

# WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

January 29, 2012

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

## Prayer Items

- ⊗ Gospel Trips
- ⊗ Bookshop in Central London
- ⊗ Districting in Irvine
- ⊗ YP Getaway
- ⊗ Saints struggling with health conditions, unemployment, loss of family, and other personal matters.

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

## Weekly Truth Pursuit

Ministry reading: *Life-Study of Exodus, messages 170 & 171*

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	964-965	430
Tuesday	966-967	431
Wednesday	968-969	432
Thursday	970-971	433
Friday	972-973	434
Saturday	974-975	435

## Morning Revival

*The Focus of the Lord's Recovery, Week 4*

## Word of the Week

### Gaze

The full post is available here:  
<http://churchinirvine.org/Members/index.php?p=3001>

## Lord's Table Meeting

Hall	Last Week's Attendance
Hall 1	286
Hall 2	@ Hall 1
Hall 3	83
TOTAL	369

## DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

**International:** Full-time training in Anaheim gospel trips to Europe, South Africa, South America, and China—Jan. 26 to Feb. 9

Approximately 80 trainees from the FTFA, including 23 from the FTFA extension in Boston, will be participating in the upcoming trips.

- ⊗ Please pray that there will be a sweet coordination and blending of the trainees with the local saints.
- ⊗ Please pray that the gospel will be prevailing and the truth will be announced to many seeking ones.
- ⊗ Please pray that the trainees will be broadened in their view of the Lord's move and need on the earth.
- ⊗ Please pray that many young saints will be encouraged to attend the full-time training as a result of the trainees' testimonies.

### The Bookshop in Central London

The bookshop officially opened on Monday, January 16. The saints in London are still receiving over 100 new requests for literature each week through the radio broadcast and the Rhema literature distribution.

⊗ Please pray that the Lord will use the bookshop to sow the seed of the ministry in London, the UK, Europe, and beyond.

⊗ Please pray that many university students, radio listeners, and Rhema recipients will come to the bookshop to have a firsthand view of the ministry publications and a face-to-face contact with the saints.

### Local: Irvine

- ⊗ Pray that the church life in the districts will bring every saint into a deeper and richer daily life of enjoying Christ that every saint will be vitalized and be brought into function that each district would be built up to practice the God-ordained way in begetting, nourishing, perfecting and building for the corporate expression of the Triune God.
- ⊗ Pray for the Young People's getaway taking place from Feb. 3 -5.

## WORD OF THE WEEK: "GAZE"

### Pray Over These Key Verses...

Psa. 27:4: One thing I have asked from Jehovah; / That do I seek: / To dwell in the house of Jehovah / All the days of my life, / To behold the beauty of Jehovah, / And to inquire in His temple.

John 1:14: And the Word became flesh and tabernacled among us (and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten from the Father), full of grace and reality.

2 Cor. 3:18: But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.

Heb. 12:2: Looking away unto Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down on the right hand of the throne of God.

1 John 1:1: That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of life.

### Read Some Helpful Footnotes...

2 Cor. 3:18, note 1 But indicates that we believers are different from the children of Israel. They were veiled, but we with unveiled face behold and reflect like a mirror the glory of the Lord and are thus being transformed into the same image as the Lord from glory to glory.

Heb. 12:2, note 1 The Greek word translated *looking away unto* denotes looking with undivided attention by turning away from every other object. The Hebrew believers had to look away from all the things in their environment, away from their old religion, Judaism, and its persecution, and away from all earthly things, that they might look unto

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## Upcoming Events

- ☉ Lord's Day, Feb. 12, Church in Irvine begins to meet in districts on Lord's Days
- ☉ Friday, March. 30 - Lord's Day, April. 1, ITERO, Anaheim, CA

## Church-related Websites

General: churchinirvine.org  
 Blog: churchinirvine.org/Members  
 Audio: recentaudio.churchinirvine.org  
 Calendar: calendar.churchinirvine.org  
 Gospel: gospel.churchinirvine.org  
 Offerings: offerings.churchinirvine.org  
 YA: youngadults.churchinirvine.org  
 YP: youngpeople.churchinirvine.org

## Online Forms

Record baptisms:  
 baptisms.churchinirvine.org  
 Register for user account:  
 churchinirvine.org/register  
 Register for truth pursuit emails:  
 truthpursuit.churchinirvine.org  
 Register for services:  
 servicesignup.churchinirvine.org

