

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

February 27, 2011

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Prayer Items

- ⊗ The Middle East and Africa
- ⊗ Israel
- ⊗ GTCA Follow-up
- ⊗ Irvine
- ⊗ Lily Egan and her family

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

Weekly Truth Pursuit

Ministry reading: *Life-Study of Exodus, messages 86 & 87*

Recovery Version Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	436-437	166
Tuesday	438-439	167
Wednesday	440-441	168
Thursday	442-443	169
Friday	444-445	170
Saturday	446-447	171

Morning Revival

The Need for a Fresh Vision of the Lord's Recovery, Week 4

Lord's Table Meeting

Hall	Last Week's Attendance
Hall 1	74
Hall 2	46
Hall 3	44
TOTAL	164

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International:

Unrest in the Middle East and Africa

- ⊗ Pray that the situation in the Middle East and Africa would turn out for the advancement of the gospel in this part of the earth.
- ⊗ Pray that governments would be raised up that would be "friendly" to the gospel and that the hearts of the people in these countries would not be satisfied with religion but seek the reality of the true and living God.
- ⊗ Pray that the ministry publications in the Arabic language would get into the hands of the seekers and key ones in these countries that they would see God's economy and be brought into His purpose.

Israel

- ⊗ Pray for the co-workers laboring at Tel Aviv University during this spring semester that many young vessels would be reaped from this campus.
- ⊗ Pray for the gathering and blending of the churches and the saints in Israel on March 5th that this time would be a rich supply to the saints and a strengthening of the Lord's testimony in Israel.

- ⊗ Pray for the further distribution of literature in the Hebrew language and the contacting of recipients of Rhema sets 2 and 3.

National: GTCA Follow-up

- ⊗ Continue to pray for the 7,000 people contacted through the 30 sowing trips that they would be nourished and enlightened through the Word and be brought into the experience of Christ and the church life.
- ⊗ Pray for the saints laboring to care for new ones in these 30 cities that they would be empowered in the grace and infused with the Lord's heart to care for the many contacts with the love and endurance of Christ.
- ⊗ Pray for the strengthening and building up of the Lord's testimony in these cities.

Local:

- ⊗ Pray that the spirit of the gospel will be intensified in the church here and that the church in Irvine would follow the example set forth in the GTCA sowing trips in being vitalized to be in one accord for the increase and spread of the Lord's testimony in Irvine.

MINISTRY PORTION

The Christ Who Dwells in Our Spirit

We have pointed out that the ark of the testimony was in the inmost part of the tabernacle. The tabernacle was surrounded by the outer court. There were two sections in the tabernacle—the Holy Place and the Holy of Holies. The Holy of Holies may be likened to our deepest part, our spirit. The Holy of Holies is the deepest part of the tabernacle, and in this deepest part the ark occupies the central place.

Just as we are tripartite, composed of body, soul, and spirit, so the tabernacle with the outer court is composed of three parts. The outer court corresponds to our body; the Holy Place, to our soul; and the Holy of Holies, to our spirit. The ark of testimony in the Holy of Holies signifies the Christ who dwells in our spirit. Christ, the resurrected One, lives as the indwelling Spirit in our regenerated spirit. Actually, this message is not an exposition on the propitiatory covering. Rather, it is a word concerning the Christ who lives in our spirit.

You may be familiar with Paul's word, "The Lord be with your spirit" (2 Tim. 4:22), and you may have had some experience of the Christ who dwells within you. But do you know what kind of Christ lives in you? He is

wonderful and all-inclusive. However, if we have never been enlightened concerning the ark of the testimony, and if we have not had a vision of the ark as a type of Christ with its significance for our experience, we do not have adequate knowledge of the Christ who is in our spirit. We may know the terminology and the verses which speak of Christ dwelling in us, but we may not actually know who is the Christ and what is the Christ who dwells in our spirit. If we would know this Christ, we need a vision of the ark of the testimony. In particular, we need to be enlightened with respect to the propitiatory cover.

God's Testimony

The ark is a box in the shape of a stand. We have seen that the ark typifies Christ. The very Christ who is in our spirit is the ark, and this ark is a stand. In the Bible any stand or standing implies a testimony. To take a stand is to testify. As the ark, Christ is God's testimony. He stands as the testimony of God in our spirit and in the whole universe.

