
Prayer Burdens

1. Let us pray for 'Vision Week', a week long training for college students that runs from July 27th until August 2nd
2. Let us pray for the Junior High camp at Hall 3 and the Children's summer camp at Hall 1 that will begin on August 11th and run for 3 day and 5 days respectively.
3. In Hall 3 on July 27th, Basil and Claire, a couple from France presented their burden to return to France and serve the Lord full time in Lyons for one year. They described France as a place that is a spiritual desert land. Let us stand with them in prayer that the Lord would bless this time and that He would provide the financial support they need.

Announcements:

General

1. **Videos of Lord's Day messages available**
The web site www.churchintoronto.org now has the videos of the Lord's day sharing. It is being updated on a regular basis.

The church in Toronto

Twelve Baskets Full Week 23

August 4th - August 16, 2008

The Entrance of the Word of God Gives Light & Three Conditions of Christians before God

Weekly Bible Reading:

Song of Songs — Chapters 1-8

Hymns:

806, 1012, 437, 405

Monday

Verses for Morning Revival

Hebrews 4:12

12 For the word of God is living and operative and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit and of joints and marrow, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

The Word of God and Spiritual Clarity

“Many Christians have an unusual number of problems. If these were merely outward problems, they would not be that important. But many of these problems point to inward darkness and to the lack of spiritual clarity; one should not treat this lightly. Some situations are necessary for a Christian in the course of spiritual progress. However, a Christian should not allow himself to remain indefinitely in darkness and uncleanness. It is not God's will that we should constantly have problems; God does not wish to see us remain in darkness. How then can we become clear spiritually? Let us see what the Word of God tells us.

“Hebrews 4:12 says, ‘For the word of God is living and operative and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit and of joints and marrow, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.’ This tells us that when the word of God enters, we will be able to distinguish between what is from the spirit and what is from the soul. We cannot discern the difference by merely asking ourselves inwardly; this will only result in confusion. The more we look inwardly and the more we search ourselves, the more problems will arise and

the greater the darkness will become. One question will give rise to ten questions, and ten questions to a hundred questions; the questions will go on. On the other hand, if the word of God enters into us, there will be no need to ask questions; the questions will be gone, and we will become clear. In fact, we will become very clear indeed. For instance, you may meet a man on the street and speak something to him. Although the words may be correct, you feel very uncomfortable afterward. The words were proper and your intention was good, but inwardly you feel otherwise. An hour later you come across a brother and speak to him at length, and the words are helpful to him. This time you feel inwardly satisfied; you feel that a burden has been released and you have rendered a service to God. There is little difference in the words spoken on these two occasions, but there is a great difference in your inward feeling. This difference is very clear to you; it tells you that one is wrong and the other is right. The outward distinction between the two is negligible. Superficially, it seems that the words spoken on both occasions were identical, but inwardly, you perceive a difference. When the word of God is in us, we shall know from within what is from the spirit and what is from the soul. Once we have this inward knowledge, there will be no more questions.”

Tuesday

Verses for Morning Revival

Psalm 119:130

13 The opening of Your words gives light, imparting
0 understanding to the simple

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

The Spirit of God Makes the Word of God Living

“When the word of God enters into you it gives light; you will become inwardly clear, and you will have assurance. The word of God is not just the written Scripture which you read. It is also necessary for the Spirit of God to make this word living in you. Only the living word is useful, and this word will divide your spirit from your soul. This is not a question of reading a book and finding what way is spiritual and what way is soulish. Even if you follow the way given in the book, the result will still be soulish. But when the word of God enters into you and shines in you, it will separate

chaste while waiting for His return. Paul said, ‘For I am jealous over you with a jealousy of God.’ He meant: for the sake of Christ, I am jealous of whoever has captured your heart. You are the Lord’s and nobody is to capture and take hold of you. For example, a friend of mine has been engaged to someone and while he is away, his fiancée falls in love with another man. For the sake of my friend, my jealousy is aroused because she should not treat him in such a manner. I am jealous of the one who has captured her heart.

“Paul feared that, as the serpent in his cunning seduced Eve, their minds might deviate from the simplicity that is in Christ. Every one of us Christians should have an unblemished love untouched by anyone. So let us check before God whether we have lost our pure and single love toward Christ. If a Christian does not have Christ in his thoughts, but rather his own pleasure, his Lord will not be delighted.

Brothers and sisters, we should do one thing today. We should say to the Lord, ‘Oh, Lord I am yours. Pray keep my clothing clean, my heart clean, my thoughts clean, and everything of mine clean. Oh, nobody should be able to touch me, as it is said in the Song of Solomon: “A garden enclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.” ’ (Song of Songs 4:12) Why does it keep on saying ‘enclosed,’ ‘shut up,’ and ‘sealed?’ Because nobody may enter my garden; it is only opened to my beloved. Nobody may get water from me to satisfy his heart or to quench his thirst. My spring and my fountain are all reserved for Him. Brothers and sisters, day after day we should maintain such an attitude. I am reserved for the Lord, and no one else is to touch me. Paul said, ‘Henceforth let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the brands of Jesus.’ (Gal. 6:17) Oh, let nobody trouble me for I bear in my body the marks of the cross!”

Note: Text in quotations is based upon the book, *Twelve Baskets Full*, Vol. 4 by Watchman Nee. **Bold type** and/or underlining have been added for emphasis.

