

Prayer Items

Please refer to the suggested directions for prayer.

Weekly Truth Pursuit

The *Life-Study of Ephesians* will be suspended temporarily. Please substitute your reading with the following portions of ministry which are available online at www.ministrybooks.org:

Lessons on Prayer, chapter 14: "Life Supply and Prayer" by Witness Lee; and

Lessons on Prayer, chapter 16, "The Necessity for Prayer to be in Resurrection" by Witness Lee.

Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	1516-1517	706
Tuesday	1518-1519	707
Wednesday	1520-1521	708
Thursday	1522-1523	709
Friday	1524-1525	710
Saturday	1526-1527	711

Morning Revival

Prayer and the Lord's Move
(Thanksgiving Conference 2012),
Week 3

Word of the Week

Intercede

The full post is available here:
<http://members.churchinirvine.org/?p=4371>

SUGGESTED DIRECTIONS FOR PRAYER

The following points are offered as suggested directions for the prayer of the saints and the churches. These are not meant to be received as a formality or a legality that would limit our prayer in any way. No list of prayer burdens can replace our living contact with the resurrected and ascended Christ, who intercedes on the throne and in our spirit and who alone can supply us with the genuine burden and utterance for our prayer (Rom. 8:26, 34; Heb. 7:25).

Day 13 – Lord's Day, Jan. 13

All the saints to be renewed in their heart toward mankind, to be laboring priests of the gospel, to personally, directly, regularly, and faithfully visit and contact people for their spiritual welfare, to bear remaining fruit, and to shepherd the Lord's sheep for the increase of the recovery and the building up of the Body.

Day 14 – Monday, Jan. 14

The campus work and the community gospel work.

Day 15 – Tuesday, Jan. 15

The full-time training (FTTA, FTTA-XB, FTTMx, FTTA-MA), including the trainees, the trainers, and the serving ones.

Day 16 – Wednesday, Jan. 16

The services of and the serving saints at Living Stream Ministry, Defense and Confirmation Project, Bibles for America, Bibles for Canada, and Rhema Literature Distributors.

Day 17 – Thursday, Jan. 17

The forces of religious opposition to the Lord's recovery to be bound, the names of Watchman Nee, Witness Lee, and the local churches to be cleared from blame, and the number of friends of the recovery among Christian leaders to grow.

Day 18 – Friday, Jan. 18

The establishing and preservation of strong and spiritual marriages and healthy and sanctified families as solid foundational units for the building up of the local churches.

Day 19 – Saturday, Jan. 19

The preservation of society from moral degradation and corruption, especially in the United States, which is still a strategic and leading nation for God's move in His recovery on the earth today.

WORD OF THE WEEK: "INTERCEDE"

Pray Over These Key Verses...

Gen. 18:24-25, 33: Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will You indeed destroy and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous who are in it? **25** Far be it from You to do such a thing, to put to death the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked. Far be it from You! Shall the Judge of all the earth not do justly?... **33** And Jehovah went away as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

Rom. 1:9: For God is my witness, whom I serve in my spirit in the gospel of His Son, how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers.

1 Tim. 2:1: I exhort therefore, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men;

Philem. 4: I thank my God always, making mention of you in my prayers.

Read Some Helpful Footnotes...

Gen. 18:22¹ remained: Abraham's purpose in standing before Jehovah was to intercede for Lot. The glorious intercession that Abraham made before God was not a prayer from man on earth to God in heaven; it was a human conversation between two friends, an intimate talk according to the unveiling of God's heart's desire.

Gen. 18:25¹ far: In Abraham's intercession for Lot, He did not beg God according to His love and grace; he challenged God according to His righteous way. God's righteousness binds Him much more than His love and grace do (see note 17¹ in Rom. 1).

Gen. 18:33¹ speaking: Abraham's intercession did not terminate with Abraham's speaking but with God's, showing that genuine intercession is God's speaking in our speaking.

