

Please Pray

- ✳ **Student core on the campuses:** “On each campus there needs to be a nucleus of students that can take up the leadership on that campus. This nucleus should consist of two to five brothers and sisters. There is no other way to carry out a work among the students. The church may have a burden to work at a certain school; however, the church cannot work at the school directly. It must raise up students to be the brothers and sisters who can take the lead on the campus and be burdened for the work there.” (Fellowship on Beginning the Work Among Students, CWWL, 1967, Vol. 2, pp. 208-209). Pray that the Lord would raise up a strong student nucleus this year at McGill, Concordia, and UdeM for His increase and spread on these campuses.
- ✳ **Homes as fishing nets:** Our homes have several advantages. In America many freshmen attend college away from home. Since they are considered full-grown, they may leave home once they have graduated from high school. Many of them are lonely and homesick. If we invite them into our living rooms for a little snack or perhaps a dinner, they will feel at home, and this will open them to the Lord and the truth. Furthermore, people do not have a goal, and they are tired of their old manner of life. This situation is sovereign of the Lord... Many young people today do not have a goal. They are wondering what to do and where to go. They do not have a goal in their human life. The material riches of America cannot satisfy the hearts of the young people. Therefore, we must take this opportunity to fill up the gap in their hearts with Christ. The best way to do this is by opening up our homes. (Preaching the Gospel on the College Campuses, CWWL, 1977, Vol. 3, pp. 27-28). Pray for more home groups to be raised up for the student core to be connected to so that they can bring their friends and contacts into the homes of the saints.
- ✳ **Bible distribution at the start of the school year:** We will go out to preach the gospel and distribute Bibles at McGill, Concordia and University of Montréal on August 25, 26, 27, and on September 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9. The sign-up form has been sent out. May we cooperate with the Lord and sanctify some days to go out. May the Lord go before us and prepare the hearts of men. May the ones prepared by the Lord be brought to the saints. May we be channels of life to dispense life to all those in need. May we gain some useful materials for the Lord's building.
- ✳ **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: 1 Thes. 1:1 – 5:11.
- ✳ HWMR: Crucial Aspects of Matthew 5 through 7, Week 6.
- ✳ Life-Study of Philipians, Messages 42 and 43.

Announcements

- ✳ Registration has opened for the upcoming Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference for the churches in the Northeast, which will be held at Camp Penuel (KPCC) on September 18-20, 2026. Registration deadline: September 7, 2026. Fees (USD): Full-Time: Adults \$165, Young People \$110, Children \$90. One night stay: Adults \$125, Young People \$80, Children \$70. Day-only: Adults \$55, Young People \$35, Children \$30. Payment: cash; cheques to “The Church in New York City”; electronic payment via Venmo (@NYCTrainingFund), and PayPal (nyctrainingfund@gmail.com).
- ✳ This year's International Thanksgiving Blending Conference will be held from Thursday, November 26, through Lord's Day, November 29, 2026, at the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center, Colorado Ballroom, 6700 N. Gaylord Rockies Blvd., Aurora, CO 80019, and will be open to the public. There will be translation into Chinese, Korean, Spanish, and Portuguese. Live and archived messages will be available at ismwebcast.com, and free for a period of 30 days after the conference.
- ✳ 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

- ✳ September 18-20, Camp Penuel, Kingston, NY: **Young Working Saints and Young Families Conference for the churches in the Northeast.**
- ✳ September 24-26, Amsterdam, NL: **September International Training for Elders and Responsible Ones.**
- ✳ November 26-29, Denver, CO: **International Thanksgiving Blending Conference.**

This Week's Activities

Sun-Aug-23 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Aug-24	✳
Tues-Aug-25	✳ 7:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese prayer meetings in person and on Zoom. ✳ Gospel preaching and Bible distribution at McGill-Concordia-UdM.
Wed-Aug-26	✳ Gospel preaching and Bible distribution at McGill-Concordia-UdM.
Thur-Aug-27	✳ Gospel preaching and Bible distribution at McGill-Concordia-UdM.
Fri-Aug-28	✳ 6:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese Districts home meetings in person and on Zoom.
Sat-Aug-29	✳
Sun-Aug-30 LORD'S DAY	✳ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

27. SEEKING GOD'S WILL

Scripture reading: John 7:17; Matt. 10:29-31; 18:15-20; Rom. 8:14; Psa. 119:105; 1 John 2:27

