

Please Pray

- ✳️ **Reconsider our ways:** "Now therefore thus says Jehovah of hosts, consider your ways." Haggai 1:5. "We need to take Haggai's word and consider our ways (Hag. 1:5, 7). We...need to reconsider our church life and our work. We need to consider what has been the result of our living day by day. We cannot allow ourselves to continue in our present way." It is healthy to reconsider every year our daily living, our condition, our service, our meetings and our ways individually and collectively. With the start of the school year, it is a good opportunity for us to reconsider our ways on how to go on as the church. May the Lord lead us to go on.
- ✳️ **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.
- ✳️ **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.
- ✳️ **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. 5:12 – 1 Tim. 1:14.
- ✳️ HWMR: Crucial Aspects of Matthew 5 through 7, Week 8.
- ✳️ Life-Study of Philipians, Messages 46 and 47.

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).

Announcements (cont'd)

- ✳️ We are pleased to announce the upcoming Fall 2026 Canada Brothers' Conference, which will be held at the Meeting Hall of the Church in Toronto on November 6 and 7, 2026, followed by the Lord's Day blending meeting at the Meeting Hall of the Church in Toronto on November 8, 2026. Please contact the serving brothers to get the registration link.
- ✳️ 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 6-7-8, Toronto, ON: **Fall 2026 Canada Brothers' Conference.**
- ✳️ November 26-29, Denver, CO: **International Thanksgiving Blending Conference.**

This Week's Activities

Sun-Sep-06 LORD'S DAY	✳️ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.
Mon-Sep-07	✳️
Tues-Sep-08	✳️ 7:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese prayer meetings in person and on Zoom.
Wed-Sep-09	✳️
Thur-Sep-10	✳️
Fri-Sep-11	✳️ 6:30pm-9:00pm: English, French, and Chinese Districts home meetings in person.
Sat-Sep-12	✳️
Sun-Sep-13 LORD'S DAY	✳️ 10:00am-12:30pm: Lord's Table and prophesying meetings.

28. MANAGING ONE'S FINANCES

Scripture reading: Luke 6:38; 1 Tim. 6:7-10, 17-19; 2 Cor. 9:6; Mal. 3:10; Prov. 11:24; Phil. 4:15-19

Managing one's finances

I. Managing according to God's principles

In this chapter we will cover monetary offering and giving. After a person has sold everything, he will still receive income; money will still find its way back to his hand. How should he manage his money? Even after a person has offered up all of his money, we should not think that money will no longer have an influence on him. Some people can give away their money all at once, but money can gradually regain its power over them. Eventually, they will consider their money to be their own once again. Therefore, a believer must learn to continually let go of his money.

The Christian way of managing wealth is completely different from that of an unbeliever. The Christian way of financial management is the way of giving. The unbeliever's way is the way of accumulating. Today we are concerned with how a Christian should live in order to be free from want. God has promised us that we will have no lack on earth. The birds of the air have no lack of food, and the flowers of the field have no lack of clothing. Even so God's children should have no lack of clothing and food. If they have any lack, there must be a reason or cause for it. If a brother is financially hard-pressed, he is not managing his wealth according to God's principle.

After you have forsaken all of your possessions to follow the Lord, you should walk according to God's principle. If you do not follow God's principle, you will eventually end up in poverty. There is a great need for many of God's children to learn to manage their wealth. If they do not learn to manage their wealth, they should expect nothing except hardship in the way ahead of them. Today we want to consider the way to attain God's prosperity.

II. God's provision being conditional

As believers we have to look to the Lord for our food, clothing, and other needs while we live on earth today. Without God's mercy, we cannot pass through our days on earth. This is true even for the rich ones; they have to look to the Lord also. During World War II, we saw many rich people stripped of clothing and food. One day many people will be in remorse over their wealth. Paul warned us not to depend on unpredictable riches. A greedy person is always an anxious person. Those who trust in the Lord may not have much in the way of savings, but the Lord will not leave them in difficulties. He can supply all their needs. However, we must also realize that God's supply is with conditions.

