

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

March 06, 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 88 & 89*

Recovery Version Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	448-449	172
Tuesday	450-451	173
Wednesday	452-453	174
Thursday	454-455	175
Friday	456-457	176
Saturday	458-459	177

Morning Revival

The Need for a Fresh Vision of the Lord's Recovery, Week 5

Lord's Table Meeting

Hall	Last Week's Attendance
Hall 1	187
Hall 2	95
Hall 3	78
TOTAL	360

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: 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 saints as they make initial contact with students at Tel Aviv University in the coming weeks and contact with the local people, neighbors, and friends for the sake of the gospel.
- ⊗ Pray for the fellowship and implementa-

tion of the literature distribution in the Hebrew language.

National: GTCA Follow-up

- ⊗ Pray for the ongoing shepherding of people who have received a free New Testament Recovery Version and ministry books. Saints are continuing to meet with those who were contacted during the Sowing Trips, and they are also contacting new ministry recipients in their area who have requested fellowship.
- ⊗ Pray for a harmonious coordination among the saints to shepherd all of these hungry and open ones.
- ⊗ Pray that the Lord's testimony will be strengthened and grow in all 30 cities.

Local: Irvine

- ⊗ Pray that the spirit of the gospel will be intensified in the church here and that the church here 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 Ark of the Testimony

In this message we shall continue to consider the significance of the ark of the testimony, especially the propitiatory cover on the ark, for our spiritual experience. In the foregoing message we saw that the ark with the propitiatory cover sprinkled by the redeeming blood is a portrait of the Christ who dwells in our spirit.

Opening the Way to the Tree of Life

Although the record in 25:17-22 is brief, it involves a lengthy historical background. In eternity God, for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose, created the heavens and the earth with man as the center. According to Zechariah 12:1, the Lord stretched forth the heavens, laid the foundation of the earth, and formed

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Upcoming Events

- ⊗ **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
- ⊗ **Friday, Apr. 8 – Lord’s Day, Apr. 10**
Junior High Conferences, Engedi and Alpine Camps

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

6TH Lord’s Day	⊗ 9:30am –12:00pm Lord’s Table and church-wide business meeting at Halls 1, 2 and 3
8TH Tuesday	⊗ 7:30-8:30pm Church-wide corporate prayer meeting at Hall 1 (by languages)
9TH Wednesday	⊗ 7:30-9:00pm Ministry Meeting at LSM Campus
10TH Thursday	⊗ 10:00am All-language sisters’ prayer meeting at Hall 2
11TH Friday	⊗ Evening Small group meetings in the homes
12TH Saturday	⊗ 8:00am All-language brothers’ prayer meeting at Hall 3 ⊗ 6:00pm Young people’s meeting
13TH Lord’s Day	⊗ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord’s Table and prophesying meetings at Halls 1, 2 and 3

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the spirit of man within him. The spirit of man is the organ to receive God and contain Him. Because God’s intention is to dispense Himself into man, man needs a spirit in order to receive God.

Before God dispensed Himself into man’s spirit, Satan intervened to inject himself into the man created by God. When man ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Satan entered into man. In Romans chapters five, six, and seven, indwelling sin refers to Satan who injected himself into man. Romans 5:12 says, “Therefore, as through one man sin entered into the world and death through sin; and so death passed to all men because all have sinned.” The tree of life in the garden indicates that God’s intention is to dispense Himself into man to be man’s life. However, God knew that His enemy would act first to work himself into man. Satan as this evil source is indicated by another tree, called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. When man ate of this tree, he was poisoned by Satan. In fact, Satan became the sinful nature of fallen man. Because man had fallen by eating of the tree of knowledge, God closed the way to the tree of life. Genesis 3:24 says, “So he drove out the man: and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”

Who opened the way? How was the way opened, and when? In Hebrews 10:19 and 20 we have the answer to these questions: “Having therefore, brothers, boldness for entering the Holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He dedicated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh.” The living way, the way to the tree of life, has been opened by the blood of Jesus. This opened way has now become the new and living way for us to come into the Holy of Holies. Therefore, through the redeeming blood of Christ we can once again enjoy the tree of life.

A certain well-known Bible teacher has said that the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil were both unusual

trees, but that he could not say much about these trees because they are no longer in existence. According to this Bible teacher, these two trees have been removed from the scene. But according to the Bible, the tree of life will exist for eternity. Nineteen hundred years ago, when the Lord put forth the epistles to the seven churches, He promised that the overcomers would be given to eat of the tree of life. If this tree were no longer in existence, if it had been removed from the scene, how would it be possible for the overcomers to eat of it? How could all the believers have access to it in the New Jerusalem?

Many believers today have religion, ethics, and morality. But in their experience they do not have the tree of life. As far as they are concerned, it seems that the tree of life does not exist. Hallelujah, we have the tree of life, and we eat of this tree and enjoy it! We praise the Lord for the new and living way back to the tree of life through the redeeming blood of Christ. If we would properly appreciate the Christ who lives in us, we need to understand this historical background.

Enjoying Christ as the Ark in the Holy of Holies

Suppose a person who is a typical sinner one day hears the gospel, repents, confesses his sinful deeds, and believes in the Lord Jesus. After he repents, confesses, and believes, God meets with him, and he with God. Further more, Christ comes into him as the One typified by the ark with all its aspects. When Christ died on the cross, He was the Lamb for redemption. But when He comes into a believer’s spirit, He comes not only as the Lamb, but also as the ark. Today, due to their limited understanding and the inadequacy of much gospel preaching, most Christians only realize that Christ is the Lamb. Very few know that this Lamb has become in them the indwelling ark with many marvelous aspects.

Life-Study of Exodus — Message 88

ANNOUNCEMENTS

⊗ **Church-wide Blending Meeting**

On Lord’s Day, March 27, the church in Irvine will have a church-wide blending meeting at UCI in the Student Center from 9:30am-noon followed by a church-catered love feast. Due to the financial situation of the church, the saints are asked to provide a small donation toward the love-feast and the parking permits, costs which are normally covered by the church. A suggested donation for the love feast is \$5 per person and can be offered in advance. Saints may also purchase parking permits in the near future (\$8 for full day permits) from the designated brothers in each hall. To reduce congestion and fees,

please carpool as much as possible. More details will be forthcoming, but the saints should set aside this day for the gathering together of the entire church.

⊗ **YP Conference Registration Deadlines**

The deadline to register for the high school conferences is today. The deadline to register for the junior high conferences is next Lord’s Day, March 13. Please register online at irvineyp.com.

⊗ **Daylight Savings Time**

As a reminder, please set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday evening.