Because the ark is a box, a container, it has a particular content. Exodus 25:21 says, "Into the ark you shall put the testimony

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Upcoming Events

- ⊗ **Saturday, Mar. 5** – Young People Serving Ones’ Training @ Hall 1
- ⊗ **Friday, Mar. 25** – Lord’s Day, Mar. 27 High School Conferences, Engedi and Alpine Camps
- ⊗ **Friday, Apr. 1** – Lord’s Day, Apr. 3 ITERO, Anaheim, CA

Church-related Websites

General: churchinirvine.org
 Audio: recentaudio.churchinirvine.org
 Calendar: calendar.churchinirvine.org
 Gospel: gospel.churchinirvine.org
 Offerings: offerings.churchinirvine.org
 YA: youngadults.churchinirvine.org
 YP: youngpeople.churchinirvine.org

Online Forms

Record baptisms:
 baptisms.churchinirvine.org
Register for user account:
 churchinirvine.org/register
Register for truth pursuit emails:
 truthpursuit.churchinirvine.org
Register for services:
 servicesignup.churchinirvine.org

This Week

27TH Lord’s Day	⊗ 9:30am –12:00pm Lord’s Table and ICSC digestion meetings at Halls 1, 2 and 3
1ST Tuesday	⊗ 7:30-8:30pm Prayer meetings in the homes
2ND Wednesday	⊗ 7:30-9:00pm Ministry Meeting at LSM Campus
3RD Thursday	⊗ 10:00am All-language sisters’ prayer meeting at Hall 2
4TH Friday	⊗ <i>Evening</i> Small group meetings in the homes
5TH Saturday	⊗ 8:00am All-language brothers’ prayer meeting at Hall 3 ⊗ 6:00pm Young people’s meeting
6TH Lord’s Day	⊗ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings at Halls 1, 2 and 3

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which I shall give you.” This testimony, the tables of the law, can be considered a photograph, a portrait, of God. Hence, the content of Christ as the ark is the law as a portrait, a photograph, a definition, of God. Later, the golden pot with manna and Aaron’s budding rod were also put into the ark.

The God-Man

We have seen that the ark was made of acacia wood overlaid with gold. The acacia wood and the gold typify the two natures of Christ: the gold typifies His divine nature, and the acacia wood, His human nature. Both within and without, the ark was overlaid with gold. This indicates that Christ is divine, that He is God. However, He is not only God, but also a man. Therefore, Christ is a God-man. The gold-wood ark typifies Christ as the God-man.

It is a mark of blindness and foolishness to oppose the truth that Christ is a God-man. Certain of our opposers seem to pay attention only to the gold of the ark, only to Christ’s divinity. They do not pay adequate attention to the fact that the ark is made of wood overlaid with gold, to the fact that Christ is truly the God-man. We most assuredly believe that Christ is God. But we realize that just as the ark was made of wood overlaid with gold, so Christ has a human nature within His divine nature.

In time to come, more believers will realize that, as the One typified by the ark made of wood overlaid with gold, Christ is the God-man. The truth will go out, and it will convince, subdue, and enlighten. We praise the Lord for this.

As the God-man, the One who possesses both the divine nature and the human nature, Christ is both the Creator and a creature. Several years ago some who oppose this truth

declared, “Our Christ is the Creator—He is not a creature.” What blindness! The Bible says clearly that Christ is the Firstborn of all creation (Col. 1:15). Because Christ is all-inclusive, He is the first of the creatures and He is the Creator of all. If Christ were only God and not man, only the Creator and not a creature, He would not be all-inclusive. He would not be the reality of all positive things in the universe.

Eventually, either in this age or in the coming age, all those who oppose today will come to believe that Christ is all-inclusive. In eternity we all shall know that Christ is God and man, the Creator and the creature, for He is the ark made of acacia wood overlaid with gold.

Life-Study of Exodus — Message 87

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Business Meeting

On Lord’s Day, Mar. 6, the church will hold its annual business meeting immediately after the Lord’s Table at 10:20am. The business meeting will include all three church meeting halls, which will be connected via internet video conferencing.

The annual business meeting is held once a year to conduct a few formal matters of the church (such as the election of directors) as required by California law. While seemingly unrelated to spiritual affairs (the realm in which the church mostly exists and functions), the Bible nevertheless charges every person to “be subject to the authorities over him, for there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are ordained by God” (Rom. 13:1). While the church holds fast to Christ as its unique Head, for it to subject itself to the state in which it is legally incorporated is actually to recognize God’s authority and to respect His government over man. The apostle Paul recognized even those

officials appointed by Caesar as rulers ordained by God to be God’s deputy authorities. See note 3 to Rom. 13:1. May the Lord gain our full submission to Him in every way!

YP Serving Ones’ Training March 5th

There will be a one-day perfecting training on March 5, 2011, for the parents, serving ones, and burdened saints who have some feeling to care for the junior high and high school young people in the churches in Southern California.

- ⊗ Irvine Hall 1 from 9:00AM until 3:00PM.
- ⊗ Lunch will be provided to all registered saints.
- ⊗ A \$10 donation is suggested to cover the cost of materials and lunch.
- ⊗ **Please register by today, February 27th**, by filling out the registration form at <http://www.scyoungpeople.org/?p=322>.