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Upcoming Events

☪ Friday, Feb. 15 - Lord's Day, Feb. 17, International Chinese-speaking Conference, Anaheim, 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

13 TH Lord's Day	☪ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts
15 TH Tuesday	☪ 7:30–9:00pm Church-wide corporate prayer meeting at Hall 1
17 TH Thursday	☪ 10:00–11:00am Sisters' prayer meeting at Hall 2
18 TH Friday	☪ Evening Small groups in the homes
19 TH Saturday	☪ 7:30–8:30am Corporate prayer time at Hall 3 ☪ 6:00pm Young People's meeting
20 TH Lord's Day	☪ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts

WORD OF THE WEEK: "INTERCEDE" (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

Read Some Helpful Ministry...

What was God's purpose in coming to Abraham in Genesis 18? He surely did not come for a meal; neither did He come to confirm His promise regarding Sarah's giving birth to a son. **God came to Abraham because He was seeking an intercessor.** On His throne in heaven, God had decided to execute His judgment on the wicked city of Sodom. But God would never forget that one of His people, Lot, was in that city. Lot did not even realize that he had to be rescued from Sodom. **What could God do? He had to find someone to intercede for Lot.** God knew that there was no one on earth who was as concerned for Lot and who was so much with God as Abraham was. Hence, **God came to Abraham for the purpose of finding an intercessor. Without an intercessor to intercede for His people, God cannot do anything. God has His divine principles. One of them is that without intercession He cannot save anyone. The salvation of every Christian has been accomplished through intercession.** God did not stay on His throne in heaven waiting for such intercession to occur. Rather, He came down to visit Abraham in the form of a mortal man so that Abraham might easily talk with Him and intercede for Lot. In Genesis 18 Abraham did not pray to God or call on the name of God; he talked to God as with an intimate friend. **Thus, the purpose of God's visit to Abraham in this chapter was that Abraham might take up the burden to intercede for Lot according to God's desire.** (*Abraham—Called by God*, Chap. 15, Section 1)

I say once again that proper intercession must always be initiated by God's visitation on the human level. Whenever we have the deep sense that God has come to us on a human level, we shall realize that this is the time when God will initiate an intercession for us to carry out. For this we must learn to linger in the presence of God. If He would begin to walk away, we must stay in His presence and tell Him, "Lord, I don't want to lose Your presence. I want to linger here with You." Your lingering in His presence will open up His heart and draw out His desire. We have seen that Abraham did not abruptly say good-bye to the Lord but walked with Him for a certain distance. This reveals that, in a certain sense, God is very human. If we would linger in His presence, He would be so human as not to leave us. He would remain with us because of our lingering with Him. I have experienced this many times. I did not leave God's presence and He did not leave mine. **As a result of that lingering, God opened His heart to me and the proper intercession came forth.** (*Abraham—Called by God*, Chap. 15, Section 3)

If we want to learn the work of intercession, we must learn to turn to our spirit, enter into God, drop our concepts, and care for God's heart. When we do this, spontaneously He will show us His desire, and He will motivate us to pray. The more we pray this way, the more we will touch God's heart. We will touch God and be filled, and something solid will remain in us. After we pray this way, we will have the faith and the deep assurance that our prayers have been answered. **Intercession is fully a matter of being in the spirit.** (*How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God*, Chap. 21)

Sing These Hymns...

Hymn 785 (alternate tune)

- 1 Praying to express the Lord,
We must not ourselves express,
But let Christ reveal Himself,
His desire in us impress.
- 2 Praying to express the Lord,
We must utter His intent,
Quieting our human thoughts
That with His our mind be blent.
- 3 Praying to express the Lord,
Ever looking unto Him
As a mirror to reflect
All His glory from within.
- 4 Praying to express the Lord,
Letting Him beseech in us;
Christ indwelling prays within
To the Christ in heaven thus.
- 5 Praying to express the Lord,
Learning not to pray by self,
Praying wholly with the Lord,
Praying only by Himself.

To view the Word of the Week post in its entirety, go to:
<http://members.churchinirvine.org/?p=4371>