️ September 24-26, Amsterdam, NL: **September International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.**

This Week's Activities

Sun-Apr-05 LORD'S DAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings. ♦ 12:00pm: Annual General Meeting of the Church in Montréal.
Mon-Apr-06	♦
Tues-Apr-07	♦ 7:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Apr-08	♦
Thur-Apr-09	♦
Fri-Apr-10	♦ 6:30pm-9:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Apr-11	♦
Sun-Apr-12 LORD'S DAY	♦ 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

23. FORGIVENESS AND RESTORATION

Scripture reading: 15-20, Matt. 18:21-35; Luke 17:3-5

Forgiveness and restoration

I. Forgiving one's brother

B. God's measure (cont'd)

We need to realize that salvation is accomplished in man according to God's measure. Salvation is not carried out according to man's thought. It is accomplished in man according to God's thought and plan.

The criminal on the cross pleaded with the Lord, saying, "Remember me when You come into Your kingdom." The Lord heard his prayer, yet He did not answer him according to his prayer. Instead He said, "Today you shall be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:42-43). Salvation is God saving man according to His own will, not according to the sinner's will. Salvation is not according to the thoughts of a sinner's limited mentality about God's work for him. Rather, salvation is God's work upon sinners according to His own thought. The Lord did not wait until He came into His kingdom to remember the criminal. He promised the criminal that he would be with Him in Paradise that very day.

The tax collector prayed in the temple and beat his breast, saying, "God, be propitiated to me, the sinner!" At the most, he was asking God to be propitiated to him. But God did not answer him according to his prayer. The Lord Jesus said, "This man went down to his house justified rather than that one" (Luke 18:9-14). In other words, that sinner went back justified. This was much more than what was in the mind of the sinner. The sinner had no thought of justification; he asked only for pity. But God said that he was justified. This means that God did not consider him a sinner but a justified person. Not only were his sins forgiven; he was justified by God. This shows us that God does not accomplish His salvation according to man's thought but according to His own thought.

The same thing is seen in the return of the prodigal son (15:11-32). When he was a long way off from home and before he met his father, he was prepared to go back home to serve as a servant. But when he reached his home, his father did not ask him to be a servant. Instead, he asked his slaves to bring out the best robe and to put it on him. He put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet and slaughtered the fattened calf. They ate and were merry because the son who was dead had come to life again; he was lost but had been found. From these verses we see again that God does not accomplish His salvation according to a sinner's thought but according to His own thought.

Mark 2 speaks of four men who took a paralytic to the Lord Jesus. When they were unable to bring him to the Lord because of the crowd, they removed the roof where the Lord was and lowered the bed on which the paralytic was lying, hoping that the Lord Jesus would heal the paralytic and make him rise and walk. But the Lord Jesus said, "Child, your sins are forgiven" (v. 5). The Lord Jesus not only healed him but also forgave him of his sins. This also tells us that God works to His own satisfaction. All we have to do is go to God and ask. It does not matter whether we have asked enough. God always works to His own satisfaction, not to the sinner's satisfaction. Therefore, we should not consider salvation from our point of view but from God's point of view.

C. God's expectation

God expects to see one thing from us: Whoever wants to receive grace must first learn to dispense grace. Whoever receives grace must first learn to share grace. If a man receives grace, God expects him to share this grace with others.

Matthew 18:28-29 says, "But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and he took hold of him and began to choke him, saying, Repay me what you owe. Then his fellow slave fell down and begged him, saying, Be patient with me and I will repay you." Here the Lord shows us that we owe Him ten thousand talents, while others only owe us only a hundred denarii. When we say to the Lord, "Be patient with me and I will repay you all," He not only releases us but also forgives our debt. Our fellow slave, our brother, owes us a hundred denarii at the most. When he says, "Be patient with me and I will repay you," he has our same hope and request. How can we not be patient with him? But the slave "would not; instead, he went away and threw him into prison until he would repay what was owed" (v. 30).

The Lord spoke such a parable to expose the unreasonableness of those who do not forgive others. If you do not forgive your brother, you are the very slave spoken of in these verses. When we read this parable, we are indignant at this slave. The master had forgiven his debt of ten thousand talents, but he would not forgive his fellow slave's debt of a hundred denarii. He put his fellow slave into prison and kept him there until the latter would pay what he owed. He acted according to his standard of "righteousness"! A believer should treat himself according to righteousness but should treat others according to grace. Your brother may owe you something, and the Lord knows clearly that your brother owes you something. But He also clearly shows us that if a believer does not forgive his brother, he is not dealing with others according to grace. Such a one is short of grace in God's eyes.

Verses 31-33 say, "His fellow slaves, seeing what had taken place, were greatly grieved and came and explained fully to their master all that had taken place. Then his master called him to him and said to him, Evil slave, all that debt I forgave you, because you begged me. Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave even as I had mercy on you?" The Lord expects us to do to others as He has done to us. He has not made demands on us according to righteousness. In the same way He expects us to not make demands on others according to righteousness. The Lord has forgiven our debts according to mercy, and He expects us to forgive others' debts according to mercy as well. With what measure the Lord measures to us, He expects us to measure the same measure to others. The Lord dispenses grace to us according to a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. He expects us to do the same thing to others according to a good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over. The Lord expects us to do to our brother as He has done to us.



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