

## Prayer Items

- ☉ An Open Letter Website
- ☉ Recent Memorial Day Conference
- ☉ Irvine

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

## Weekly Truth Pursuit

Ministry reading: *Life-Study of Ephesians*, Message 97 (the last message)

To help prepare for the training we also encourage the saints to read 2 chapters in 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	1756-1757	826
Tuesday	1758-1759	827
Wednesday	1760-1761	828
Thursday	1762-1763	829
Friday	1764-1765	830
Saturday	1766-1767	831

## Morning Revival

*The Recovery of Christ as Everything in the Church*, Week 1

## DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

### International: An Open Letter Website

As announced in the recent Memorial Day Conference, a new website has been launched called "[an-open-letter.org](http://an-open-letter.org)". This site is intended to introduce the Christian public to the ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee and the beliefs and practices of the local churches.

- ☉ Pray for the impact and effectiveness of this site in turning back the negative and inaccurate impression of the Lord's recovery spread on the internet.
- ☉ Pray that this site would help seekers of Christ—on campuses, at work, and in the communities—to disregard opposition and rumors and pursue Christ in an unhindered way.
- ☉ Pray that additional respected Christians would add their testimonies to those included at the launch of this site.
- ☉ Pray that the site would reach the signers of the 2007 "open letter" and cause more of them to reconsider their endorsement of it and agree to engage in dialogue.

### National: Recent Memorial Day Conference

☉ Pray that the word released in the past Memorial Day Conference will operate in the churches to cause an intensified seeking in the saints to pursue Christ in allowing Him to saturate our souls for the transformation in life to build up the Body of Christ.

### Local: Irvine

- ☉ Pray that the saints will enter further into a daily life of being both a holy priesthood in contacting God and being filled with Him and a royal priesthood in contacting man to dispense God into others.
- ☉ Pray for the follow-up of those who have requested a Bible through the Bibles for America mailers.

## MINISTRY PORTION FROM THE LIFE-STUDY OF GENESIS

### The Central Thought of Genesis

With every book of the Bible, there is also a central thought. The central thought of Genesis is: Christ is the hope and salvation of fallen man, and God will make fallen man to fulfill His purpose through Christ.

Once we have a real and thorough understanding of the book of Genesis, we can see that it presents Christ as the hope and salvation of fallen man. Through Christ God will enable fallen man to accomplish His purpose.

Genesis is a book with Christ as the center, and Christ is life to the people whom He restored from the fall. Why does this book give us such a record of creation in the first two chapters? Why does it give us the biographies of eight persons in the following forty-eight chapters? We need a deeper understanding. The first two chapters appear to be a record of creation, but this is superficial. The underlying thought is focused on life. These two chapters are a record of life. They are too simple and too brief to be an adequate account of creation. Genesis 1 and 2 were not intended by God to be a record of creation, but a revelation of life.

Look into these chapters. First, it mentions that God created the universe, and that the universe was ruined, becoming waste, empty, and full of darkness. Then, the Spirit of God came in to brood in order to produce life. Following the Spirit of life came the light, also for producing life. After this, the air was made

to divide the waters of death. Then the land emerged out of the death waters. The land appeared for the purpose of generating life, and immediately every kind of plant life was produced. Then came the animal life in the water, the animal life in the air, and the animal life on the earth, and, eventually, the human life. Following the human life is the divine life, indicated by the tree of life. Thus, we can see that these two chapters, strictly speaking, are not a record of creation, but of life.

What about the biographies of the eight persons? If we read Genesis carefully once again, we may be surprised that these biographies say very little about the works of these men. What mostly has been recorded is their life, their living, and their way with God. The Bible tells us little of what Adam did, but it does say how long Adam lived—930 years. If we were to write Adam's biography, we would need hundreds of pages to tell about his work and all that he did. But Genesis only tells us how Adam walked in the presence of God.

We come to Abel, and then to Enoch. Genesis doesn't say anything about Enoch except that he walked with God, and eventually was taken to God. This is wonderful. I do hope that I could be such a person, doing nothing and being nothing, just walking with the Lord until the day I am taken to be with Him.

