

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

June 9, 2013

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Prayer Items

- ✿ France
- ✿ Amherst, MA
- ✿ Irvine

For additional details regarding the above prayer items, please refer to Detailed Prayer Burdens.

Weekly Truth Pursuit

In preparation for the upcoming semi-annual training, we encourage the saints to read 2 chapters of the book of Genesis each day to be refreshed by the Word and become familiar with its content.

Bible Reading

| | OT Pages | NT Page |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Monday | 1768-1769 | 832 |
| Tuesday | 1770-1771 | 833 |
| Wednesday | 1772-1773 | 834 |
| Thursday | 1774-1775 | 835 |
| Friday | 1776-1777 | 836 |
| Saturday | 1778-1779 | 837 |

Morning Revival

The Recovery of Christ as Everything in the Church, Week 2

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: Follow-up from the Paris, France Conference (see report below)

- ✿ Pray that the Lord will continue to sow the seed of the ministry publications and the Recovery Version so that the Francophone world can be "filled with the knowledge of Jehovah / As water covers the sea" (Isa. 11:9).
- ✿ Pray that the saints in the smaller localities in France will continue to stand for the Lord and gain the increase.
- ✿ Pray that the Lord of the harvest will thrust out more workers to reap the white fields among the native French people.

National: Resumption of the Lord's Table in Amherst (see report below)

- ✿ Pray for the resumption of the Lord's Table in Amherst, MA this coming Lord's Day and that the Lord's testimony in that city will be built up through the saints' enjoyment of Christ.

Local: Irvine

- ✿ Pray for the follow-up of Bibles for America recipients and that a gospel "culture" will be built up in every district in contacting people with the gospel of Christ by every means.

REPORT FROM THE SAINTS IN AMHERST, MA

Dear saints,

After much wonderful fellowship, we, the saints in Amherst, MA joyfully announce the resumption of the Lord's Table in Amherst and that our plans have been finalized for the first meeting on June 16, 2013. We praise and worship the Lord for all that He has done in Amherst, and we now long to celebrate and remember Him together with all the saints at His Table. Please distribute this to the saints in your locality, and we pray that many of you can come to meet together with us for this joyful time.

All the saints and all the churches are warmly invited to come and enjoy this time of celebration to resume the Lord's Table meetings in Amherst.

We worship and praise our precious Lord, for His glorious person and His marvelous work! May His name be exalted in Amherst and in the whole earth!

—From all the saints in Amherst

REPORT FROM THE SAINTS IN FRANCE

Dear saints,

We would like to report on the conference held on April 28-29, 2013 in Paris. The Lord's blessing was obvious: at least 240 saints and new ones attended the conference, 140 of whom were from 12 different cities in France, with the remaining 100 coming from Belgium, Switzerland, the UK, Holland, the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean, Taiwan, Finland, Poland, and Uganda. This represents a 20% increase from last year.

The topic was "The Spirit's Up-to-date Speaking to the Churches" with outlines from the recent ITERO and Thanksgiving conferences. Many new ones who are being shepherded by the campus team and by the saints in several localities came, including a good number of young, college-aged saints. The atmosphere was marvelous—full of the exercise of the spirit. Not only was the speaking very touching, but the responses from the saints also were overwhelming. We had to limit the sharing time for each one to 30 seconds for most of the meetings so that many

could have a chance to speak. We also had a young people's meeting on Saturday night, with approximately 50 young people and serving ones, and many were touched by the testimonies of the seven FTTL trainees who attended the conference. The six FTTL trainees from France were a real strengthening factor to this time, and some of them became translators during the sharing time.

Many of the newer French saints were first contacted through the literature work, either directly or indirectly. We also have a new Bibles for Europe (BfE) contact with us. Please pray that the Lord will continue to sow the seed of the ministry publications and the Recovery Version so that the Francophone world can be "filled with the knowledge of Jehovah / As water covers the sea" (Isa. 11:9). The co-workers who spoke in the conference were very encouraged at how the Lord has advanced in the Francophone world since the 1980s. They particularly encouraged many of the brothers from smaller localities to continue to stand for the Lord and gain the increase,

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

- ☉ Monday, July 1 - Saturday, July 6, Summer Training, Anaheim, CA
- ☉ Monday, July 29 - Saturday, Aug. 3, Summer Bible Camp, Irvine, CA

