

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP September 18, 2016

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Prayer Items

☉ UCI Fall Quarter

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

Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of 1 Corinthians, Message 69

Bible Reading

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	1741-1742	667
Tuesday	1743-1744	668
Wednesday	1745-1746	669
Thursday	1747-1748	670
Friday	1749-1750	671
Saturday	1751-1752	672

Morning Revival

Crystallization-Study of Exodus, Vol. 7, Week 40 (2016 Summer Training)

Oak Glen Project

Due Date	Goal	%
6/30/2016	\$512,500	62.5%
12/31/2016	\$615,000	75.0%
6/30/2017	\$717,500	87.5%
12/31/2017	\$820,000	100%
Actual Contributions		
As Of	Amount	
9/17/2016	\$512,251.27	

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

Local: UCI Fall Quarter - Orientation Week

- ☉ Pray that the Lord would open the hearts of many students, especially freshman and new transfer students, that they could be contacted and connected to the saints during this week.
- ☉ Pray that the Lord would flow out and shine out through the saints on the campus that many students would be attracted and drawn to the Lord.
- ☉ Pray that the enemy would be bound and his house plundered that many young vessels could be released from his kingdom to find the meaning of their human life and be brought into God's purpose.

MINISTRY PORTION

DEALING WITH THE COLLECTION OF THE GIFT

In verse 1 Paul says, "Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you do also." This is the eleventh matter dealt with by the apostle in this Epistle, a matter concerned with money, mammon, and material possessions. All of fallen mankind are under the domination of mammon and material possessions (Matt. 6:19-21, 24-25, 30; 19:21-22; Luke 12:13-19). At the day of Pentecost, under the power of the Holy Spirit, all the believers overthrew this domination and had all their possessions in common for distribution to the needy ones (Acts 2:44-45; 4:32, 34-37). That practice, due to the weakness of the believers' fallen nature (see Acts 5:1-11; 6:1), did not last long. It was already over by the Apostle Paul's time. Then the believers needed grace to overcome the power of mammon and material things and to release them from Satan's domination for an offering to the Lord to fulfill His purpose. Resurrection life is the supply for the believers to live such a life, a life trusting in God, not in treasures of material possessions, a life not for today but for the future, not for this age but for the coming age (Luke 12:16-21; 1 Tim. 6:17-19), a life that overthrows the usurpation of temporal and uncertain riches. This may be the reason that this dealing follows the one concerning the reality of resurrection life. In any case this dealing is related to God's administration among the churches.

It is a crucial matter that this dealing follows a chapter concerning the reality of resurrection life. Resurrection is not only the power over sin and death; resurrection is a power over mammon and material possessions. Therefore, immediately following the chapter

on resurrection, Paul turns to the matter of material possessions.

From verse 1 we see that Paul gave the same direction to the church in Corinth as he did to the churches of Galatia. This strongly indicates that all the local churches should be the same in their practice (7:17; 11:16; 14:33).

In verse 2 Paul continues, "On the first day of every week let each one of you lay aside by himself, storing up as he may be prospered, that no collections be made when I come." The seventh day of the week, the Sabbath, was a memorial of God's creation (Gen. 2:1-3; Exo. 20:8, 11). The first day of the week is a symbol of the Lord's resurrection; it is the day the Lord resurrected from among the dead (John 20:1). It is called the Lord's Day (Rev. 1:10). The New Testament saints meet and offer their possessions on this day (Acts 20:7), the day of the Lord's resurrection, signifying that they have been resurrected with the Lord (Eph. 2:6) through His resurrection (1 Pet. 1:3), and that they meet to remember Him and worship God with their offerings in resurrection by the resurrection life, not by their natural life.

Our giving must be in resurrection life, not in our natural life. However, much of the giving by Christians today is done according to the natural life. Money is raised by the natural life in a way that is absolutely in the old creation. Furthermore, those who give large amounts are often publicly recognized, whereas those who give small amounts are ignored. Our giving must be completely different from this. Our offerings must be presented in resurrection and by resurrection.

In verse 3 Paul says, "And when I arrive, whomever you may approve, I will send them

(continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

- ☉ Thurs, Nov 24 - Lord's Day, Nov 27 Thanksgiving Conference, San Jose, CA

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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| 18TH
Lord's Day | ☉ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts |
| 20TH
Tuesday | ☉ 7:30-8:30pm Prayer meeting for English speaking districts at Hall 1 and other languages will gather by districts |
| 12ST
Wednesday | ☉ 7:30-9:00pm Ministry meeting at MCC and simulcast at Hall 3 |
| 22ND
Thursday | ☉ 10:00-11:00am Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3 |
| 23RD
Friday | ☉ Evening Small groups in the homes |
| 24TH
Saturday | ☉ 6:30-9:00pm Young people's meeting at Hall 1 |
| 25TH
Lord's Day | ☉ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts |

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

Message #:	Message 69
Title:	Dealing with the Collection of the Gift and Conclusion
Scriptures:	1 Cor. 16:1-24
Verses to Pray-read:	1 Cor. 16:13-14—"Watch, stand firm in the faith, be full-grown men, be strong. Let all your matters be done in love."
Radio Msg:	55

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

MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

(continued from page 1)

with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem." The Greek word rendered gift can also be translated grace. This was a kind of fellowship, under the apostle's direction, of the churches in the Gentile world with the church in Jerusalem (2 Cor. 8:1-2; Rom. 15:25-27).

We have pointed out again and again that in the second section of 1 Corinthians, chapters eleven through sixteen, Paul deals with matters in the realm of the divine administration. This section begins with the headship of God and consummates with a seemingly insignificant matter—the gift of material things for the saints. Whether or not we are truly in God's administration, or for God's administration, and are carrying out God's administration, can be tested by how we are related to material things and how we handle our money. If we use our money in a worldly way, then no matter what we may say about resur-

rection, we are not truly in God's administration. The extent to which we are in the divine administration and for the divine administration is determined by how we care for money and material possessions.

—Message 69, *Life-Study of 1 Corinthians*

2016 THANKSGIVING CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

This year's Int'l Thanksgiving Conference will be held in San Jose, CA, from Thursday, Nov 24 to Lord's Day, Nov 27. All meetings will be held at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center, Exhibit Hall 1, located at 150 West San Carlos St., San Jose, CA 95110.

Lodging for the conference is available at the following 3 hotels. A group rate of \$95 per night plus tax for up to quadruple occupancy is available. Reservations must be made before Nov 10. For reservations:

Marriott (attached to Convention Center): Call 800-314-0928 (ask for *Living Stream Ministry* group rate) or go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/z93n4f3>

Hilton (attached to Convention Center): Call 408-287-2100 (ask for *Living Stream Ministry 2016 Thanksgiving Day Conference* group rate) or go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/h7zp5q9>

Hyatt Place (not attached to Convention Center): Call 408-998-0400 (ask for *Living Stream Ministry 2016 Thanksgiving Day Conference* group rate) or go to:

<http://tinyurl.com/hwkfpak>

Childcare: Care for children from kindergarten to 6th grade will be provided during the conference meetings at the Marriot San Jose. All children attending the conference should register by filling out the Google form at this link by **October 23, 2016:**

<http://tinyurl.com/j453m4z>