(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

2 <sup>ND</sup> Lord's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts</li> <li>☉ 2:30pm Community Gospel (BfA distributions meet in Oak Creek)</li> </ul>
4 <sup>TH</sup> Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☉ 7:30–8:30pm Prayer meetings by districts</li> </ul>
5 <sup>TH</sup> Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☉ 7:30–9:00pm Ministry Meeting at MCC Anaheim and simulcast at Hall 3</li> </ul>
6 <sup>TH</sup> Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☉ 10:00–11:00am Sisters' prayer meeting at Hall 2</li> </ul>
7 <sup>TH</sup> Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☉ Evening Small groups in the homes</li> </ul>
8 <sup>TH</sup> Saturday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☉ 8:00–9:00am Corporate prayer time at Hall 3</li> <li>☉ 2:45pm Community Gospel (in Quail Hill)</li> </ul>
9 <sup>TH</sup> Lord's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts</li> <li>☉ 2:30pm Community Gospel (BfA distributions meet in Oak Creek)</li> </ul>

## MINISTRY PORTION FROM THE LIFE-STUDY OF GENESIS (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

You may ask, didn't Noah do something? Yes, he did some work, but not according to himself nor for himself. He did everything according to God's revelation and for God's purpose. We go on to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. It is hard for us to see that Abraham did a good work, neither Isaac nor Jacob. It seems that Jacob's son, Joseph, did something, but if we know the record we will understand that Joseph's work was the reigning part of Jacob's life. Joseph was reigning as a king.

Strictly speaking, Genesis is neither a book of creation nor a book of biographies. It is a book of life. God uses the record of creation to show the matter of life. God uses the biographies of eight persons to show how He needs a life to fulfill His purpose. In this book the last life was the life of Jacob, one who was eventually called Israel, the prince of God. This is God's intention—to have an Israel. We all need to be brought to the place where God can consider us to be His Israel. This is wholly a matter of life. So, Genesis is focused on life, and this life is Christ.

### The Contents of Genesis— God's Desire and Purpose

God's creation not only fulfills His desire and accomplishes His purpose, but also reveals His desire in the universe and manifests His purpose in eternity. Anything we make expresses our desire. Although we may not say much, the thing we make manifests our purpose. When God created the heavens, the earth with so many items, and eventually man in His own image and with authority over all created things, He surely had a purpose. By His creation we can see that God had a desire and a purpose.

### God's Original Creation— Motive

According to Ephesians 1:5 and 9, the motive of God's original creation was His desire and pleasure. God carried out the original creation to fulfill His desire and to satisfy His

pleasure. He desired and liked to create; so He did it to please Himself.

### Purpose

There are two aspects of God's purpose in His creation. Firstly, God's purpose in His creation is to glorify the Son of God (Col. 1:15-19). Although we do not find the term the Son of God or the name Christ in Genesis 1 and 2, we learn from Romans 5:14 that Adam was a pre-figure of Christ. Adam, created in the image of God, was a type of Christ. In Adam we can see something of Christ. God's purpose in His creation is to glorify His Son, Jesus Christ.

Secondly, creation manifests God Himself. By the heavens and the earth we can realize something of God and by man we can see something of God. God is manifested in man, especially through His Son, Christ. Christ is the embodiment of God (Col. 2:9). When Christ is glorified in man in the midst of God's creation, God is also manifested.

Why did God create the heavens? What was His purpose? If we read the Bible well, we can see that the heavens are for the earth. Even the scientists can prove this. So many things from the heavens are for the earth: the sunshine, the water, and the expanse are all for the earth. Then what is the earth for? According to the Bible, the earth is for man. Zechariah 12:1 says that God stretched forth the heavens, laid the foundation of the earth, and formed the spirit of man. The heavens are for the earth, the earth is for man, and man is for God. God created man as a corporate entity to contain Him, express Him, and glorify Him. (*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.