

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

June 8, 2014

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Prayer Items

- ⊗ Europe
- ⊗ Lisbon, Portugal
- ⊗ BfA book distribution

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

Weekly Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of Galatians, Messages 5 & 6

Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	481-482	37
Tuesday	483-484	38
Wednesday	485-486	39
Thursday	487-488	40
Friday	489-490	41
Saturday	491-492	42

Morning Revival

The Intrinsic Significance of the Church, Week 1

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: Continuing distribution of ministry publications and shepherding of seeking ones In Europe

- ⊗ Please pray for the radio broadcasts in the UK, Sweden, and Spain and the continuing distribution of the New Testament Recovery Version and other free ministry publications in all the European languages.
- ⊗ Pray for the shepherding of the seeking ones and their entering the church life.

Lisbon, Portugal (see report below)

- ⊗ Please pray that those whom we are laboring on will see a controlling vision of God's economy and will become remaining fruit.
- ⊗ Pray that the Lord will gain a key family and a number of key students for the establishment of the church life before the end of this year.
- ⊗ Pray that the Lord will bind the strong man and his schemes, hide the new ones

from any kind of lies, and release those whom He has chosen.

National: Bibles for America—Ministry Book Distribution

Over 4,700 people have ordered the new book *A Life Full of Forbearance but without Anxiety* since its release a few weeks ago. BfA is currently sending out e-mails to 32,000 recent Bible and book recipients to let them know about this new free offer and encourage them to order.

- ⊗ Please pray that the Lord would cause many of these 32,000 to order the new book and that they would enjoy and benefit from the speaking it conveys.
- ⊗ Pray that the Lord will create a hunger in many of His people throughout this country and that they will be fed with the riches of the ministry.

REPORT FROM LISBON, PORTUGAL

Dear saints, we would like to share with you our current situation in Lisbon so that you can join us in prayer. Since the Bible distribution in December, we have been endeavoring to follow up on the Bible recipients. Many have showed a willingness to meet us.

Currently, we are enjoying very sweet and mutual appointments with three students. These times have truly been an encouragement for us from the Lord. Regarding these three, we are meeting one sister on campus at the University of Lisbon, another student sister via weekly telephone calls, and one brother weekly in our homes. It is clear that these students are very open. With one of the students we are regularly reading the Gospel of John with footnotes. With another, we recently started going through *Basic Elements of the Christian Life*, vol. 1. The joy that one receives when he sees the impact on a contact of the analogy of “the

glove and the hand” is indescribable! However, we know that the enemy is active, and a heretical group that is very active on one of the campuses here in Lisbon has already approached our students and tried to speak to them. This surely is a battle, and we stand with the Lord to bind the works of the enemy and his schemes.

At the beginning of May, six saints from Boston came to Portugal to blend for approximately one week. During their time in Lisbon, the saints helped us to distribute 78 Bibles outside two universities. From the 78 distributed, 29 have asked for further contact. We have started to contact these Bible recipients and pray that the Lord will lead us to the best ones. Also we are burdened that before the end of the year the Lord will gain at least one key family from the community.

MINISTRY PORTION

THE FORMATION OF PAUL'S APOSTLESHIP

In 1:15-24 we see the formation of Paul's apostleship. As we consider these verses, we need to see not only how Paul's apostleship was formed, but also how we can be formed into today's apostles, God's present-day sent ones. In the Life-study of Ephesians we pointed out that all the believers in Christ can be

apostles, those sent by the Lord to fulfill His purpose and to carry out His plan.

We should not hold the concept that we cannot be an apostle like Paul. The apostles are examples of what all believers should be. Paul was not an extraordinary person, and he did not reach a state that no one else can attain.

