

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

June 22, 2014

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Prayer Items

- ☼ Summer Training
- ☼ FTTA Graduation

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

Weekly Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of Galatians, Messages 9 & 10

Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	505-506	49
Tuesday	507-508	50
Wednesday	509-510	51
Thursday	511-512	52
Friday	513-514	53
Saturday	515-516	54

Morning Revival

The Intrinsic Significance of the Church, Week 3

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: Summer Training - Anaheim (June 30 - July 5)

- ☼ Pray for the full release of the Lord's burden in this training that the word released will minister to the current situation of the churches.
- ☼ Pray for the saints' appetite and seeking in this training for the Lord's speaking and dispensing.
- ☼ Pray for the hospitality and fellowship in the homes that it would be in the divine fellowship and unto the building up of the Body.

FTTA Graduation (June 28)

- ☼ Pray for the graduating FTTA trainees that they will continue to pursue the Lord and live a life unto Him in the Body for the carrying out of His economy in this age.
- ☼ Pray that all the trainees will continue to grow in life and function in the Body for the growth and building up of the Body.

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP REGISTRATION

Dear saints,

Registration for the 2014 Summer Bible Camp is now open. Please visit <http://goo.gl/7zyS3h> to register. This year, the title of the SBC is "Moses—Called by God." It will be held during the last week of July, from July 28-August 2, from 3:30-6:00pm, Monday-Friday, followed by a family BBQ on Saturday from 4-6pm at a local park. Every day there will be singing, a lesson, a snack, and a craft.

Registration is \$50 per child for the week, and \$10 per adult attending the BBQ. The registration deadline is Lord's Day, July 6, 2014. (Please note that for any registrations after July 6, we will be unable to provide a printed T-shirt.) We look to the Lord for another enjoyable time with the children and for His rich blessing!

OFFERINGS

Offerings can now be made online via credit card or PayPal by visiting churchinirvineofferings.com for the following categories:

1. General offerings
2. Irvine Facilities Fund
3. FTTA Training Center Fund

This website can be used to set up automatic recurring offerings, as well as single lump-sum offerings. Instructions for usage are contained on the site, as well as an email address to which questions can be directed.

MINISTRY PORTION

NO LONGER I, BUT CHRIST LIVING IN ME

Galatians 2:20 is a familiar verse. In this verse is one of the basic items of God's New Testament economy: no longer I, but Christ living in me. According to God's economy, we should no longer live; rather, Christ should live in us. This is a basic aspect of the truth of the gospel. However, most Christians do not have the proper and adequate understanding of what it means to say no longer I, but Christ living in me.

NOT AN EXCHANGED LIFE

Because this has not been made clear, some Christians, including certain Christian

teachers, think that 2:20 speaks of what has been called an exchanged life. According to this concept, we are replaced by Christ. Christ comes in, and we go out. According to the concept of an exchanged life, our life is pitiful, and the life of Christ is far better. Therefore, we should exchange our life for Christ's life. As we shall see, this concept is wrong.

Galatians 2:20 does not speak of an exchanged life. Here Paul says, "No longer I who live, but Christ lives in me." Then he goes on to say, "And the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith of the Son of God." On the one hand, Paul says, "It is no

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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

22 ND Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts
24 TH Tuesday	☉ 7:30–8:30pm Prayer meetings by districts
25 TH Wednesday	☉ 7:30-9:00pm Ministry meeting at MCC Anaheim and simulcast at Hall 3
26 TH Thursday	☉ 10:00–11:00am Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3
27 TH Friday	☉ Evening Small groups in the homes
28 TH Saturday	☉ 9:30am FTTA graduation in Anaheim at MCC
29 TH Lord's Day	☉ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts

MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

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longer I who live"; on the other hand, he says, "I live." If you consider this verse as a whole, you will see that there is no thought of an exchanged life. Here what is presented is not an exchange; rather, it is a profound mystery.

We have pointed out that the book of Galatians reveals the basic truths of God's New Testament economy. Among these basic truths, the most basic one is found in 2:20. Because the truth of no longer I, but Christ living in me is so basic, it is also mysterious; and because it is mysterious, it has not been properly understood by Christians throughout the centuries. Therefore, we look to the Lord that He would make this basic truth clear to us.

THE OLD "I" AND THE NEW "I"

We have pointed out that in this verse Paul says, on the one hand, "no longer I" and, on the other hand, "I live." How can we reconcile this? Once again I wish to point out that this is not an exchange of life. The way to interpret the Bible properly is by the Bible itself. This means that other verses are needed if we are to understand this verse. Romans 6:6 tells us that our old man has been crucified with Christ. This verse helps us to see that the very I who has been crucified with Christ is the old "I," the old man. As regenerated people, we have both an old "I" and a new "I." The old "I" has been terminated, but the new "I" lives. In Galatians 2:20 we have both the old "I" and the new "I." The old "I" has been crucified with Christ, terminated. Therefore, Paul can say, "no longer I." However, the new "I" still lives. For this reason, Paul can say, "I live."

Now we must go on to see the difference between the old "I" and the new "I." Because we are so familiar with 2:20, we may take this verse for granted and assume that we understand it. But what is the difference between the old "I" and the new "I"? According to the natural understanding, some would say that the old "I" is evil, whereas the new "I" is good. This concept of the difference between the old

"I" and the new "I" must be rejected. The old "I" had nothing of God in it, whereas the new "I" has received the divine life. The old "I" has become a new "I" because God as life has been added to it. The "I" that has been terminated is the "I" that was without divinity. The "I" who still lives is the "I" into which God has been added. There is a great difference here. The old "I," the "I" without God, has been terminated. But the new "I" still lives, the "I" that came into being when the old "I" was resurrected and had God added to it. On the one hand, Paul has been terminated. But, on the other hand, a resurrected Paul, one with God as his life, still lives.

Because of their rejection of God's light many Christians are blind to this understanding of 2:20. If they heard such a word about the old "I" and the new "I," they would reject it. Their rejection, however, would be completely without ground. As genuine Christians, they have been regenerated. When a person is regenerated, he is not annihilated or destroyed. To be regenerated means to have God added into us. In regeneration, we who once did not have God in us now have Him added to us. The very "I" who did not have God in it is over. This is the old "I," the old man, who has been crucified with Christ. But from the time that we began to appreciate the Lord Jesus and the operating faith began to work in us, this faith brought the processed Triune God into us and added Him to our being. From that time onward, we have had a new "I," an "I" with God in it. Hence, the new "I" is the old "I" which has become an "I" resurrected with God added to it. Praise the Lord that the old "I" has been terminated and the new "I" now lives!

—Life Study of Galatians, Message 10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☉ Summer Bible Camp (July 28-August 2)
- ☉ Summer School of Truth in Irvine

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:

TODAY from 2:30-3:30pm
 July 13 from 3:30-4:30pm
 July 27 from 3:30-4:30pm

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.