

# WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

May 1, 2016

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

## Prayer Items

- ⊗ Follow-up gospel trips to Germany
- ⊗ Churches in Southern California
- ⊗ Sixth Grade Conference

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

## Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of 1 Corinthians, Messages 33 & 34

## Bible Reading

|           | OT Pages  | NT Page |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Monday    | 1525-1526 | 559     |
| Tuesday   | 1527-1528 | 560     |
| Wednesday | 1529-1530 | 561     |
| Thursday  | 1531-1532 | 562     |
| Friday    | 1533-1534 | 563     |
| Saturday  | 1535-1536 | 564     |

## Morning Revival

The Crystallization-Study of Exodus, Volume 6, Week 36

## Oak Glen Project

| Deadline             | Goal         | %     |
|----------------------|--------------|-------|
| 10/1/2015            | \$205,000    | 2.5%  |
| 12/31/2015           | \$410,000    | 5.0%  |
| 12/31/2016           | \$820,000    | 10.0% |
| Actual Contributions |              |       |
| As Of                | Amount       |       |
| 4/30/2016            | \$425,477.32 |       |

## DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

### International: Follow-up Gospel trips to Germany (continuing through June)

- ⊗ Please pray for the dynamic salvation of the chosen refugees and the local German people and the follow up shepherding that will cherish and nourish them and bring them into the church life.
- ⊗ Pray for the strengthening of the local saints and the linking of the gospel contacts to their homes.
- ⊗ Pray for the acquiring of facilities, by renting or purchase, for the sake of coordination and gospel meetings.
- ⊗ Pray for all those who are migrating to Germany, and that this flow of migration will continue.

### Local: The churches in Southern California

- ⊗ Pray that the burden and fellowship released during the recent blending conference of the churches in southern California will operate in the churches to bring the saints in the churches into living a life

uniquely for the gospel for the Lord's increase and spread in southern California.

- ⊗ Pray that the saints will be brought into a daily living of being revived and constituted with the truth that the priesthood of the gospel would be realized and built up in every locality.
- ⊗ Pray that the churches will receive the Lord's commission to rise up and be one with His heart to go to the people of southern California to preach the gospel and teach the truth for the spread of God's kingdom and the consummation of this age.

### Sixth Grade Conference

- ⊗ Pray for the convicting work of the Spirit in this time that the children would experience a genuine repentance and the Lord's salvation in receiving Him as their Savior in a definite way.

## SIXTH GRADE CONFERENCE & BAPTISMS

Next weekend, May 6-8, 17 of our children will be attending the Sixth Grade Conference. We pray the Lord will appear to each one of them and lead them to a definite experience of salvation. Please pray for the following who are attending the conference:

Joshua Chen  
Alex Lee  
Ethan MacVicar  
Oliver Oh  
Johnathan Quiroga  
Eddie Shi  
Daniel Tu  
Maximilan Wang  
Harry Xu

Brandon Yang  
Amber Quiroga  
Jessica Guo  
Catherine Liu  
Katherine Wang  
Sophia Wang  
Tiffany Zhang  
Katie Yang

On the following Lord's day, May 15, we will have baptisms at Hall 1 at 4pm. We encourage the saints to come and stand with these young vessels as they are baptized into the Body of Christ and made members of the church. Come and rejoice with them at this marvelous occasion!

## MINISTRY PORTION

### Realizing That All Things Are Ours, That We Are Christ's, And That Christ is God's

In verses 21 and 22 Paul says, "All things are yours, whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours." All things, including the world and even death, are ours and work good for us (Rom. 8:28). The Corinthian believers said they were of Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas (1:12), but Paul says he, Apollos, and Cephas

are of them; all are theirs. They are the church, and all these things are for the church. Furthermore, the church is for Christ, and Christ is for God.

According to these verses, not only the spiritual giants are for us, but all things, including negative things such as the world and death, are for us. This means that even the world and death can work good for us. Have you ever realized that the negative condition of the church in your locality is yours and that it

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## Upcoming Events

- ☉ **Fri, May 6 - Lord's Day, May 8**  
Sixth Grade Conference, Oak Glen
- ☉ **Lord's Day, May 15**  
Sixth Grade Baptisms, Hall 1