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Upcoming Events

- ☉ Monday, June 30 - Saturday, July 5, Summer Training, 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

8 TH Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts
10 TH Tuesday	☉ 7:30–8:30pm Prayer meetings by districts
11 TH Wednesday	☉ 7:30–9:00pm Ministry meeting at MCC Anaheim and simulcast at Hall 3
12 TH Thursday	☉ 10:00–11:00am Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3
13 TH Friday	☉ Evening Small groups in the homes
14 TH Saturday	☉ 6:00pm Young people's dinner and meeting
15 TH Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and corporate digestion meeting (English- and Korean-speaking meetings at Hall 1; Chinese-speaking at Hall 3)

MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

(continued from page 1)

The concept that the apostles are unique is a Roman Catholic tradition. This tradition is related to the concept that Peter was the unique successor of Christ and therefore the first pope. What a devilish concept! Far from being unique, Peter is an example of one who followed the Lord. In particular, he is an example to Jewish believers in Christ. Paul is a pattern especially for Gentile believers. In 1 Timothy 1:16 he says, "Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show forth all long-suffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting." Since Paul is our pattern, none of us should say that we cannot be like him.

Although the brothers may believe that they can be today's apostles, the sisters may find it very difficult to believe that this also applies to them. As a help to the sisters, we need to point out that in God's household there are no daughters. God has only sons, not daughters. Christ, the firstborn Son of God, has brothers, but He does not have sisters. This indicates that, according to life, all the believers, including the sisters, are sons of God and brothers of Christ. For this reason, in his Epistles Paul addresses the brothers, but not the brothers and sisters. The sisters, of course, are included in the term brothers.

According to life, all the believers are males. However, according to love, we all are females. Christ is our Bridegroom, and we are His Bride. The relationship between the Bride and the Bridegroom is a matter of love, not a

matter of life. Love is the unique requirement of married life. Therefore, we are living sons of the living God, whereas we are the loving Bride of our dear Bridegroom. How, then, would you answer this question: Are we, the believers in Christ, males or females? The proper way to answer is to reply that according to life we are males, but according to love we are females.

Paul was made an apostle not according to love, but according to life. It was as a matter of life that he was made a pattern for all the believers, the brothers and the sisters as well. This indicates that by taking Paul as our pattern, we all, brothers and sisters, can be God's sent ones today. Paul's status was that of an apostle, and ours should be the same. Hence, as we study the formation of Paul's apostleship, we are also studying the formation of our own apostleship.

All of us in the Lord's recovery need to be sent ones. At the least, a young sister can be sent by the Lord to her parents to testify to them about the Lord Jesus. Are you ready to be sent by the Lord? We all should be prepared to be sent forth by Him. Concerning this matter of apostleship, our minds need to be renewed. Therefore, as we consider the various points in this message, we need to see how we can follow Paul's pattern and be formed into apostles. All the points we shall cover are prerequisites for the formation of our apostleship.

—*Life Study of Galatians*, Message 5

SIXTH GRADE YP & PARENTS WELCOME LUNCH

On June 22, the Young People Serving Ones would like to invite all the 6th graders and their parents to a special welcome lunch and fellowship. In this time we would like to welcome you all to the YP family and also introduce you to the serving ones.

In addition, a few of the older young people will be there as well to welcome you and give you some fellowship about what it's like to

be a "YP" here in Irvine. Please look for a follow-up email with further details and RSVP. For any questions please contact either Isaac Acosta isaac.acosta@gmail.com or Samuel Lee slee17@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☉ Summer School of Truth in Irvine

The 2014 Summer School of Truth will be held at Hall 1 in Irvine this year from July 14-July 26. You can register at IrvineYP.com.

- ☉ Summer Bible Camp (July 28-August 2)

This year's Summer Bible Camp will take place from 7/28-8/2/14. We need many to serve as well as many to pray for the SBC. We need much participation to carry out this special week and encourage all parents and burdened saints to join our coordination times at Hall 1. We will be meeting the following times:

June 22 from 2:30-3:30pm
July 13 from 3:30-4:30pm
July 27 from 3:30-4:30pm