

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.
- ✳ **FIFA World Cup 2026 (soccer) in North America:** A Google sheet entitled “FIFA Toronto 2026 Watch & Pray Sign up sheet” was sent to all the Eastern Canada churches. Please continue to sign up for the 15 minutes prayer slots. We will start the distributions both in Toronto and in Vancouver on June 11 and 12 respectively. We are in the crunch time of the preparations. May the Lord continue to lead and strengthen the serving ones in all their preparations. May we be kept in the oneness of the spirit and in one accord in our hearts that we may bring down the Lord’s blessing during this time. May the financial need of the distribution be met through the giving of the saints. May the Lord prepare all the sons of peace to be ready to be harvested and willing to have more contact with us. May the saints going be prepared to be channels of life.
- ✳ **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.
- ✳ **The Maritimes Conference (June 13-14):** There will be a Maritimes Conference in Moncton, New Brunswick, on June 13-14. May the Lord release what is on His heart for the saints in the Maritimes. May the saints continue to be encouraged in this region. May His testimony in the Maritimes grow stronger and stronger year after year.
- ✳ **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. 141:1 – Prov. 6:35.
- ✳ HWMR: Experiencing, Enjoying, and Expressing Christ (3), Vol. 06, Week 31.
- ✳ Life-Study of Philippians, Messages 20 and 21.

Announcements

- ✳ 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, by Wednesday evening of every week. May the Lord teach us how to pray for the advancement of His Economy.

Upcoming Events

- ✳ June 13-14, Moncton, NB: **The Maritimes Conference.**
- ✳ June 29—July 4, Anaheim, CA: **June Semi-Annual Training.**
- ✳ July 10-14, Kingson, NY: **College Training.**
- ✳ August 2-7, Palgrave, ON: **Summer School of Trust in Eastern Canada.**
- ✳ September 24-26, Amsterdam, NL: **September International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.**

This Week’s Activities

Sun-Jun-07 LORD’S DAY	♦ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Jun-08	♦
Tues-Jun-09	♦ 7:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese prayer meetings by conference calls.
Wed-Jun-10	♦
Thur-Jun-11	♦
Fri-Jun-12	♦ 6:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Jun-13	♦ Maritimes Conference, Moncton, NB.
Sun-Jun-14 LORD’S DAY	♦ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings. ♦ Maritimes Conference, Moncton, NB.

24. BELIEVERS' REACTIONS

Scripture reading: Matt. 5:38-48

Believers' reactions

XIII. Standing fast on our Christian standing

Let me ask you another question: Is it better to be the one who strikes or the one who is struck? Do you envy others? Others are striking. Are you going to do the same? Those who strike are not acting like Christians, and those who endure others' striking are not acting like Christians either. Only those who take the striking willingly and who turn their left cheek to their strikers, saying, "Please do more," are acting like Christians.

Today if a brother strikes you, do you know what he has given you? He has given you the greatest opportunity to be a good Christian. He honors you by striking you, having offered you the opportunity to be a proper Christian.

Please remember that a Christian who strikes others has lost his Christian dignity. We should not envy those who have lost their Christian standing. Every time you are mistreated or are threatened, you are given the opportunity to live the Christian life. In fact, those who treat you this way are saying, "So-and-so, I no longer want to be a Christian. I will let you be a Christian in my place!" Their actions are equivalent to this.

If a brother takes you to court or demands money or clothing from you, he is, in effect, saying, "Today I do not want to be a Christian. I will let you be one in my place!" He has resigned from the position of a Christian and put you in his position instead. Should you not thank God for this? You need to say, "O God! I thank You and praise You. You have put me in the position of a Christian. This is truly Your grace." Brothers and sisters, we should learn to strive for our Christian standing.

Once, I had some business dealings with a brother. By common understanding, I did not owe him any money, but he demanded perhaps sixty-eight thousand dollars from me. My first reaction was to be angry. I felt that he did not have the slightest ground to ask for it. How could this man be a Christian? He was too much. If he had any sense of righteousness, how could he want this money? But my next reaction was that of joy. Although he was wrong, I still enjoyed giving it to him. I asked him, "Brother, do you really want it?" He said, "Yes." At that moment, the Lord put this word in me: "This man is giving you the opportunity to be a Christian." This was the first time the Lord spoke such a word to me. I said, "That is right," and went away to prepare the money for him.

