

CHURCH NEWS

Issue 25: Week of February 18, 2018

The church in Richardson

<http://www.churchinrichardson.org>

Announcements

1. Children Service Monthly Fellowship – This month’s fellowship is today at 12:15pm in Children Opening room.
2. Regional Chinese speaking conference will be held in Houston 3/16-18.
3. **Cleaning** - Chinese-speaking District

Nourishment

- **Holy Word for Morning Revival:** *Crystallization-Study of Leviticus, vol.1, Week 2 - Taking Christ as the Burnt Offering for God’s Satisfaction and Expression*
- **Ministry book reading:** *The Economy of God* - Chapter 15 The Principle of Resurrection

Questions:

1. What is the principle of resurrection? (Hint: pp. 134-135—“Romans 8:11 says...” and p. 135—“On the day...”)
2. Where can we find the principle of resurrection today? (Hint: p. 135—“Seeing that...”)
3. What is the power of resurrection? (Hint: p. 136—“Two more verses...”)

•Scripture Reading

	L.D.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
OT	Job 1:1-3:26	4:1-9:35	10:1-17:16	18:1-23:17	24:1-31:40	32:1-37:24	38:1-42:17
NT	1 Cor. 12:12-31	13:1-14:12	14:13-33	14:34-15:19	15:20-34	15:35-58	16:1-24

Prayer Burden

1. Please pray for the increase in Richardson through the distribution of the ministry materials.
2. Please pray for the practice of God-ordained Way through the small groups in the church in Richardson in 2018.
3. Pray for the Lord to strengthen our next generation, including children, Young people, college students and young working saints. Please also pray for the related services and coordination.

Attendance LastWeek

Group	E1	E2	E3	E4	C1	C2	C3	C4	Total	Wed. Prayer (E)	Wed. Prayer (C)	Young People	LD Children	Lord’s Day (Joint)	Total	
#									51	51	5	6	6	23	87	97

How vast, immense, and measureless

- 1 How vast, immense, and measureless The love of Christ to me!
How else could such a wretch as I Be blessed so graciously?
- 2 To bring me back unto Himself, My Lord His all did spend;
So I would gladly bear the cross And follow to the end.
- 3 My all I have forsaken now, This blessed Christ to gain;
Now life or death is no concern— What else can me restrain?
- 4 My dear ones, wealth ambition, fame— What can they offer me?
My gracious Lord for me was poor; For Him I poor would be.
- 5 My precious Savior now I love, Him only would I please.
For Him all gain a loss becomes, And comfort holds no ease.
- 6 Thou art my comfort, gracious Lord! I've none in heav'n but Thee.
And who but Thee is there on earth With whom I love to be?
- 7 Though loneliness and trials come, My griefs I'd rise above.
This only would I ask Thee, Lord: Surround me with Thy love!
- 8 O gracious Lord, I now beseech, Guide me through every stage;
Stand by and strengthen me to go Through this dark, evil age.
- 9 The world, the flesh, and Satan too, Do tempt my soul apace;
Without Thy love and strength'ning power I may Thy name disgrace.
- 10 The time, dear Lord, is running short; From earth my soul set free.
When Thou dost come, I'll sing with joy, Hallelujah to Thee!

Brief Background of the Hymn

Watchman Nee wrote this hymn when he was 19 years old (1922), two years after he got saved. He said, "following my salvation many new things happened to me. All my previous planning became void and was brought to nothing. ... For some this step might be easy, but for me, with many ideals, dreams, and plans, it was exceedingly difficult. ... My salvation and calling to serve the Lord took place simultaneously. ... During that hour I decided on my future career once and for all. I realized that, on the one hand, the Lord had saved me for my sake, and at the same time, He did so for His own sake. He wanted me to obtain His eternal life, and He also wanted me to serve Him and be His co-worker." (Watchman Nee—A Seer of the Divine Revelation in the Present Age, Ch. 2)

"When Watchman Nee was a teenager, he fell in love with a young girl by the name of Charity Chang. ... After Watchman Nee had turned to the Lord, Charity was still unsaved. At times she ridiculed the Lord in Watchman's presence. This bothered him. How could he who loved the Lord marry one who despised the Lord?" (Watchman Nee—A Seer of the Divine Revelation in the Present Age, Ch. 13)

Brother Nee said in his own testimony, "One day..., I randomly opened the Bible and Psalm 73:25 appeared before my eyes: "Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides thee." After reading these words I said to myself, "The writer of this psalm can say that, but I cannot." I discovered then that there was something between me and God. ... I said to God, "I cannot say that there is none upon earth that I desire besides Thee, because there is one on earth whom I love." At that instant, the Holy Spirit indicated clearly that there was something between God and me.

I prayed constantly, hoping that my earnest supplication might change God's mind. Thank the Lord that all along He wanted me to learn to deny myself, to lay aside human love, and love Him with a single heart. Otherwise, I would be a useless Christian in His hand. ... thank the Lord, soon afterwards I was filled with His love, and I was willing to lay my loved one down and loudly declare, "I will lay her aside! Never will she be mine!" After this declaration I was at long last able to utter the words of Psalm 73:25. On that day I was in the second heaven, if not the third. ...On the evening of my salvation, the burden of my sins rolled away, but on that day, February 13, 1922, when I laid aside my beloved, my heart was emptied of everything that previously occupied me." Later on, brother Nee wrote this hymn based on his experience.