

## Please Pray

- ✳️ **Bearing fruit for His testimony in Montréal:** “As branches we must bear fruit. If anyone has not borne fruit for several years, I am very concerned for him. There is the danger that such a one may be cut off from the life supply. We must endeavor and be desperate. We must say, “Lord, I am one of Your branches. Why do I not bear fruit? I must bear some. I cannot go on like this anymore. Lord, have mercy on me that by Your grace I may bear at least one fruit.” If we will bear even one fruit, the life supply will flood in. The life-juice will stream in, and we will bear more fruit. To bear the first fruit is a breakthrough. We must have such a breakthrough. We need to go to the Lord to have a thorough dealing with Him.” (CWWL, 1973–1974, Vol. 2, Chap. 3) – May the prayer in this ministry excerpt be our prayer. May we all endeavor to be normal fruit bearing branches and be desperate before the Lord to bear at least one fruit a year. May we go to the Lord to have a thorough dealing with Him.
- ✳️ **The 2026 European Young People’s Conference – Offerings:** In coordination with the brothers in Europe, we want to provide a way to send offerings to support the 2026 European Young People’s Conference in Poland this year, which will happen from July 26 to August 1. The current need is approximately USD\$40,000 to support the young people and serving ones coming from different countries who are not able to afford the conference. May this need be met in the Body.
- ✳️ **Pray for our leaders and those who are in high position (1 Tim. 2:1-2):** Let us pray that God guides our leaders regarding Bill C-9. Certain provisions could remove the historical protection given to religious texts in Canada. May the freedom to read, teach, and share the Scriptures continue to be protected. Let us ask the Lord to grant wisdom and discernment to those making decisions for our country.
- ✳️ **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.
- ✳️ **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: Psa. 119:121 – 140:13.
- ✳️ HWMR: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (3), Vol. 05, Week 29.
- ✳️ Life-Study of Philipians, Messages 16 and 17.

## Announcements

- ✳️ The 2026 International Memorial Day Blending Conference will be held in Dallas, TX, from May 22-25. For the saints in Eastern Canada, the churches plan to meet online to view the messages, and this webcast schedule (different from the schedule in person in Dallas) has been posted on our WhatsApp “Home meeting coordination” group.
- ✳️ 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’s serving brother 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

- ✳️ 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-May-24 LORD’S DAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings.</li> <li>♦ International Memorial Day Blending Conference, Dallas, TX.</li> </ul>
<b>Mon-May-25</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ International Memorial Day Blending Conference, Dallas, TX.</li> </ul>
<b>Tues-May-26</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 7:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese prayer meetings by conference calls.</li> </ul>
<b>Wed-May-27</b>	♦
<b>Thur-May-28</b>	♦
<b>Fri-May-29</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 6:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.</li> </ul>
<b>Sat-May-30</b>	♦
<b>Sun-May-31 LORD’S DAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings.</li> </ul>

**24. BELIEVERS' REACTIONS**

Scripture reading: Matt. 5:38-48

**Believers' reactions**

**VIII. Problems with believers' reactions**

Many brothers and sisters have problems with their reactions because they do not know the Lord. They cannot bear turning the left cheek, giving away the cloak, or walking the second mile. They keep saying, "How unreasonable are these people!" I have a frank word for these ones: This is what the Lord demands of us. A person may strike your right cheek and be satisfied. But the Lord tells you to turn your left cheek to him as well. Another may receive your tunic and be satisfied. But the Lord tells you to give him your cloak as well. Someone may compel you to walk only one mile and be satisfied. But the Lord compels you to walk the second mile. We have to realize that the left cheek, the cloak, and second mile are the Lord's demand, not man's demand. All those who have trouble with the second cheek, the second garment, and the second mile do not have any trouble with men, but with the Lord, for it is He who makes these demands.

You may say that man is unreasonable. But remember, it is actually the Lord who is unreasonable. If no one should strike your first cheek, then even more no one should strike your second cheek. If the demand for the first garment is unreasonable, the demand for the second garment is even more unreasonable. If the first mile is unreasonable, the second mile is even more unreasonable. But the Lord demands the second. This is the Lord's commandment. We can say that the Lord's commandment is more severe than that of an unreasonable man. No unreasonable man can be stricter than the Lord in His commandment.

Why is the Lord so severe? Because He knows that the life He has given us is a transcendent life. Unless this life transcends, there is no peace. This life is happy only when it transcends. The more you try to embarrass, disgrace, or hurt this life, the more its power is manifested.

This is what it means to be a Christian. It is not merely a matter of not being angry and of forbearing and enduring, but of transcending all things. Others may compel us to walk a mile, but we will walk two miles. Others may want to take one of our garments, but we will give them two. Others may want to strike our right cheek, but we will give them our left cheek also. Brothers, this life is transcendent; it soars. This is how believers react. Unless we act this way, we are not behaving like Christians.

**IX. Grace in God's children**

Some who are ignorant of the Bible think that the teachings on the mountain in Matthew 5—7 have to do with the law. Is this law? No! This is grace. The law is an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. What is grace? Grace is to give to others what they do not deserve. In fact, the first cheek, the first garment, and the first mile are grace. All these are what others do not deserve. But because the life in us transcends all things, none of these things can touch us. This is why we allow others to strike our right cheek and then turn the left cheek to them. This is why we can give to others not just the tunic, but the cloak as well. This is why we can walk not just one mile, but two. This is grace upon grace. But this is not God's grace; this is the grace of God's children. This is what God's children do when they act according to the God of grace. God gives men what they do not deserve. We also can give men what they do not deserve, even more than what they do not deserve.

**X. Being enlarged through our reactions**

Why do we have to do this? Let me tell you: The teaching on the mountain was given to enlarge our capacity. God increases our measure through our reactions. Many things are too dear to us. As soon as we live out the teaching on the mountain, God strips these things from us. The tunic and the cloak are taken away again and again. But this enlarges us again and again. We will be enlarged many times more than our capacity for the cloak or the tunic.

Many Christians are the same size as the garments they wear; they are very small. They can be affected by one little garment. One garment alone is worth their wrath and the sacrifice of their Christian propriety. Everywhere we go, we find these "small" people.

Christians can be large. But, even more, they can be enlarged, because God has given them a large life. If you can let go of one garment, you can let go of one hundred garments. If you can yield to someone's demand for one mile, you can yield to his demand for two miles. If you do this, you will be enlarged by God.

It is a big thing to save one's face. Many people cannot bear humiliation and disgrace. They can give away all their garments, but they cannot be struck or disgraced. It is hard for them to take insulting words from others. But here is one who is struck in the face. He not only endures but also takes it willingly, gladly, and happily. As soon as we turn our left cheek to others, we are enlarged. We are enlarged through all of our unreasonable experiences.

Suppose you have a strong will. If you are oppressed and persecuted and you accept oppression and persecution willingly, even walking the second mile, you will be enlarged as time goes on.

In the past years, I have met many "small" people in this world. I have not met too many "big" people in the church either. I hope that the new believers will take this way from the very beginning. Take God's life and react in a transcendent way. This is the basic condition for maturity. If you continually react according to God's transcendent life, you will be enlarged more and more. No material thing will bind you. No despising or disgrace will limit you. Even your own strong will will not hold you down. You will grow continuously. If we do not practice this, the church will be filled with "small" people.

**Matthew 5:43-48**

*"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? 48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect."*

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 24, BELIEVERS' REACTIONS, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.