## 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

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>1<sup>ST</sup></b><br>Lord's Day | ☉ <b>10:00am-12:30pm</b> Lord's table and Southern California Blending Conference in Anaheim |
| <b>3<sup>RD</sup></b><br>Tuesday    | ☉ <b>7:30-8:30pm</b> Prayer meeting by districts   |
| <b>4<sup>TH</sup></b><br>Wednesday  | ☉ <b>7:30-9:00pm</b> Ministry meeting at MCC and simulcast at Hall 3                         |
| <b>5<sup>TH</sup></b><br>Thursday   | ☉ <b>10:00-11:00am</b> Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3                                      |
| <b>6<sup>TH</sup></b><br>Friday     | ☉ <b>Evening</b> Small groups in the homes   |
| <b>7<sup>TH</sup></b><br>Saturday   | ☉ <b>6:30-9:00pm</b> Young people's meeting at Hall 1  |
| <b>8<sup>TH</sup></b><br>Lord's Day | ☉ <b>9:30am-12:00pm</b> Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts                   |

## This Week's Truth Pursuit—*Life-Study of 1 Corinthians*

| Message #:                  | Message 33   | Message 34  |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| <i>Title:</i>               | All Things for the Church and the Church for Christ      | Stewards of the Mysteries of God (1)  |
| <i>Scriptures:</i>          | 1 Cor. 3:16-23   | 1 Cor. 4:1-9  |
| <i>Verses to Pray-read:</i> | 1 Cor. 3:23—"But you are Christ's, and Christ is God's." | 1 Cor. 4:1—"A man should account us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God." |
| <i>Radio Msg:</i>           | 26   | 27  |

LSM Radio Broadcasts can be found at: <http://www.lsmradio.com/audio/1corinthians.html>

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works good for you? Some saints may say, "The situation of my local church is not good. I am thinking of moving to a place where the condition of the church is better." However, those who are dissatisfied with a certain local church and move to another place do not experience the growth in life as a result. We all must see that the condition of the church in our locality, like death, is ours, and is for us. Truly all things are for us.

As you read 1 Corinthians 3, you may wonder why Paul concludes the chapter in this way. After speaking of wisdom and the exalting of spiritual giants, he concludes by saying that all things are ours, that we are Christ's, and that Christ is God's. Here Paul seems to be saying, "You Corinthian believers exercise your Greek culture, wisdom, and philosophy. According to your wisdom, you have preferences and choices. You have preferences in persons, doctrines, and practices. These preferences are all related to your wisdom, to your philosophical way of thinking. But I want you to know that all things, whether good or evil, and all persons are used by God to perfect you. Even the world and death are means used by God to work good for you. All things are your servants for your perfection."

I would like to speak a comforting and encouraging word to all the saints in the Lord's recovery. Do not feel that the church in your locality is not the right place for you. Even if the condition of your church is poor, God still uses that church to perfect you. He uses a church which does not satisfy you to work good for you. This means that you need this kind of church. When I was in China, many saints regarded the church in Shanghai as excellent and wanted to move to that city. But

those who went there were disappointed. Many who had never been to Shanghai thought that the church there was wonderful. But some of those in the church in Shanghai were unhappy with the church there. This illustrates the fact that we should not move to another locality in order to be in a place which we imagine is better than the church in our locality. No matter where you may be, the church is yours, and God uses that church to perfect you. God used the church in Shanghai to perfect the saints in Shanghai. Those in that locality needed that church. However, those who lived elsewhere needed the church in their own locality.

God uses everything to perfect us. Hence, all things are for us, we are for Christ, and Christ is for God. God uses everything to perfect us so that we may be the living Body of Christ. Therefore, we are the Body for Christ, and Christ is the expression of God. Thus, Christ is for God. God is expressed through Christ, Christ is expressed through us, and we are perfected through all things. If we see this, we shall not complain or have any preference, choice, or selection. Furthermore, we shall be content to receive all that God ordains for us. If God ordains a difficult church life for you, you should accept it and praise Him for it. God may ordain a difficult husband or wife. He may even ordain death. But even a difficult spouse or death itself is for us and is used to perfect us. Therefore, we need to receive what God has ordained and acknowledge that it is being used by Him to perfect us.

—Message 33, *Life-Study of 1 Corinthians*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ☉ **Tom and Joyce Goetz "Send Off"**

There will be a special love feast and gathering to "send off" brother Tom and sister Joyce Goetz as they migrate to Germany that will take place on Lord's Day, May 22 at 5:30pm at Hall 1. We encourage the saints to come hear the Goetzes' testimony of the Lord's stirring in them and to have some strong prayer, identifying ourselves

with this dear couple so that their going to Germany will be the church's going. There will be a church-provided BBQ, but the saints are encouraged to bring salad or a dessert (potluck style). May the Lord use this time to infuse the church with His burden for the increase and spread of the church!