

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

January 8, 2017

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Morning Revival

The Direction of the Lord's Move Today,
Week 1 (2016 Thanksgiving Conf.)

NT Reading Challenge

(1 chp. per day / 6 days per week)

The Gospel of Luke, Chapters 23-24

The Gospel of John, Chapters 1-4

Bible Reading Schedule

(text and footnotes)

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	100-101	745
Tuesday	102-103	746
Wednesday	104-105	747
Thursday	106-107	748
Friday	108-109	749
Saturday	110-111	750

Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of 2 Corinthians,
Messages 1-2

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	
1/7/2017	\$631,943.43	

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: Crystallization-Study of Ezekiel

☪ Pray that we would be a people who see visions of God and realize the desire of God's heart that we would be directed toward God's destination and our lives would be controlled according to God's economy for the carrying out His purpose.

The Lord's move in Germany

☪ Please pray that the Lord will burden more to offer themselves to serve in Germany both short term (one month or more) or long term (for several years).

☪ Please pray that the door will remain open for the full-timers to obtain visas to labor in Germany long term.

☪ Please pray that the Lord will have a way to gain university students in Germany.

☪ Pray that in 2017 the Lord will continue the shepherding and perfecting of the new ones who were saved in 2016.

Blending Trip to India

This month five saints will travel to India and visit the churches in New Delhi and Chennai from Jan. 13 - Jan. 22.

☪ Pray that this trip will afford the Lord a way to bring much mutual benefit to His Body through the circulation of the divine fellowship in the Body and will result in much blessing to the churches in India for the Lord's move in that country.

☪ Pray for the Lord's covering regarding the saints travel and health and that the entire trip would be under the Lord's rich blessing for the building up of His Body.

Local: Irvine

Winter quarter at UCI begins this week. The students will have a club table out during the week.

☪ Pray for the students and full-timers labor to reconnect with our contacts from the fall and pray that they would find more seeking believers and sons of peace.

MINISTRY PORTION

The book of 2 Corinthians is unique in that it has a very long introduction. This Epistle contains thirteen chapters, and the first one and a half chapters are the introduction. No other book in the Bible has such a long introduction.

The introduction to 2 Corinthians is long because the background of this book is quite complicated. In 1 Corinthians Paul dealt with the Corinthian believers regarding many things. He argued with them and rebuked them. Because of this background, it was necessary for 2 Corinthians to have a lengthy introduction.

This introduction is actually a word of comfort. Paul realized that, because he had disciplined the Corinthians in the first Epistle, he needed to bind up their wounds in this Epistle. The first one and a half chapters of 2 Corinthians are related to this binding up of wounds. What Paul was doing here is similar to the comfort a parent may give to a child after the child has been disciplined. Suppose a child misbehaves and is seriously disciplined by his parents. After the child repents, the parents will spend time to comfort the child. In the first chapter and a half of 2 Corinthians,

Paul pours oil into the wounds of the Corinthians, wounds caused by his discipline.

Another reason for this lengthy introduction is that Paul was a very emotional person. He was a person strong in his emotion in a proper way. Although he was restricted by the Spirit when he was rebuking the Corinthian believers, he was still strong. For example, in 1 Corinthians 4:21 he asks, "What do you want? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of meekness?" These words indicate that he was strong in his emotion. When Paul was pouring oil into the wounds and binding them up, he exercised his emotion and released it in a very positive way. Thus, he needed a longer time to express his emotion.

Verse 3 reveals Paul's emotion: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassions and God of all encouragement." Paul's reference to affliction, suffering, and encouragement in verses 4 and 5 also indicates that he was emotional. It seems to me that Paul could have condensed these three verses into one sentence and said, "Dear Corinthian brothers, since I have been encouraged by God, I would now encourage

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

- ☉ Fri, Jan 20 - Lord's Day, Jan 22
YP Winter Getaway
- ☉ Fri, Feb 17 - Lord's Day, Feb 19
International Chinese-speaking Conference, Anaheim

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

8 TH Lord's Day	9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts
10 TH Tuesday	7:30-8:30pm Prayer meeting by districts
12 TH Thursday	10:00-11:00am Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3
13 TH Friday	Evening Small groups in the homes
15 TH Lord's Day	9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts

This Week's Truth Pursuit—*Life-Study of 2 Corinthians*

Message #:	Message 1	Message 2
Title:	Introduction (1)	Introduction (2)
Scriptures:	2 Cor. 1:1-11	2 Cor. 1:12-14
Verses to Pray-read:	2 Cor. 1:2-3—"Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassions and God of all comfort;"	2 Cor. 1:12—" For our boasting is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in singleness and sincerity of God, not in fleshly wisdom but in the grace of God, we have conducted ourselves in the world, and more abundantly toward you."
Radio Msg:	1	2

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

MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

(continued from page 1)

you." But because Paul was very emotional, he wrote in a way that seems repetitious. In verses 6, 7, and 8 he continues to speak of suffering, affliction, and encouragement. Because Paul was emotional, he needed the opportunity to release his emotion positively.

Another reason for this long introduction is that the Corinthians were very complicated. On the one hand, they liked Paul; on the other hand, they were somewhat unhappy with him. He used this long introduction to resolve their complications and calm them down so that they could receive his word.

—Message 1, *Life-Study of 2 Corinthians*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☉ YP Winter Getaway
 Our YP Winter Getaway this year will be from January 20-22, 2017. We would like to encourage the young people and any parents and/or family members of the young people to sign up today. This "family time" of ours is really sweet and we don't want anyone who would like to come to miss this time. You can sign up on the website at IrvineYP.com.
 —The YP serving ones