Seeking God's will

III. The confirmation of the church and other factors

God's will is revealed through His Word, man's spirit, and the environment. God's will is also revealed through the church. In seeking God's will concerning a certain matter, you should be clear about the Spirit's leading, the Scripture's teaching, and the environment's provision. As much as it is possible, you should also fellowship with those who know God in the church to see whether they will say amen to your guidance. This will give you additional confirmation concerning God's will. These ones know God's Word more, their flesh has been dealt with somewhat, and they are under the direction of the Spirit. Their spiritual condition allows God to speak His heart more freely through them. They will consider your condition in the church, and they will sense whether or not they can say amen to what you have seen. If they can say amen, you can be sure that what you have is God's will. If they cannot say amen to it, it is better for you to wait and seek more guidance. As individuals, we are limited. An individual's personal feeling, understanding of the Scripture, and knowledge of the environment may be wrong; they may not be that accurate. The church is much more reliable in this respect. If the other members of the church think that the "guidance" you have is not reliable, you should not insist on your opinion. Do not think that your "guidance" is always reliable. In such cases we should learn to be humble.

Matthew 18 speaks of the principle of the church. If a brother sins against another brother, the offended one should speak to the offending one while they are alone with each other. If the offending party does not want to listen, the offended party should take with him one or two more. By the mouth of two or three witnesses, every word may be established. If the offending party still refuses to listen, the matter should be told to the church. In the end the offending one has to hear the church. We have to accept the feeling of the church. The Lord Jesus says, "Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven" (v. 18). Because the church is God's habitation and the beacon of God's light, we need to believe that God's will is revealed in the church. We should humble ourselves and should be afraid of our own judgment. This is why we need to fellowship with the church and receive the supply of the Body.

The church has a heavy responsibility before God. It has to act as God's light. If the church is careless or if it does things loosely according to the flesh, it will be impossible to have such a thing as the confirmation of the church. The church can render an accurate and divine confirmation because it has become the mouthpiece of the Holy Spirit. The church must be spiritual, and it must allow the Spirit to preside over it before it can be used by the Spirit to be God's mouthpiece. The confirmation of the church does not mean a discussion among all the brothers and sisters in the church together. It means the speaking of a group of people who know

God and who are being led by the Spirit. For this reason, the elders taking responsibility in the church, as well as those given to the Lord's work, must have a certain amount of knowledge of spiritual things. Their flesh must be dealt with to a certain extent. They must be watchful at all times and have unceasing fellowship with the Lord. They must be full of God's presence and must live under the direction of the Holy Spirit. Only then can there be accurate judgment, and only then will the Spirit give accurate confirmation through them.

Some people may quote Galatians 1:16-17, which says that when Paul received a revelation, he did not confer with flesh and blood, neither did he go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before him. They think that it is sufficient for them to be clear by themselves and that there is no need to fellowship with the church. No doubt a person with a clear revelation like Paul can be truly confident of what he sees. But have you received the revelation the way Paul received his? Even Paul received the Lord's help and supply through other brothers. He saw the great light on the way to Damascus, fell to the ground, and heard what the Lord said to him alone: "Rise up and enter into the city, and it will be told to you what you must do." He received the laying on of hands from an obscure brother named Ananias, and he also received the laying on of hands and the commissioning from co-workers in the church in Antioch (Acts 9:3-6, 12; 13:1-3). The words he spoke in Galatians 1 were to prove that the gospel announced by him was not according to man, but that he had "received it through a revelation by Jesus Christ" (vv. 11-12). There is no flavor of self-exaltation in such words. We should be humble and not intractable. We must not think highly of ourselves. The fact is that we are too far behind Paul to compare ourselves to him! Because we are the party involved, we are clouded by our own interests and subjectivity when we seek God's will. It is difficult for us to see things clearly. This is where the church comes in; it can supply us and render us much help. This is why we should seek confirmation from the church when we are in need.

However, we should avoid another extreme. Some Christians are too passive. They ask the church about everything, and they want others to make decisions for them. This is against the principle of the New Testament. We cannot treat a group of spiritual people in the church as if they were the prophets in the Old Testament, asking them for advice in everything. First John 2:27 says, "And as for you, the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you; but as His anointing teaches you concerning all things.." This anointing is the indwelling Holy Spirit. We can never replace the teaching of the anointing with the confirmation of the church. The confirmation of the church should not be regarded in the same way as one regards the words of the prophets. Its purpose is to confirm what we see so that we can be more assured of God's will. It is a protection rather than a replacement of an individual's pursuit of God's will.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 27, SEEKING GOD'S WILL, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.