

## Prayer Items

- ⊗ European YP Conference in Poland
- ⊗ National College Training
- ⊗ Summer Bible Camp and Summer School of Truth

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

## Truth Pursuit

*Life-Study of Philippians, Messages 51 & 52*

## Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	1105-1106	349
Tuesday	1107-1108	350
Wednesday	1109-1110	351
Thursday	1111-1112	352
Friday	1113-1114	353
Saturday	1115-1116	354

## Morning Revival

*The Recovery of the Priesthood for God's Building, Week 8 (Spring ITERO)*

## DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

**International:** European Young People's Conference & Children and Parents' Conference in Male Ciche, Poland (July 26 – Aug 1)

Over 1,100 young people, children, parents, and serving ones are registered for this conference. Please pray:

- ⊗ for all the practical preparations, the travel, the speaking brothers, and the health and safety of those attending.
- ⊗ for the Lord to begin working now in the hearts of all who will attend.
- ⊗ for the Lord to grant a heavenly vision of His divine economy regarding Christ and the church to the young people and the adults who attend this conference.

**National:** College Training

- ⊗ Pray for the continued operation of the Lord's work in those who attended this training that they would be constituted age-turners who live uniquely and solely unto the Lord for His purpose.

⊗ Pray that those attending would be outlets of the divine fire on their college campuses that others through them would be delivered from the present evil age and brought into the purpose of the ages.

⊗ Pray that all attending would continue in what they heard, pursuing with others to give the Lord the way to move freely through them and be factors of life to build up the church in their locality.

**Local:** Summer Bible Camp (July 20-25) and Summer School of Truth (July 27-Aug 1)

⊗ Pray for the Summer Bible Camp and Summer School of Truth which will be taking place over the next 2 weeks. Pray that these times would benefit the children and young people to prepare them as vessels of honor, sanctified and useful to the Master.

## MINISTRY PORTION

### THREE STAGES OF SECURING CHRIST

Paul's use of three different Greek words to express the idea of gaining indicates the Lord's desire is that we gain Him, obtain Him, and lay hold of Him. Some readers may think that these expressions are mere repetitions. However, instead of being repetitious, they point to three stages of the securing of Christ. In verse 8 Paul says, "I have suffered the loss of all things and count them refuse that I may gain Christ." This marks the beginning of securing the Lord. In verse 10 Paul goes on to say, "To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." Here we have the second stage, the process of obtaining Christ. What we have in this verse is actually the way to obtain Him. Eventually, in the third stage, we lay hold of Christ (v. 12). This is the completion of the securing of Christ.

We all have experienced the first stage, for we all have gained Christ. When we believed in the Lord and received Him, we gained Him. This was the beginning of our gaining of Christ. Now we need to gain Him continually. To gain Christ continually is to obtain Him. Eventually the completion of this process is that we lay hold of Christ.

We know from verse 12 that Paul did not regard himself as one who had already obtained. Here Paul seems to be saying, "I have not yet obtained, but I am on the way. I am in the process of obtaining Christ that I may lay hold of Him."

In verses 8, 10, and 12 we see the initial gaining of Christ, the continual gaining of Him, which is the obtaining, and the completion of the obtaining, which is the laying hold of Christ. In this message I am not burdened to cover either the initial gaining of Christ or the final laying hold of Him. My burden is related to the process of the continual obtaining of Christ, the process which takes place between the initial gaining of Christ and the final laying hold of Him.

### SUFFERING FOR THE BODY

This process of obtaining Christ, as revealed in verse 10, is to know Him by knowing the power of His resurrection. However, if we would know the power of Christ's resurrection, we must share in His sufferings and know the fellowship of His sufferings.