If God can feed the birds in the air, He can keep us alive. In reality, no one can feed all the birds or supply enough fertilizer to grow all the lilies of the field. But God has enough riches to keep the birds of the air and the lilies of the field alive. He also has enough riches to keep His children alive. God does not want to see us come short in anything. He does not want our living to be deprived in any way. Everyone who falls into deprivation falls because he has a problem in himself; he has not managed his wealth according to God's way. If we manage our money according to God's law, we will not be in poverty.

Let us read Luke 6:38. This portion of the Word describes the type of person God will supply. God is always willing to supply. When He supplies us, the supply can come in such abundance that it comes out of our mouth and even becomes loathsome to us, as described in Exodus. God has no problem in doing such a thing. We should never think that God is poor. The cattle upon a thousand hills are His, and the goats upon ten thousand hills are His. If everything belongs to Him, why are God's children poor? Why do His children experience lack? It is not because God cannot supply. Rather, we need to meet His requirements before we can receive His supply. We need to meet certain conditions before our prayers can be answered. Even our salvation had certain

requirements to it — we had to believe. Every promise has conditions, and we must fulfill these conditions before we can receive the promise. Likewise, we need to fulfill God's requirements before we can receive His supply. His requirement is to give. The Lord says, "Give, and it will be given to you."

III. Give, and it will be given

I have seen a few brothers and sisters who fell into dire need because they were unfaithful in the matter of giving. They were not actually lacking in income. The Bible shows us a fundamental principle — one must give to become rich and one becomes poor by accumulating riches. Whoever cares only for himself is destined to be in poverty. Whoever learns to give is destined to have riches. God's Word says it, and it is true. If we want to escape poverty, we have to give again and again. The more we give, the more God will give to us. Since we are willing to share our surplus with others, others will also be happy to share their surplus with us in the future. If we give one-twentieth to others, others will also give one-twentieth to us. If we give one-thousandth to others, others will also give one-thousandth to us.

With what measure we measure to others, with the same measure others will measure to us. In what capacity we treat our brothers and sisters, with the same capacity God will treat us. If we are willing to sacrifice our livelihood, others will also sacrifice their livelihood for us. If we only give others that which is totally useless, things which we never use, others will certainly give us totally useless and unusable things. Many people have problems with their income because they have problems with their giving. If a person has no problem with his giving, it is hard to imagine that he will have problems with his income. God's Word is quite clear. If we give to others, the Lord will give to us. If we do not give to others, the Lord will not give to us. Most people only exercise faith when they ask God for money; they do not exercise faith in giving money. It is no wonder that they have no faith to receive anything from God.

Brothers, as soon as we become Christians, we have to learn the basic lesson of financial stewardship. Christians have a unique way of managing their wealth: What we receive depends on what we give. In other words, the Christian way of financial stewardship is to receive according to what we give. Worldly people give according to what they have received, but we receive according to what we give. Our inflow depends on our outflow. Those who crave money and cling to it can never receive God's money; they will never receive any supply from God.

We should all look to the Lord for our needs, but God will supply the needs of only one type of people — those who give. The words good measure, which the Lord uses in Luke 6:38, are wonderful words. When God gives to man, He is never stingy. He is ever generous and overflowing. Our God is always generous. Our God's cup is always running over. God is never petty. When He gives, He says that it will be a good measure, pressed down, and shaken together. Consider the way in which we buy rice. Most rice merchants will not let us shake the measure. They do not allow the rice to settle before pouring it out. But the Lord said, "Pressed down, shaken together." Not only so, it is "running over." Our God is such a generous God. He gives by pressing down, shaking together, heaping up, and running over. However, He also says that with what measure we measure to others, it will be measured to us in return. If we are shrewd and exact in giving to others, God will only touch others to give to us in a shrewd and exact way.

We must give first to others, before others will give to us. Most people never learn to give. They always want God to answer their prayers. We have to give first before we can receive. If we have not received anything recently, it means that we have a problem in giving. I have been a Christian for more than twenty years, and I can surely bear witness to this principle. Whenever a person has a problem with his giving, he will experience a lack.

Note: This content is extracted from CWWN, Vol. 49, Messages for Building Up New Believers (2), Chapter 28, MANAGING ONE'S FINANCES, by Watchman Nee, published by Living Stream Ministry, available at <http://www.ministrybooks.org>.