

# WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

February 9, 2014

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

## Prayer Items

- ☉ Int'l Chinese-speaking Conference
- ☉ The Lord's testimony in Spain
- ☉ Irvine

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

## Weekly Truth Pursuit

*Life-Study of Colossians, Messages 41 & 42*

## Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	277-278	1024
Tuesday	279-280	1025
Wednesday	281-282	1026
Thursday	283-284	1027
Friday	285-286	1028
Saturday	287-288	1029

## Morning Revival

*Crystallization Study of Genesis, Vol. 3, Week 14*

## DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

### International: International Chinese-speaking Conference - Anaheim, Feb. 14-16

- ☉ Pray for a rich dispensing of the Triune God during this time through all the meetings and fellowship.
- ☉ Pray that the word released will be an "injection" into the Body that the entire Body would be benefited from this conference.

### The Lord's testimony in Madrid, Barcelona, and Girona, Spain (see report below)

- ☉ Pray that the Lord will bless the church in Madrid with increase from the Bible distribution on the university campus and provide an adequate meeting place in Madrid for the church and the work.
- ☉ Pray that distributing Bibles as a means of propagation will be a part of the normal church life in Girona.

☉ Pray that the church in Girona will be able to assist the church in Barcelona in propagation through distributing Bibles so that the Lord can gain local vessels for His testimony in that important city.

☉ Pray that all the localities in this area known as the Iberian Peninsula will pick up the burden to distribute the Recovery Version for the increase of all the churches.

### Local: Irvine

☉ Pray for an increase in the enjoyment and experience of Christ in the saints' daily life that will issue in an increase in the gospel and shepherding life of the saints and in the meetings of the church that are an overflow and expression of Christ.

## REPORT REGARDING SPAIN AND THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

The Lord has blessed the church in Madrid, Spain with increase, which includes more children than we can adequately take care of in the current meeting hall. The church is again actively looking for a larger and more adequate place. The burden is to be close to the center of the city, and there is a place of interest with potential to meet the need for the church as well as serve as a facility for the work.

The visit of the FTTA gospel trip coincided with the recent arrival of 8,400 Bibles. Distribution of the New Testament Recovery Version by Biblias para Europa took place for the first time in Madrid on the campus of the largest university of Spain, La Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

The FTTA gospel trip went to Girona, Spain and witnessed the blessing of the Lord there. New saints with teen-age children were in the meetings. Distribution of Bibles also took place there. Biblias para Europa left 240 New Testaments there for the saints so that Bible distribution as a means of propagation will be a part of the normal church life.

The burden of the serving ones is to go to each locality in this area known as the Iberian Peninsula where there are saints, to train them by going out with them to distribute the Recovery Version, and to leave them some Bibles so that they can go out on their own.

## MINISTRY PORTION

### A REVELATION OF WHO CHRIST IS AND WHAT CHRIST IS

In chapter one of Colossians we have a high revelation of who Christ is and of what Christ is. Actually, this book reveals more concerning what Christ is than who He is. Most Christians, however, only know who Christ is; they have little knowledge of what He is. But if we would know the all-inclusive Christ, we must know what He is as well as who He is. It is easier to know who Christ is than to know what He is. In Colossians 1 we see that Christ is the portion of the saints (v. 12), the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,

the Head of the Body, the beginning, the firstborn from among the dead, and the One in whom all the fullness was pleased to dwell. Is this fullness related to what Christ is or to who Christ is? It is difficult to say. It seems, however, that Paul personified the fullness. This indicates that he considered the fullness a Person, for the fullness was pleased to dwell in Christ and to reconcile all things. These are the functions of a living Person, not of a thing. As we consider the aspects of Christ unfolded in chapter one, we find that some are related to who Christ is, whereas others are related to what He is.