Church-related Websites

General: churchinirvine.org

Blog: members.churchinirvine.org

Calendar: calendar.churchinirvine.org

Offerings: offerings.churchinirvine.org

YP: youngpeople.churchinirvine.org

This Week

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 9 TH Lord's Day | ☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts |
| | ☉ 2:30pm Community Gospel (BfA distributions meet in Oak Creek) |
| 11 TH Tuesday | ☉ 7:30–8:30pm Prayer meetings by districts |
| 12 TH Wednesday | ☉ 7:30–9:00pm Ministry Meeting at MCC Anaheim and simulcast at Hall 3 |
| 13 TH Thursday | ☉ 10:00–11:00am Sisters' prayer meeting at Hall 2 |
| 14 TH Friday | ☉ Evening Small groups in the homes |
| 15 TH Saturday | ☉ 8:00–9:00am Corporate prayer time at Hall 3 |
| | ☉ 2:45pm Community Gospel (in Quail Hill) |
| 16 TH Lord's Day | ☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Church-wide Blending Meeting at Hall 1 |
| | ☉ 2:30pm Community Gospel (BfA distributions meet in Oak Creek) |

REPORT FROM THE SAINTS IN FRANCE (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

since the church life for one of the co-workers started in a small locality. The serving ones here all felt that the Lord is continuing to move strongly to penetrate France. Along with a good number of new ones who have been contacted with the gospel on the college cam-

pus, we have our hands full of native French who need shepherding. May the Lord of the harvest thrust out more workers to reap the white fields!

Much grace,
The serving saints in France

MINISTRY PORTION FROM THE LIFE-STUDY OF GENESIS

Process

Job 38:4-7 reveals the process of God's creation. The heavens with all the hosts and angels therein were created first. The earth, probably with some living creatures, was created second. We say "probably" because there is not a clear word about this matter. Some portions of the Word give us inferences. Job 38:4-7 says that when God laid the foundation of the earth, the stars and the angels (the sons of God) were there already. This proves that the heavens with all the stars and angels were created first, and that the earth was created second.

In (the) Beginning

Now we come to the first verse of the first chapter: "In [the] beginning..." In the Bible this phrase, "in the beginning," is used in two ways, the first time in Genesis 1:1 and the second time in John 1:1. The beginning mentioned in John 1:1 was earlier than the beginning mentioned in Genesis. The beginning mentioned by John was the beginning in eternity, a beginning without any beginning. The beginning revealed in Genesis 1 was the beginning of time, which started with God's creation. John refers to eternity, while Genesis refers to time.

God Created

In this beginning God created. It is quite interesting to notice that in this sentence the subject "God" is plural and the predicate "created" is singular. Does this mean that there are several Gods? Surely this is a little seed of the Trinity. God is one, but He is triune. In the same chapter (v. 26) He calls Himself "us": God said, "Let us make man." God is one, but

the pronoun for Him is "us." We cannot explain. God is one, yet triune. The Triune God came to create.

In Genesis 1 and 2, three different verbs are used concerning God's creation and re-creation: created, made, and formed. To create means to bring something into existence out of nothing. Only God can create. We cannot create. We can only make. To make means to take something which exists already and then use it to produce something else. On the first day, God did not create the light nor on the third day did He create the earth, because the light was there already and the earth was buried under the deep waters. On the first day God did not create but He commanded. God said, "Let there be light," and light was there. On the third day, God commanded the buried land to come out of the death waters. That was not an act of creating, but of making. Then, God made man a physical body. That was formation. God formed man with the dust.

God's creation is in verse 1 and God's re-creation begins with verse 3. It doesn't say that God made the heavens, nor that God formed the earth. It says that God created the heavens and the earth.

Creation Proves the Existence of God

Creation declares the glory of God, proving that there is a God. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament, the expanse, showeth His handiwork (Psa. 19:1-2). Although God's divine power and Godhead are invisible things, man can understand them by the things that were made. Man can understand and is without excuse (Rom. 1:20). Look at creation: how can we say there is no God! (*Life Study of Genesis*, Message 1).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

☉ Church-wide Blending Meeting

On Lord's Day, June 16, the entire church will come together for a blending meeting at Hall 1.

Please carpool as much as possible on that day. Parking in the parking lot should be reserved for those cars with 3 or more occupants, the elderly, and those with children. All trainees and students should park at Venado Middle School on Deerfield Ave. (a 10 minute walk across Deerfield Community Park from Hall 1).

☉ Summer Bible Camp (SBC) 7/29-8/3/13

This year's SBC will be held from 7/29-8/3 on the topic of "The Pattern of Jesus and the Disciples." A church-wide e-mail announcement was sent, and each district should have received copies of the brochure. To register, you may go to: <http://www.irvineyp.com/summerbiblecamp.htm>. We need many to serve as well as many to pray for the SBC.

The next coordination meeting will be TODAY, June 9, 3:30pm, at Hall 1. We encourage all parents and burdened saints to come to this time. We need much participation to carry out this special week.