From that day on, I learned this lesson. When a person behaves the way this man did, he is giving up his position as a Christian. When a person does this to us, what a shame and pity it is if we also resign from our Christian standing. We should learn to say, "The Lord has put me here, and He is giving me the opportunity to live as a Christian." We should say, "Lord, I want to be a Christian." No loss is greater than the loss of our Christian standing. To be struck is a great loss; to lose our possessions is also a great loss; and to be put to shame and deprived of freedom are even greater losses, but the Lord has entrusted us with the responsibility of expressing His grace and forbearance. If we fail in this, we have suffered the greatest loss.

Some may think that the strong ones are those who can strike others. But I say that the ones who are really strong are those who can afford to be struck and not strike back. A person who cannot control his own temper is a weak person. A strong person is one who can control his own temper. We need to know how to evaluate things spiritually before God. We should not evaluate things according to the worldly way. We should not hold to worldly views. We need to have a spiritual view.

I hope that new believers will see what our Christian reactions should be from the very beginning. We should set this course right from the start. Do not allow three, five, eight, or ten years to go by before taking this way. Do not think that the teaching on

the mount is that profound. No Christian should wait a long time before picking up the teaching on the mount. The teaching on the mount should be the first teaching. It should be something one finds at the main entrance, not something he sees after years of advancement. The teaching on the mount is the fundamental Christian response to everything. It is the reaction that issues from our Christian nature. When a person believes in the Lord Jesus, he spontaneously reacts this way and behaves this way. Walking the second mile results in joy in the heart. A person cannot have real peace and joy until he practices this. This life calls for persecution, disgrace, and mistreatment. The more severe the persecution, the stronger the manifestation of the power of God's life.

XIV. Two things concerning this life's reaction

Finally, we need to pay attention to two things concerning this life's reaction. First, we have to pray every day. We have to ask the Lord to deliver us from temptations and from the evil one. We have to pray every day to be delivered from temptations. Humanly speaking, it is impossible to live on earth according to the principles spoken of above. The reactions required by the Lord are impossible to find on earth. You will exhaust all you have after trying to live this way a few times. This is why the Lord inserts a prayer in the teachings on the mount. It is a prayer that prays for deliverance from temptations and from the evil one. We can live in this world only with the Lord's protection. Without His protection, we cannot go on even for a single day. This prayer is indispensable. If we have no intention to live this kind of life or have this kind of reaction, nothing more needs to be said. But as soon as we want to live by God's life, we have to pray this prayer. We even have to pray this prayer every day.

Do not share this principle of the Christian life with the unbelievers. Do not share this principle of the Christian life with nominal Christians. This is what Matthew 7 tells us. Do not give spiritual things to dogs, and do not throw pearls before swine. Dogs and swine are unclean. Dogs signify everything evil and unclean, and swine signify nominal Christians who are void of life. Outwardly, they have split hooves, but inwardly they do not chew the cud. Outwardly, they are Christians, but inwardly they are not. Do not tell them these words. If you do, you are asking for trouble. If you say this, they may say, "Turn your cheek. Let me try this on you." Telling them such things is to ask for trouble for yourself. Pay attention to this. You should pray so that you can be spared such trouble.

Second, we have to maintain our Christian standing. We should not seek trouble for ourselves. However, with God's permission and under His sovereignty and the Holy Spirit's administration, we may face such situations, either at the hand of believers or unbelievers. At such times we should have the proper reactions and not retreat.

The Christian life is a wonderful life. The more you are persecuted, embarrassed, and unreasonably treated, the happier you are before God. This is the only way to happiness. If I hit a brother today, and he immediately turned his right cheek, I would be uncomfortable for a whole month; that would be the most unhappy thing for me.

For as long as a Christian lives on earth, he cannot take advantage of anyone. If you take advantage of something or someone once, you will not be able to lift up your head for a whole month before the Lord. Any gain on earth is loss in reality. It is better to let others strike you. When others strike you, you can go home and sleep well, eat well, and sing well. You can climb up the hill, and the moon will shine brighter upon your face. Do not think that you have gained something by taking advantage. The only way to take the right course is to react the right way, and the only way to live according to proper principles is to have the right reactions.

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>.