*(continued on page 2)*

## Upcoming Events

☉ Friday, Feb. 14 - Lord's Day, Feb. 16,  
International Chinese-speaking Con-  
ference, 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

9 <sup>TH</sup> Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts
11 <sup>TH</sup> Tuesday	☉ 7:30–8:30pm Prayer meet- ings by districts
13 <sup>TH</sup> Thursday	☉ 10:00–11:00am Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3
14 <sup>TH</sup> Friday	☉ Evening Small groups in the homes
15 <sup>TH</sup> Saturday	☉ 6:00pm Young people's meeting
16 <sup>TH</sup> Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts

## MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

### THE GOAL OF THE SUBJECTIVE MINISTRY

The revelation of Christ given thus far in Colossians is altogether objective. For example, Christ is objectively the image of God and the firstborn of all creation. However, in verses 24 through 29 we have the stewardship, the economy, the dispensation, through which the objective Christ is dispensed into us. The Christ revealed objectively in verses 15 through 19 is ministered into us in a subjective way through the ministry of God's steward in verses 25 through 29. Therefore, in Colossians 1 we have both the objective revelation and the subjective ministry. The goal of the subjective ministry is to dispense the Christ of the objective revelation into us. If we had verses 15 through 19 without verses 25 through 29, we would have only the objective revelation, not the subjective ministry. We need the subjective ministry in order for the all-inclusive Christ revealed objectively to be supplied to us.

The subjective ministry of the objective Christ is the completing of the word of God. Hence, the completing of God's word is not mere doctrine; it is a matter of ministry. Through the subjective ministry, the objective Christ becomes the very Christ in us, according to verse 27. In verses 25 through 29 Christ is no longer merely objective, for He is now the subjective Christ dwelling in us to be our hope of glory. He has become subjective because He has been dispensed into us through the ministry of the steward. Now the objective Christ has become the subjective Christ, the Christ living in us.

It is rather easy to speak of the objective Christ, but it is difficult to minister this Christ into the saints so that He becomes subjective to them. For this, Paul had to labor, struggling

according to God's operation which operated in him in power (v. 29). Paul labored, struggled, agonized, so that the saints could have Christ ministered into them and so that they could experience Him. Paul's goal in his labor was to "present every man full-grown in Christ." His aim was to minister Christ to others so that they would become perfect and complete by maturing with Christ in full growth. First Paul endeavored to minister Christ into the saints. For this reason in 1:27 he speaks of "Christ in you." Then he went on to struggle on behalf of the saints to present "every man full-grown in Christ." On the one hand, Christ had to be in the saints; on the other hand, the saints had to mature in Christ. This requires a great deal of labor, even struggling according to the divine operation.

It is not easy to help the saints experience the Christ revealed in chapter one of Colossians. In 2:1 Paul spoke of the great struggle he had on behalf of the believers in Colosse and Laodicea. If we desire that others enter into the practical experience of the all-inclusive Christ, we also need to labor on their behalf.

After presenting the objective revelation of Christ, Paul went on to speak of the need for the subjective ministry of Christ. By means of this ministry the objective Christ revealed in 1:15-19 is dispensed into the saints to dwell in them as their hope of glory. Furthermore, there must be the labor, the struggle, to present the saints full-grown in Christ. To minister Christ into others is difficult, but to present others full-grown in Christ is even more difficult. It is crucial that we experience Christ living in us and also that we have the genuine experience of becoming full-grown in Him.

—Life Study of Colossians, Message 40

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear brothers and sisters in the Lord:

We would like to announce the 2014 International Chinese-speaking Conference to be held Friday, February 14 through Lord's Day, February 16, 2014. We would like to extend an invitation to all the churches and individuals to participate in this gathering.

The meeting schedule is as follows:

1st meeting: Friday, February 14, 7:30pm  
2nd meeting: Saturday, February 15, 9:00am  
3rd meeting: Saturday, February 15, 11:00am  
4th meeting: Saturday, February 15, 7:30pm  
5th meeting: Lord's Day, February 16, 9:00am  
(Lord's table, message, and special fellowship)

On Saturday afternoon there will be two special fellowship sessions held at the MCC: one for the Chinese students saved within the last three years, and one for the Chinese-speaking working saints up to the age of 50, who will be attending the conference. For those who plan to attend these sessions, please register online at [www.icsc2014.org](http://www.icsc2014.org). The dead-

line for registration is January 31, 2014.

All the meetings will be held at the Living Stream Ministry Conference Center, 2431 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, California and will be open to the public. There will be translation into English, Korean, Spanish, and Portuguese. Those who need translation should bring their own FM radio, headset, and extra batteries.

Please pray that the Lord will take more crucial steps in the advancement of His purpose during this gathering.

Sincerely,

Living Stream Ministry

Childcare: Care for children from kindergarten through 6th grade during the conference meetings will only be provided for the children of out-of-town guests. Saints from nearby churches are asked not to bring their children to the LSM campus. Due to space limitations, child care for nearby churches should be arranged at their own locality.