

## 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: Psalms 75:1 – 91:16.
- ✿ HWMR: The Preparation of the Bride, Week 5.
- ✿ Life-Study of Philippians, Messages 4 and 5.

## Announcements

- ✿ 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 was 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](mailto: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: **Spring 2026 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

<b>Sun-Apr-12 LORD'S DAY</b>	♦ 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
<b>Mon-Apr-13</b>	♦
<b>Tues-Apr-14</b>	♦ 7:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese prayer meetings by conference calls.
<b>Wed-Apr-15</b>	♦
<b>Thur-Apr-16</b>	♦
<b>Fri-Apr-17</b>	♦ 6:30pm-9:00pm: English, French and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom. ♦ Northeast Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference.
<b>Sat-Apr-18</b>	♦ Northeast Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference.
<b>Sun-Apr-19 LORD'S DAY</b>	♦ 10:00am-12:00pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings. ♦ Northeast Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference.

## 23. FORGIVENESS AND RESTORATION

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

### Forgiveness and restoration

#### C. God's expectation (cont'd)

The ugliest thing in the eyes of God is for a forgiven person to refuse to forgive others. Nothing is uglier than refusing to forgive when one has been forgiven or refusing to be merciful when one has obtained mercy. A person should not receive grace for himself on the one hand and refuse to share grace with others on the other hand. A person must realize before the Lord that he should treat others the same way that the Lord has treated him. It is very ugly for a man to receive grace while refusing to share grace. Being forgiven yet refusing to forgive others is a most uncomely sight. God condemns a debt-ridden person's attempt to demand payment from another debt-ridden person. He has no pleasure in those who remember others' shortcomings when they themselves have come short.

The master asked the slave, "Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave even as I had mercy on you?" God wants us to have mercy on others as He has had mercy on us. We need to learn to have mercy on others and to forgive them. A man who has experienced grace and who is forgiven by God should learn to forgive others' debts. He should learn to forgive others, to have mercy on them, and to be gracious to them. We need to lift up our eyes and say to the Lord, "Lord, You have forgiven my debt of ten thousand talents. I am willing to forgive those who have offended me today. I am also willing to forgive those who will offend me in the future. You have forgiven me of my great sins. I also will learn to be like You in a small way by forgiving others."

#### D. God's discipline

Verse 34 continues, "His master became angry and delivered him to the torturers until he would repay all that was owed." This is a man who has come under God's discipline. God delivers him to the torturers until he should repay all that he owes.

Verse 35 says, "So also shall My heavenly Father do to you if each of you does not forgive his brother from your hearts." This is a serious matter. We hope that no one would fall into God's hand. We must forgive our brother from the heart, as God has forgiven us from His heart. We hope all the brothers and sisters will learn to forgive all offenses. Do not try to remember the sins of your brother. We should not ask our brother to repay us. God's children should be like God in this matter. Since God treats us generously, He expects us to treat our brothers generously as well.

## II. Restoring the brother

It is not sufficient for us to just forgive our brother. This only takes care of the negative side. We still need to restore him. This is the charge in Matthew 18:15-20.

#### A. Telling the person

Matthew 18:15 says, "If your brother sins against you, go, reprove him between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother." Offenses occur all the time among God's children. If a brother offends you, what should you do? The Lord says, "Go, reprove him between you and him alone." If a

brother offends you, the first thing you should do is not to tell others. Do not tell the brothers and sisters or the elders of the church about it or make it the subject of your conversation. This is not the Lord's charge. If a brother offends you, the first thing you should do is go to him and tell him.

A problem often arises when a brother offends another brother and then the offended brother goes around publicizing it. He continually talks about it until the whole church knows about it. However, the brother who supposedly offended him remains unaware of the offense. Such tale-telling is typical of the conduct of a weak person; only a weak one would be so timid as to not talk directly with the offending brother. He would only dare to speak about the matter behind his back; he would dare not speak about it face-to-face. It is an unclean thing for anyone to speak of matters behind others' backs and to spread gossip. We do have to deal with our brother's fault, but the Lord does not want us to tell others first. The first one who needs to be told is the person who is directly involved, not others. If we learn this basic lesson well, the church will be spared many problems.

How do we tell others? Should we write a letter to them? The Lord did not tell us to do this. The Lord did not say that we should deal with it in writing, but rather by going to our brother and speaking to him face-to-face. However, just as it is wrong to speak about a matter behind someone's back, it is equally wrong to speak about it in front of many people. The matter should be communicated "between you and him alone." Many children of God fail in this matter. They publicize things before many people. But the Lord charges us to speak only when the involved parties are together. In other words, individual sins should be dealt with by the individuals alone; no third party should be involved at all.

We need to learn this lesson before God. We should never say anything behind the back of the brother who has offended us, and we should not speak to him in front of many people. We must point out his fault only when we are alone together. We do not have to talk about other things or bring up other problems; we simply need to point out the fault. This requires grace from God. It is one lesson God's children must learn.

Some brothers and sisters may think that this is too troublesome. While this is, in fact, quite troublesome, you cannot be afraid of trouble if you want to walk according to God's Word. If you feel that your brother's offense against you is too small to be bothered with, you may feel no need to speak to him. If this is the case, there is also no need to tell others about it. If you feel that a matter is insignificant, simple, trivial, and unworthy of bringing to his attention, you should not tell others about it either. You should not think that he does not need to be informed but that others do need to be informed. If you want to speak of it, speak to him alone. If there is no need to speak of it, simply keep silent. It is wrong for others to know about something when the offending brother is ignorant of it.

#### B. The reason for telling

The second half of verse 15 says, "If he hears you, you have gained your brother." This is the reason for telling. The reason for telling your brother is not to receive any compensation. There is only one reason for telling: "If he hears you, you have gained your brother."

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