

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP September 22, 2013

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Prayer Items

- ☉ Fresher Fayers on UK campuses
- ☉ The Lord's move in the former Yugoslavia
- ☉ Irvine

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

Weekly Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of Colossians, Message 5 & 6

Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	61-62	916
Tuesday	63-64	917
Wednesday	65-66	918
Thursday	67-68	919
Friday	69-70	920
Saturday	71-72	921

Morning Revival

Crystallization-Study of Genesis (Vol. 1),
Week 4

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: Fresher Fayers in the universities of the UK

The Fresher Fayers are university-sponsored events where freshmen are introduced to the university and the student organizations and clubs. For the fall 2013 semester these events began on September 11 in Scotland and are scheduled at universities throughout the UK until October 9. The students and local saints and full-time serving ones are coordinating together to use this opportunity to contact the freshmen.

- ☉ Please pray that the Lord will bring the saints into contact with the seeking freshmen and that many of them will become remaining fruit.
- ☉ Pray for a harmonious and Spirit-filled coordination among the saints coordinating for these events that Christ would come forth as the attracting and drawing factor in these events.

The Lord's move in the former Yugoslavia

Thirteen saints from Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, and the remaining countries of the

former Yugoslavia attended the conference in Bratislava on September 14-15. In the conference they tasted the fellowship in the Body of Christ and were under the speaking of the heavenly vision of God's economy.

- ☉ Please pray that the Lord will continue to move in Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia, and the remaining countries of the former Yugoslavia and will raise up lampstands in many cities.
- ☉ Please pray that they will be strengthened to leave their background and take the way of the Lord's recovery.

Local: Irvine

- ☉ Pray for the gospel living and labor at UCI that the gospel of the glory of Christ would shine forth on this campus.
- ☉ Pray especially for "Welcome Week" this week that many students would be contacted and connected with the saints to be brought out of the authority of darkness and transferred into the kingdom of the Son of God's love.

LETTERS FROM THE IRVINE TRAINEES

We continue to report some testimonies written by our Irvine-sent and Irvine-related trainees regarding their enjoyment from their experience in the FTTA for the encouragement and exhortation of all the saints.

Hello, excellent ones!

Sorry I haven't had a chance to write you all this term but I've definitely been enjoying a lot of riches in the classes, especially our second year ones. In our Life and Service class two weeks ago, I was impressed by the brother's presentation of the last six words in Revelation 22:3: "and His slaves will serve Him." We were charged to pray-read these six words again and again because we need to see that *this is and will be our status for eternity*. The brother reminded us that we're in the training to get some training and perfecting to do what we should do and that is to serve Him. The following paragraphs are more or less verbatim some points that the brother shared with us.

TO SERVE HIM. We were made for that as an *earthen* vessel, we were saved for that as a *cleansed* vessel and we are being transformed for that as a *renewed* vessel. In eternity future, even as transformed stones, *we will still be slaves*. This describes our relationship with God. Today, He owns us with absolute rights

over us. We're not servants, hirelings or employees but slaves. It's a paradox but only a real slave to God is a real free man. We must pray-read this until it becomes our absolute reality. If this is in you, it will be very easy to know God's will because whatever He says, there will be nothing in us that resists and rebels against Him. A slave has no right to do that. We all have to come to that point. As our Master, He has the right to do anything yet as the most free and reasonable Person, God will never force us to do anything. God receives His service from willing, happy slaves. There are no chains except for the chains of love; there are no shackles except the shackles of mercy. If there were cells, they would be cells of grace. "And His slaves will serve Him."

"A boundless life with Him there is whence doubt and fear are gone." *Hymns 473*.

Please continue to pray for us in the training, for our health and our hearts to be made willing by the Lord to continue receiving what He wants to dispense into us.

If you would like me to pray for anything or just want to update me with your enjoyment, please feel free to email or WRITE ME! at 2116 W. Grace Ct., Anaheim CA 92804.

Grace to you all, M.W.