## This Week

29 <sup>TH</sup> Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am -12:00pm Lord's Table meetings at Halls 1, 2 & 3 and prophesying meetings by districts
31 <sup>ST</sup> Tuesday	☉ 7:30-8:30pm Prayer meetings by districts
2 <sup>ND</sup> Thursday	☉ 10:00am Sister's prayer time at Hall 1
3 <sup>RD</sup> Friday	☉ Evening Small groups in the homes
4 <sup>TH</sup> Saturday	☉ 8:30am Brothers' prayer and coordination (by districts)
5 <sup>TH</sup> Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am -12:00pm Lord's Table meetings at Halls 1, 2 & 3 and prophesying meetings by districts

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Jesus, who is now seated on the right hand of the throne of God in the heavens.

### Read Some Helpful Ministry...

We should learn to behold the beauty of the Lord in silence (v. 4). Many Christians have never heard of this practice. **Beholding the beauty of the Lord is to look at the Lord in our spirit and to gaze at Him.** When we come before God in prayer, we must learn to stop our speaking, to cut off our words, and to simply turn to our spirit to appear before Him, touch Him, behold Him in silence, and gaze upon Him. We need to look at Him again and again, beholding, appreciating, and even treasuring Him. This is very sweet and necessary. We should never consider prayer to be merely asking God to do something for us. No, the object and subject of prayer are not things. Both the object and subject of prayer are God Himself. First we should touch Him. Then we should be silent before Him. After this we should behold Him by looking and gazing at Him. This is to absorb God and enjoy Him (*How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God*, Chapter 5).

Most people understand beholding the Lord to mean looking up at a God who sits far above in the heavens and who sends His light down to men. They consider beholding God to be looking up to such a light. According to our spiritual experience, however, this is not the meaning of beholding God. **Beholding God is to gaze and look at God.**

When I meet with a friend, we typically look each other in the eye and measure each other before we say anything. Sometimes after speaking, we look at each other again before we depart. **Our looking at each other conveys a kind of warmth and intimacy. It is impossible for two persons to speak to each other without looking at each other.** In the same way, beholding God means to gaze on Him when we pray. After we pray a few

sentences, we should turn to gaze on Him again. If we do not turn to God or do not fix our gaze on Him but instead hastily utter a few words, it will be difficult for us to enjoy God. When we pray, we must be calm, turn to our spirit, and gaze on Him. Then according to the feeling within, we can speak to Him under His gaze. We should continually behold Him. Such beholding is very precious (*How to Enjoy God and How to Practice the Enjoyment of God*, Chapter 21).

We are all busy in the morning, but we must do our best to save ten or fifteen minutes each day to behold the Lord. To do this is not a waste of time. If possible, we should reduce our time for sleep. If we normally rise at six o'clock in the morning, we can gain fifteen minutes by rising fifteen minutes earlier. If we take another ten minutes from the time given to our business, we can have a total of twenty-five minutes for beholding the Lord each day. **By beholding Him we will receive an element from the Lord that will transform us into the glorious image of Christ, even from glory to glory. This is the way to enjoy Christ** (*The Central Line of the Divine Revelation*, Chapter 17).

### Sing These Hymns...

#### Hymn 172, Verse 2

I cannot gaze enough on Thee,  
 Thou Fairest of the Fair;  
 My heart is filled with ecstasy,  
 As in Thy face of radiancy  
 I see such beauty there.

To view the Word of the Week post in its entirety, go to:  
<http://churchinirvine.org/Members/index.php?p=3001>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ☉ Workshop for Parents and Children's Serving Ones TODAY

There will be a workshop today, January 29, from 4:00pm-6:00pm at Hall 3 (620 Roosevelt) for all parents (with children up to 6th grade) and the saints who serve in the children's meetings. During the workshop we will cover how to prepare and present the new lessons and how each district will carry out the Lord's Day morning children's work.

### ☉ Birth Announcement

Jemmy and Shining Chen's baby girl, Hosanna Ann Chen, was born on 1/09/2012 at 7:30 PM. She weighed in at 6 lbs 5 oz and was 19" long. We pray that she would be a useful vessel for the Lord.