

CHURCH NEWS

Issue 24: Week of February 11, 2018

The church in Richardson

<http://www.churchinrichardson.org>

Announcements

1. **Morning Revival** -- This week, we will enter into Crystallization-Study of Leviticus. Please remember to pick up the morning revival after the meeting from the book room.
2. **Memorial Meeting** -- Brother Taan Pao went to be with the Lord on February 4th. There will be a memorial meeting at the church in Plano meeting hall at 2pm. (2525 Custer Rd., Plano, TX 75075)
3. **2018 International Chinese - Speaking Conference (Taipei, Taiwan) Simulcast:**
 - A. 2/17 (Saturday) evening, all Chinese saints come to meeting hall to have a blending time
 - 6:00-7:30 potluck love feast
 - 7:30-9:00 message 5 of ICSC simulcast
 - 9:00-9:30 simulcast of the Lord's Table meeting for over 30,000 saints
 - B. 2/16 (Friday) 7:00-8:30pm, message 3 of ICSC simulcast

Nourishment

- **Holy Word for Morning Revival:** *Crystallization-Study of Leviticus, vol.1, Week 1 - God Training His People to Worship and Partake of Him and to Live a Holy, Clean, and Rejoicing Life*
- **Ministry book reading:** *The Economy of God* - Chapter 14 The Principle of the Cross
 Questions:
 1. What is the principle of the cross? (Hint: p.125—"Many Christians know something..." and pp.129-end of chapter—"Now we come to the cross...")
 2. What are the items of the old creation? (Hint: p.125—"What are the constituents of the old creation?... " to p.127—"Finally, the twelfth item...")
 3. What is the center of the old creation? (Hint: p.127—"These twelve items...")
 4. When did the old creation come to its end? (Hint: pp.127-128—"Praise the Lord..." and "In John 3:14...")

•Scripture Reading

	L.D.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
OT	Neh. 6:15-8:18	9:1-10:39	11:1-12:47	13:1-31	Esth. 1:1-3:15	4:1-7:10	8:1-10:3
NT	1 Cor. 6:17-7:24	7:25-8:13	9:1-27	10:1-13	10:14-11:6	11:7-26	11:27-12:11

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.
4. Please pray for the coming International Chinese-speaking Conference (2/16 -18) in Taipei, Taiwan. Pray for around twenty saints going from here. May the Lord bless His speaking and bring all of us into the experience and the reality of One New Man.

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
#	14	8	8	11	9	6	6	16	78	10	10	9	NA	NA	NA

Let me love and not be requited

Let me love and not be requited.

Let me serve and not be rewarded.

Let me labor and not be remembered.

Let me suffer and not be regarded.

Let me pour wine, while I drink not.

Let me break bread, while I keep not,

Pour my life out that others be blessed;

Be in suffering that they be contented.

None to pity me or care for me,

None to praise me or to console me.

I would rather be desolate, wretched,

Lonely, friendless, and wrongly treated.

With my blood and tears pay the price to gain the crown,

Suffer loss that I might a pilgrim's life live out,

For, Lord, this is how You lived Your life when You walked
on this earthly sphere,

Gladly bore all loss that those who drew near

Could be freed from all suffering and fear.

I know not how far the future lies ahead.

On this path of no retreating I am led.

So, Lord, let me now learn from Your perfect pattern,

Suffering wrong, no resentment in return.

May You in this difficult, tedious day,

All my tears shed in secret wipe away;

Learning You are my only solacement,

And let my life for others' joy be spent

Brief Background of the Hymn

Watchman Nee (1903-1972) was “a unique gift to this age... , was given by the Lord to His Body for His move of recovery on the earth” (*Watchman Nee—A Seer of the Divine Revelation in the Present Age, Ch. 1*). He was “a seer of the divine revelation in the present age”.

Brother Nee did not write many hymns, but what he wrote were all with high quality. When he came to compose a hymn, he was very careful on the truth and structure of the hymn, making sure the hymn did convey spiritual reality. In Brother Nee's whole life, he edited and published two hymnal books (in Chinese, displayed in our lobby) for the Lord's Recovery. The first “Hymnal”, which included 184 hymns, was published in 1932 in Shanghai, China. Among these 184 hymns, a small part were written by Brother Nee. The rest were translated, improved, and adjusted by him from over 10,000 hymns, poems, and songs. (All 184 hymns are listed in “Collected Works of Watchman Nee, Vol. 23: The Song of Songs & Hymns”) This hymnal had been used until 1952.

The second “Hymnal” had 1052 hymns, including 146 hymns written by Witness Lee before 1950. Brother Nee started to work on it in 1948 with the help of several co-workers. After finishing editing work, brother Nee said: “Lord, I thank you! This maybe the last service I could offer to the church!” This hymnal was published in June, 1952 and used until 1958. Brother Nee was arrested on April 10, 1952 and went to be with the Lord on May 31, 1972. The majority of the hymns included in our current version of “Hymnal” are from this hymnal.

“Let me love and not be requited” was a poem Brother Nee wrote in 1930 (Hymn No. 185 in “Collected Works of Watchman Nee, Vol. 23: The Song of Songs & Hymns”). From the beginning to the line “Suffer loss that I might a pilgrim's life live out” was a prayer made by a Italian brother, St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226). Brother Nee added the rest when he was translating this poem. In 1976, Sister Mimi Lam (1947-2001) composed music for this hymn. For the past three decades, this hymn has been one of the most loved hymns among Christians everywhere.

In his whole life, Brother Nee followed the Lord and walked on the way of the cross faithfully and absolutely. This hymn very much reflects his living and his attitude of “asking nothing for himself, but asking everything for the Lord”. May we all be encouraged by our brother being such a pattern to us, walking faithfully and steadfastly on the way of life and the way of the cross for the building of the Body of Christ.