

# WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

February 15, 2015

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

## Prayer Items

- ⊗ Int'l Chinese-speaking Conference
- ⊗ Life-Study Radio Program
- ⊗ FTTA Spring Term

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

## Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of Philippians, Messages 11-12

## Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	865-866	229
Tuesday	867-868	230
Wednesday	869-870	231
Thursday	871-872	232
Friday	873-874	233
Saturday	875-876	234

## Morning Revival

Crystallization-Study of Exodus,  
Volume 1, Week 5

## DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

### International: International Chinese-speaking conference in Taipei, Taiwan (Feb. 21-22)

Pray for a strong release of the Lord's word to minister the life-supply to the churches.

- ⊗ Pray that this feast will forward the Lord's interest and move on this earth for the further preparation of His bride and the consummation of this age.

### Life-Study Radio Program in the UK

The Life Study of the Bible radio program Premier Radio is presently under threat of its nationwide broadcasting slot being taken away and assigned to a non-stop music station.

- ⊗ Please pray for the continuation of the Life Study of the Bible program and bind the enemy in his attack on the ministry reaching His seeking ones.

### Local: Start of the FTTA Spring Term

- ⊗ Pray for the new and returning FTTA trainees as the Spring term of the training begins this week.

- ⊗ Pray for the coordination and blending of the trainees with the local saints in Southern California that the Lord would bless the labor on the campuses, among the young people and in the neighborhoods for His increase and testimony in Southern California.

## 2015 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BLENDING CONFERENCE

A blending conference for all the churches in Southern California will take place on the weekend of March 14-15, 2015. The churches in Southern California have not gathered together in this way since the 2009 Labor Day weekend (over 5 years ago) and a region-wide blending like this is long overdue. Concerning the matter of blending, Brother Lee said:

Even among us who are in the recovery, not many have the realization that we need the blending, and we need it desperately. The heavy burden in the ministry that is on my heart and in my spirit is the matter of blending. *The Practical Points Concerning Blending*

We look forward to the opportunity for all the saints in the churches in Southern California to be blended together at this special gathering.

**Dates:** Saturday, March 14 and  
Lord's Day, March 15, 2015

**Place:** Ministry Conference Center,  
Anaheim

### **Saturday (3/14)**

Session 1: 4pm-5:45pm  
Break: 5:45pm-7pm  
Session 2: 7pm-8:45pm

### **Lord's Day (3/15)**

Lord's Table: 10am-10:30am  
Session 3: 10:30am-12:30pm

**We strongly urge all the saints in the churches to reserve this time to gather together for corporate blending and to enter into the Lord's present speaking to the local churches in Southern California.** May the God of peace be with all the saints.

## MINISTRY PORTION

### **HAVING RECEIVED SALVATION OF THE HIGHEST STANDARD**

In Ephesians 2:5 Paul says that we have been saved by grace. In Ephesians 2:8 he declares, "By grace you have been saved through faith." It is absolutely true that we are saved only by grace through faith. Without grace, it is not possible for us to be saved. Many Christians today rightly emphasize the fact that salvation is by grace alone. However, although they may stress salvation by grace, they fail to point out the extent of God's salvation. According to Ephesians 2, God's salvation brings us into the heavens. This indicates that we

have received a salvation with the highest possible standard. We have been saved by grace to be in the heavenlies with Christ (Eph. 2:6).

Although many Christians point out that we are saved from sin, Ephesians 2 indicates that we are also saved from death, for we have been enlivened by God, raised with Christ, and seated with Him in the third heaven. My emphasis in this message is not on the fact that we are saved by grace. It is on the extent and standard of God's salvation. We have been

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## Upcoming Events

- ❖ Lord's Day, March 8 — Church-wide Blending Meeting
- ❖ Friday, Mar 6 - Lord's Day, Mar 8 — College Conference, Anaheim
- ❖ Fri Mar 13 - Lord's Day, Mar 15 — High School Conferences, Big Bear
- ❖ Sat, Mar 14 - Lord's Day, Mar 15 — Southern California Blending Conf.

