

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP December 16, 2012

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Prayer Items

Please refer to the suggested directions for prayer.

Weekly Truth Pursuit

The *Life-Study of Ephesians* will be suspended temporarily. Please substitute your reading with the following portions of ministry which are available online at www.ministrybooks.org:

1. "The Man of Prayer," *Lessons on Prayer*, chap. 3, by Witness Lee.
2. "The Life of Prayer," *Lessons on Prayer*, chap. 4, by Witness Lee.

Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	1492-1493	694
Tuesday	1494-1495	695
Wednesday	1496-1497	696
Thursday	1498-1499	697
Friday	1500-1501	698
Saturday	1502-1503	699

Morning Revival

Prayer and the Lord's Move
(Thanksgiving Conference 2012),
Week 1

Word of the Week

This will be suspended until after the three weeks of prayer.

TESTIMONIES FROM IRVINE-SENT AND IRVINE-RELATED TRAINEES

In the following weeks, we will be reporting 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.

Oh saints! It is so sweet to cooperate with the Lord! Truly He will come as lightning from the east and shine to the west (Matt. 24:27)! A wonderful way lightning occurs is when the charge in heaven meets the charge on earth! There is such a burden and longing on His side, but for Him to return as the lightning flashing forth, we cooperate by picking up His burden to release it through our prayer, which will be the charge built up on earth to meet the charge in heaven! In this picture we see the principle of incarnation in which He will not do anything by Himself, but only through our prayer in harmony with Him! May we all endeavor to learn! By means of all prayer! God praying in man! —Jonathan Yao

I know many of you must have received some overflow from the Thanksgiving conference and hopefully, most of you had the opportunity to catch a few messages yourselves. Like everyone who attended, my burden concerning my prayer life has greatly increased. Each message was so rich and the burdens they carried were so heavy but I just want to sum up my feeling in a short way. The Lord has so much He wants to do on earth today but He will not do it without our prayers. He is seeking a corporate intercessor. The Body of Christ can either be for His expression or His limitation. Which one are we in our daily living? We are the only expression that Christ has because Christ has limited Himself to us. This is a weighty burden that requires much of our prayers.

I'm so thankful for these 21 days of prayer that started [two weeks ago]. We need to recognize that this is not an event, but rather, it is a training period. We don't know when the Lord is coming—for all we know, these 21 days might be enough to turn the age and bring Him back. *But our view is long-term.* We should see these 21 days as practice. We must be perfected in our prayers. May we all have a fresh consecration to the Lord, to set ourselves aside to pray for His move, His purpose, and His goal.

The term is rapidly coming to a close and I am getting really tired. But while the outer man is decaying, my inner man is being renewed day by day (2 Cor. 4:16)! Very sovereignly the ministry meeting this past week was "What Christ is to His Believers in His Person: The Sabbath." This is so against our human concept but the divine principle found in the

Bible is that we must rest in Christ first before we can do anything for Him. Man needs to enjoy God as His rest, refreshment, strength, energy and enjoyment. He needs to enjoy this infilling God so all his labor in the Lord comes out of his enjoyment of the Lord. Out of the infilling Christ, we can work together with Christ to dispense Christ into others. We all need to remember that we need to enjoy the Lord first.

Even in writing this email I was exposed to my not having enjoyed Christ first to be my supply. But praise the Lord for His shining! Whenever you find yourself working much and resting little, just STOP and enter into rest. —Melody Wang

To the dear saints in Irvine,

Thank you for every thought, concern, prayer, and support offered on behalf of the FTTA trainees. It has been a blessed privilege to be immersed in the riches in the ministry and to be placed in an environment that is arranged for everything natural to run out. I realize I don't know how to really love Him, breathe Him, and live Him. I don't know how to pray unceasingly, how to always rejoice, how to give thanks in everything. Naturally, I don't want to admit that I am incapable or weak. The Lord is slowly but surely subduing me and conquering me. He's teaching me that whenever I come to Him, I must be absolutely open about how I am doing, and it is with that small opening that I give to Him that He has a way to come and meet me where I am at. Whenever I tell Him how I feel He not only comforts me, but He also brings me out of that condition by reminding me that He desires to make His home in my heart. At that point, my heart is uplifted and my eyes are refocused on the only One who matters in this universe. With only a couple of weeks left in the training, "cause me to love You more, to know You more, to live You more!" —Debbie Chao

Dear saints in Irvine,

This term I've been enjoying that God's move is in the divine and mystical realm. It is altogether intrinsic, and it is to deify man! He is carrying out His move by means of an intimate, personal, and affectionate relationship with us. Every situation or arrangement in our environment is an action taken by God to romance us. He is waiting all the time for us to initiate a romantic conversation with Him. This intimate conversation is one in which God can reveal His heart's desire to us and infuse the depths of His being into us. He can only open up to those who actively choose to linger in His presence. We see this with God