In a very real sense, Christ's sufferings have not yet been completed. When some hear this, they may say, "Christ died, was buried, and was resurrected once for all. Now He is on the throne. How can you say that His sufferings have not been completed?" Consider Paul's word in Colossians 1:24: "Now I rejoice in my sufferings on your behalf, and fill up that which is lacking of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for His Body, which is the church." To be sure, Christ is on the throne, but there is still a lack with respect to His sufferings. As the Head, Christ's sufferings are complete. But the sufferings of Christ for the Body are not yet

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## Upcoming Events

- ☉ Monday, July 20 - Saturday, July 25  
Summer Bible Camp, Irvine
- ☉ Monday, July 27 - Saturday, Aug 1  
Summer School of Truth, Irvine

## 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

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|---|---|
| <b>19<sup>TH</sup></b><br><small>Lord's Day</small> | ☉ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts |
| <b>21<sup>ST</sup></b><br><small>Tuesday</small>    | ☉ 7:30-8:30pm Church-wide corporate prayer meeting at Hall 1        |
| <b>23<sup>RD</sup></b><br><small>Thursday</small>   | ☉ 10:00-11:00am Sisters' prayer meeting at Hall 3                   |
| <b>24<sup>TH</sup></b><br><small>Friday</small>     | ☉ Evening Small groups in the homes                                 |
| <b>26<sup>TH</sup></b><br><small>Lord's Day</small> | ☉ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts |

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

Message #:	Message 51	Message 52
<i>Title:</i>	To Be Found in Christ in the Righteousness of God Through the Faith of Christ	To Obtain Christ by Experiencing the Power of His Resurrection
<i>Scriptures:</i>	Phil. 3:7-9; Gal. 2:19-20	Phil. 3:10-16; Rom. 1:4; 8:11
<i>Verses to Pray-Read:</i>	Phil. 3:9—“And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God <i>and</i> based on faith”	Phil. 3:10-11—“To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, [i]f perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead.”
<i>Radio Msg:</i>	49	N/A

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

## MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

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finished. Such sufferings are also called “His sufferings.” Furthermore, in Colossians 1:24 Paul regarded his own sufferings as the filling up of what is lacking of Christ’s sufferings for His Body. For this reason, Paul indicates in Philippians 3:10 that we need to share in Christ’s sufferings. The sufferings of Christ for His Body are still going on, and we need to share in them. When Christ was on earth, He suffered. As those who follow Him, we must share in His sufferings for His Body. If we would know Christ by experiencing the power of His resurrection, we must share His sufferings. The process of obtaining Christ is related to His resurrection, His sufferings, and His death. To know Him we must share His sufferings and be conformed to His death that we may experience the power of His resurrection.

### FREE FROM EARTHLY ENTANGLEMENTS

Verse 10 opens with the infinitive “to know Him.” This infinitive is related to a compound predicate found in verses 8 and 9: “that I may gain Christ and be found in Him.” First we need to suffer the loss of all things and count them as refuse that we may gain Christ. To gain Christ in this way is not simply to

believe in Him or receive Him. It is to count all things as loss, to suffer the loss of all things, and then to count them as refuse. Paul was one who suffered the loss of all things and counted them refuse. He was free from all earthly entanglements. To gain Christ he had given up everything, including religion and culture, and counted it all as refuse, trash, dog food. Therefore, the way was clear for Paul to gain Christ and to be found in Him in order to know Him.

The rendering “to know Him” is a literal translation of the Greek. Many versions, however, do not use the infinitive. Instead, they say “that I may know Him,” or “in order that I may know Him.” Nevertheless, according to the Greek, Paul was saying that he wanted to gain Christ and be found in Him to know Him. Like Paul, we need to be free from all earthly entanglements and also count everything as refuse. Then we shall be able to say, “Lord Jesus, I care only for You. I want to gain You, be found in You, and know You.”

—Message 52, *Life-Study of Philippians*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ☉ Summer Bible Camp

Summer Bible Camp begins tomorrow, July 20, and will take place every afternoon from Monday-Friday, from 3:30-6pm at Hall 1. It will conclude with a family picnic on Saturday, July 25 from 4-6pm.

We will have one last coordination time **TODAY from 3:30-4:30pm** in the house at Hall 1. Any parents, YP, or serving ones who are burdened for the SBC are encouraged to join the coordination time. Please also continue to pray for the serving ones and children this next week that the Lord would richly bless our time together.