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Saturday, Oct. 12 - Lord's Day, Oct. 13, Local Perfecting Conference, Irvine
- ❖ Thursday, Nov. 28 - Lord's Day, Dec. 1, International Thanksgiving Conference, Schaumburg, Illinois

Church-related Websites

General: churchinirvine.org

Blog: members.churchinirvine.org

Calendar: calendar.churchinirvine.org

Offerings: offerings.churchinirvine.org

YP: youngpeople.churchinirvine.org

This Week

22ND Lord's Day ❖ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts

24TH Tuesday ❖ 7:30–8:30pm Corporate prayer meeting at Hall 1

25TH Wednesday ❖ 7:30-9:00pm Ministry meeting at MCC Anaheim and simulcast at Hall 3

26TH Thursday ❖ 10:00–11:00am Sisters' prayer meeting at Hall 3

27TH Friday ❖ Evening Small groups in the homes

28TH Saturday ❖ 6:00pm Young people's meeting

29TH Lord's Day ❖ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts

LETTERS FROM THE IRVINE TRAINEES (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

Dear Saints,

Praise the Lord! Coming into my fourth term in the training, this is still my declaration: Jesus is Lord! Although I had a wonderful time with everyone at Irvine, especially at the Summer Bible Camp, I feel very happy to be back in the Full-Time Training. I can't believe that I am in my last term. I just pray that the Lord would make more home in my heart and would gain every ground He desires before I graduate.

This past four weeks has not been easy for me. First, I had to take the GRE a week after the pre-training, which as some of you know, I was studying for my entire break at Irvine. I am glad that is done. I didn't want it to be a distraction in the training. But soon after that, I've been going through some health issues. It has not been easy to just focus on the Lord and His word, but I continue to press on!

This morning I had a fresh appreciation and enjoyment of Philippians 1:19, "For I know that for me this will turn out to salvation through your petition and the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ." What I enjoyed is that the boldness to say "I know that for me this will turn out to salvation," comes

from our willingness to open up to the Body whatever situation we are in. When we open to the Lord, He sends the supply and He sends it bountifully. But He may also lead us to open to the Body, which allows Him to send us more of His grace. This week I realized that to know the Lord requires me to not only open to Him but also to His members, because He and His members are one! Without knowing the Body, how can we truly know the Lord? Can we understand and experience the breadth and length and height and depth of the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ on our own? No, we apprehend it with all the saints! (Eph. 3:18-19). Oh I praise Him! I love the Lord and I love the Body of Christ!

[When I go to see the doctor, please] pray for that time, that the Lord would take care of every detail and that He would be with me every step of the way. It's nothing serious...not life-threatening or anything, but it does distract me from enjoying the Lord sometimes and the whole process of trying to find a way to take care of it makes me anxious when I'm not exercised in my spirit. But praise the Lord, I know this will turn out to my salvation! Jesus is Lord! M.M.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT 2

As a family, we would like to let the saints know that District 2 will begin to meet at Alderwood Elementary School today. Alderwood Elementary is located at the heart of the Quail Hill community. As we grew out of the saints' garage, we have been looking for a suitable place for us to meet and to invite neighbors to on the Lord's day. We wanted to remain in the neighborhood for the purpose of the community gospel. Through some sweet fellowship the Lord led the brothers to consider renting a classroom at Alderwood and we will now meet in a portable classroom at their facility.

Please pray for us that the Lord will bless this new arrangement with a new beginning in all of us. May we all consecrate ourselves to the Lord afresh to grow in His divine life, to function according to our measure, and to bear fruit for the building up of the Body of Christ.

The saints in district 2 will try to bear the cost of renting the facility. If there are any saints who would like to give for the furtherance of the gospel in this area please designate your offering for "District 2 meeting facility."

MINISTRY PORTION FROM THE LIFE-STUDY OF COLOSSIANS

THE SEED AND THE LAND

The promise to Adam and Eve in Genesis 3 was the promise of the seed of the woman. But the promise God made to Abraham was not only that of the seed, but also that of the land. The seed promised in Genesis 3:15 becomes the land in Genesis 12. When the children of Israel entered into the land of Canaan, they inherited not only the seed, but also the land. We may interpret the seed both as a person and also as a seed sown into soil. This means that Christ is not only a descendant, but a seed sown into the land. Christ is both the seed and the land.

In Colossians do we have Christ as the seed or the land? In this book Christ is both the seed and the land. Colossians 2:7 says that we have been rooted in Christ. This indicates that He is the land. But in 3:4 we are told that

Christ is our life. This indicates that He is also the seed. However, in Colossians Christ is revealed more as the land than as the seed. Christ is our portion, our lot, our everything, just as the land was all things to the children of Israel. The land provided whatever the children of Israel needed: milk, honey, water, cattle, grain, minerals. In writing this Epistle, Paul employed the concept of the all-inclusive land in order to charge the misled Colossians not to take anything other than Christ Himself. Anything that is not Christ is related to the authority of darkness, and we should not accept it. Rather, we should simply remain in the good land and not allow any foreign element to come in. Christ alone is our portion, and we should accept only what is of Him. (*Life-Study of Colossians*—Message 6)