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Upcoming Events

☉ Monday, Dec. 24 - Saturday, Dec. 29,
Winter Training, Anaheim, CA

Church-related Websites

General: churchinirvine.org

Blog: churchinirvine.org/Members

Audio: recentaudio.churchinirvine.org

Calendar: calendar.churchinirvine.org

Gospel: gospel.churchinirvine.org

Offerings: offerings.churchinirvine.org

YA: youngadults.churchinirvine.org

YP: youngpeople.churchinirvine.org

This Week

16TH ☉ 9:30am –12:00pm Lord's
Lord's Day Table and prophesying
meetings by districts
☉ 2:30pm Community Gos-
pel (in Oak Creek)

18TH ☉ 10:00-11:00am Sisters'
Tuesday prayer time at Hall 2
☉ 7:30-9:00pm Church-wide
corporate prayer meeting
at Hall 1

19TH ☉ 7:00-8:00am Brothers'
Wednesday prayer time at Hall 3
☉ 7:30-9:00pm Ministry
meeting in Anaheim at
MCC and simulcast in
Irvine at Hall 3

20TH ☉ 10:00-11:00am Sisters'
Thursday prayer time at Hall 2

21ST ☉ 7:00-8:00am Brothers'
Friday prayer time at Hall 3
☉ Evening Small groups in
the homes

22ND ☉ 7:30-8:30am Corporate
Saturday prayer time at Hall 3
☉ 9:30am FTTA graduation
in Anaheim at MCC

23RD ☉ 9:30am –12:00pm Lord's
Lord's Day Table and prophesying
meetings by halls

TESTIMONIES FROM IRVINE-SENT AND IRVINE-RELATED TRAINEES (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

coming to Abraham in an intimate way to seek an intercessor. God has also come to us as the Spirit and there is no relationship more intimate than God becoming one with us! Now He is all the time waiting for us to spend hidden personal time with Him to echo in prayer what is on His heart. In this way God grows and matures in us not for individual spirituality but for the growth and building up of the Body of Christ. The depths of our experiences of Christ are not for ourselves but an accumulation to be poured out on the Lord and His Body.

With this I'd also like to share an encouraging gospel report: in our district in the locality where I serve, there was no English-speaking home to meet in. As part of the community team we were commissioned to knock on doors until we found one. We prayed to the Lord for three homes by the end of this term. About seven weeks ago we knocked on a family's door that had been knocked on by the saints at least twice over the course of several

years. But this time they were open to come to a meeting. The whole household of two college students and their parents came to a Lord's day meeting after a few home visits and as a family prayed to receive the Lord. They have been coming ever since to the Lord's day meeting and home meeting and are actively seeking and open. Then this past week a couple who had visited Irvine earlier this year and who I had briefly met, just recently moved to our district. After prayer and a reconnection, they came to our Friday night meeting in the hall and invited us to their home next Friday for the meeting! This young couple said they had been praying the past four days that they could have a meeting in their home. Now they are burdened for their neighbors and have invited their landlords to join us. Praise the Lord for His answering of prayers. We are continuing to look to Him for the continual spread of His testimony in every city. We appreciate all your prayers and support which have issued in fruit-bearing of clusters! — Grace Chiu

SUGGESTED DIRECTIONS FOR PRAYER

The following points are offered as suggested directions for prayer. These are not meant to be received as a formality or a legality that would limit our prayer. No list of burdens can replace our living contact with the resurrected and ascended Christ, who intercedes on the throne and in our spirit and who alone can supply us with the genuine burden and utterance for our prayer (Rom. 8:26, 34; Heb. 7:25).

Day 14 – Lord's Day, Dec. 16

The campus work and the community gospel work.

Day 15 – Monday, Dec. 17

The full-time training (FTTA, FTTA-XB, FTTAMx, FTTA-MA), including the trainees, the trainers, and the serving ones.

Day 16 – Tuesday, Dec. 18

The services of and the serving saints at Living Stream Ministry, Defense and Confirmation Project, Bibles for America, Bibles for Canada, and Rhema Literature Distributors.

Day 17 – Wednesday, Dec. 19

The forces of religious opposition to the Lord's recovery to be bound, the names of

Watchman Nee, Witness Lee, and the local churches to be cleared from blame, and the number of friends of the recovery among Christian leaders to grow.

Day 18 – Thursday, Dec. 20

The establishing and preservation of strong and spiritual marriages and healthy and sanctified families as solid foundational units for the building up of the local churches.

Day 19 – Friday, Dec. 21

The preservation of society from moral degradation and corruption, especially in the United States, which is still a strategic and leading nation for God's move in His recovery on the earth today.

Day 20 – Saturday, Dec. 22

The hand of God to be upon the leaders in the highest levels of government to guide the North American nations in the fear of God, in reverence for God's Word, and in respect for His principles, so that the church life can go on in peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

☉ Need of the Church in Toronto

Toronto is possibly the most critical city in Canada—it's the largest city and the commercial, economic, and cultural capital of Canada. We have devoted significant resources to the recovery of Eastern Canada in the post-turmoil years. We encourage all the saints in Irvine to participate in this most strategic labor. Those interested in participating should make offerings directly to the church

in Irvine, but designate such offerings for the "Church in Toronto Building Fund."

☉ YP Winter Getaway

The deadline to register for the YP Winter Getaway is TODAY, Dec. 16. You can register online at irvineyp.com/wintergetaway.htm. The registration fee is \$100 and a hoodie is available for \$20. There will be a registration late fee after today.