## Church-related Websites

General: churchinirvine.org  
 Blog: members.churchinirvine.org  
 Calendar: calendar.churchinirvine.org  
 Offerings: offerings.churchinirvine.org  
 YP: youngpeople.churchinirvine.org  
 Children: children.churchinirvine.org

## This Week

- 15<sup>TH</sup>** ❖ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts  
Lord's Day
- 17<sup>TH</sup>** ❖ 7:30–8:30pm Prayer meeting by districts  
Tuesday
- 19<sup>TH</sup>** ❖ 10:00–11:00am Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3  
Thursday
- 20<sup>TH</sup>** ❖ Evening Small groups in the homes  
Friday
- 21<sup>ST</sup>** ❖ 6:00pm Young people's dinner and meeting  
Saturday
- 22<sup>ND</sup>** ❖ 9:30am–12:00pm Lord's Table and prophesying meetings by districts  
Lord's Day

## This Week's Truth Pursuit—Life-Study of Philippians

Message #:	Message 11	Message 12
Title:	The Exaltation of Christ	Working Out Our Salvation
Scriptures:	Phil. 2:9-11; Eph. 1:19-22; Acts 2:36	Phil. 2:12-16; Eph. 2:5-8; 2 Cor. 13:3a, 5; Rom. 8:11; Eph. 1:5
Verses to Pray-Read:	Phil. 2:9-11— “... <u>God highly exalted Him</u> and bestowed on Him <u>the name which is above every name</u> , That in the name of Jesus every knee should bow...And every tongue should openly confess that <u>Jesus Christ is Lord....</u> ”	Phil. 2:12-16— “... <u>work out your own salvation...for it is God who operates</u> in you both the willing and the working...that you may... <u>shine as luminaries</u> in the world, <u>holding forth the word of life...</u> ”
Radio Msg:	11	12

LSM Radio Broadcasts can be found at: [www.lsmradio.com/audio/philippians.html](http://www.lsmradio.com/audio/philippians.html)

## MINISTRY PORTION

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saved by God's grace to be with Christ in the heavenlies.

### THE NEED TO WORK OUT THIS SALVATION

In Philippians 2:12 Paul tells us explicitly to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. To receive salvation is one thing, and to work it out is another thing. To work out salvation is not to accomplish salvation. Rather, it is to carry out through continual obedience the salvation we have received.

Paul's word about obedience in verse 12 answers to what he has previously said about Christ becoming obedient (v. 8). A very striking aspect of Christ as our pattern is His obedience unto death, even the death of the cross. As God, Christ first took the major step of emptying Himself, of laying aside the expression of His deity. Then, having emptied Himself and having taken the form of a man, He humbled Himself. This self-humbling is particularly related to obedience. The Bible underscores the importance of obedience. For example, in 1 Samuel 15:22 we are told that to obey is better than sacrifice. We who have received Christ as the pattern of our salvation must learn to always obey with fear and trembling. Within we should have fear as the motive, and without we should have trembling as our attitude, an indication that we have no confidence in ourselves.

### GOD OPERATING IN US

According to verse 13, God is operating in us. Our salvation is not merely an action; it is a living Person, the Triune God Himself, operating in us. The God Paul speaks of in verse 13 is the Triune God, the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. According to chapter fourteen of John, the Father is one with the Son, and the Son is one with the Spirit. The God in Philippians 2:13 is not only the Father, but the Triune God. He is the Son and the Spirit as well as the Father.

In order to prove that God in 2:13 is the Triune God, we need to consider the context

of the whole book of Philippians. The last verse of the book, 4:23, says, “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.” Certainly the Lord as the One whose grace is with our spirit is not separate from the God who operates in us. The very Christ who is with our spirit is the God who operates in us. Furthermore, 1:19 speaks of the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. There can be no doubt that the Spirit who supplies us is the Spirit who indwells us. But this Spirit cannot be separate from the God who operates in us. If we put all these verses together and consider the context of the book as a whole, we shall see that the God who operates in us is the Triune God. He is the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. He is the very God who is Christ in us (2 Cor. 13:3a, 5) and the Spirit dwelling in us (Rom. 8:11).

In verse 13 Paul says that God operates in us “both the willing and the working for His good pleasure.” Where within us does this willing take place? It must be in our will. This indicates that God's operation begins from our spirit and spreads into our mind, emotion, and will. We have pointed out that the grace of Christ is with our spirit. However, God's operating to will in us involves not only our spirit but also our will. Therefore, God's operation must spread from our spirit into our will.

As God operates the willing within us, He carries out His working. This corresponds to Romans 8, where we see that God works not only in our spirit, but also in our mind and eventually in our physical body (vv. 6, 11). We will in our will, and we work in our body. The Triune God operates in us from our spirit, through our will, and then into our physical body.

—Message 12, *Life Study of Philippians*