Our Experience in the Church Life

between a woman and a husband? All our needs are supplied solely by Him. We need not plan how to obtain this month's provisions because we can obtain from Christ all that we need. Your temper may be bad; you may be proud; you would not forgive others; you are impotent in your work; you do not know how to pray; and you find Bible reading insipid. But brothers and sisters, I tell you that you can get from Christ the solution to all these. Because of the power of His resurrection, we can bear fruit. "There is a common rule in the world: as soon as a girl gets married, she may immediately bear her husband's name... Many Christians have not noticed this treasure: 'in my name.' This phrase comprises unmeasured blessing. 'Whatsoever you ask in my name, you shall receive... in my name they will cast out demons... anoint the sick with the oil and heal them in my name... forgive sins in my name... preach in my name.' What is the meaning of this? Who can use the name of the Lord? ... every Christian may use the name of the Lord because we belong to Him and therefore His is all ours. He is Christ and we are His people. Brothers and sisters, let us see today that every Christian has the authority to use the name of the Lord. On the day we believe in the Lord, we become joined to Him so that His name is ours, and therefore we can pray in His name. We can act in His name because we have become joined to Him in His resurrection."

Saturday

Verses for Morning Revival

2 Corinthians 11:2-3

- 2** For I am jealous over you with a jealousy of God; for I betrothed you to one husband to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.
- 3** But I fear lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your thoughts would be corrupted from the simplicity and the purity toward Christ.

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

A Christian is Like a Virgin in Waiting

"The Bible not only speaks of our taking a widow's attitude toward the world and our being in the status of a woman in relation to the riches of Christ, but also of our being a virgin in waiting for the return of the Lord. This is to say that we should keep ourselves

the soul from the spirit; it will even expose the joints and marrow. You will know what is wrong and what is right. This is an inward knowledge. Such a person will no longer need to ask questions because there is light within him, and he sees from within.

"Some people ask themselves all the time: 'Am I living for God or for myself? Is this the will of God or my own?' Indeed, it is extremely difficult for us to distinguish which ideas and opinions are our own because we are very often deceived by our own thoughts and intentions. Nevertheless, as soon as the word of the Lord enters, it sifts through the thoughts and intentions of our hearts and immediately shows us which thoughts are perverse, which thoughts are impractical, which thoughts are selfish, which thoughts come from fear, and which thoughts protect ourselves. Inwardly we will see and become very clear. Self-analysis will not give us light; it will only lead us into self-deception. The more we analyze ourselves, the more we will be deceived and the more the word of God will be hindered from entering into us. When the word of God enters into us, our eyes will be opened, and we will no longer need to ask any questions because we will be able to discern the thoughts and intentions of our heart. Brothers and sisters, whenever we have a problem within, we ought to look to the enlightening of God's word. In this way, we will not be deceived."

Wednesday

Verses for Morning Revival

John 1:4

- 4** In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 8:12

- 12** Again therefore Jesus spoke to them, saying, I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

Conscience and Life

"Many of God's children discern right from wrong according to the conscience. However, we should know that the human conscience is still something very shallow. Life is something much deeper than the conscience. Some things often pass the test of the conscience

but may not necessarily pass the test of life. Occasionally we do things by way of 'trial and error.' If our conscience is clear after we have done something, we thank God for it, and if our conscience is guilty, we ask God for forgiveness. We have to wait until the thing is done before we know whether we are right or wrong. But we should realize that we have a life within us. When the word of God enters into us that life will give light, and we will be inwardly clear even before we do anything. The word of God in us gives light and enables us to discern what is from the spirit and what is from the soul. It follows spontaneously that when we touch the spirit, we will realize it is the spirit; and when we touch the soul, we will realize it is the soul. We will know as soon as we touch it; it will become very clear to us.

"The word of God will shine within us and make us clear. It is living and operative. It is not something outward but something inward. We do not discern the spirit from the soul according to outward things; this discernment is the result of inward clearness. Then and only then can we practically know God and recognize the way we should take."

Thursday

Verses for Morning Revival

Song of Songs 3:1b

1
? ...I sought him whom my soul loves; I sought him, but found him not

Song of Songs 4:9m

9 ...You have ravished my heart with one glance of your eyes...

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

A Christian Has the Heart of a Widow

"...today on earth we have the heart of a widow. That I do not love the world is not because it is unlovable, nor because the Bible commands us not to love it, nor because it and its lust will pass away. I should say that the world is lovable; so are the matters, things, and the people in it. Although there are sixty-six books in the Bible, only one book, Ecclesiastes, speaks that everything under the sun is vanity. But the Christian does not love the world not because it is vanity, but because his Lord has been crucified in

this world; so his heart is that of a widow.

"Where your beloved is, that place becomes lovable. Where your beloved is, there paradise is. As He is no longer here, my heart is that of a widow. This world is a blank to me. Therefore our not being attracted by the world is not because it is unlovable. To wear fine clothing and eat good food do afford us comfort and pleasure, but if our heart is attracted by someone we love then all these are nothing to us. Since He is not here, the world to me is bitter."

"I feel alone even in the midst of a dense crowd because He is not here. My heart is burning within me even when I am alone away from society because I remember that I have Him. While I am strolling along the beach, gazing at the foam of breaking waves and listening to the sound of billows, I do not feel alone, isolated, or lonely because He consoles me. Brothers and sisters, many things in this world may attract you, but if you have been filled by the Lord those will be nothing to you."

Friday

Verses for Morning Revival

Romans 7:4

4 So then, my brothers, you also have been made dead to the law through the body of Christ so that you might be joined to another, to Him who has been raised from the dead, that we might bear fruit to God.

1 Corinthians 6:17, 19-20

17 ...he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

19 ...do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

20 For you have been bought with a price. So then glorify God in your body.

Readings for Inspiration and Truth

A Christian is Like a Woman with a Husband

"Not only does the Bible say we are a widow on earth, but it also says that the Christian is like a woman...To be a widow means that she has no husband nor reliance, whereas to be a woman means that she has both husband and reliance. Who should be responsible for the finance of a family? It is the husband and not the wife...do you not know that our relationship with Christ is one