

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

January 7, 2018

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Morning Revival

HWMR—The Recovery of the Church,
Week 5
(2017 Fall ITERO)

Bible Reading Schedule

(text and footnotes)

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	676-677	62
Tuesday	678-679	63
Wednesday	680-681	64
Thursday	682-683	65
Friday	684-685	66
Saturday	686-687	67

Truth Pursuit

Review and catch-up

Oak Glen Project

Due Date	Goal	%
12/31/2017	\$820,000	100%
Actual Contributions		
As Of	Amount	
1/6/2018	\$744,297.43	

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: Distribution of Ministry Literature in the National Capital Region (NCR) of New Delhi, India

The churches in NCR, Rhema, and Amana are coordinating for this distribution in the month of January 2018. The distribution will be among the Christian groups, seekers, leaders, and pastors in NCR. The nature of distribution will be a Combing Distribution. The word Combing Distribution is borrowed from the Combing Operation in an Army, meaning, joint operations done by allies for cleansing an area. Basically, this will be a coordination of the churches in NCR and the distribution entities (Amana and Rhema) to comb through NCR with the burden:

1. to introduce, distribute, and sell the ministry books,
 2. to give a taste of the ministry to all the believers,
 3. to minister the ministry using the ministry books to all seeking believers, especially the pastors and leaders of all the groups, and,
 4. to gain genuine seekers whom the Lord has reserved as His remnants for His testimony.
- ☉ Pray for the Lord's presence, blessing, leading, and speaking and that God's people will be fed with the rich pasture of the riches of Christ and be led into the one flock of the one Shepherd.

National: The Lord's Spread in N. America

In January and February of 2018, trainees from the Full-time Training in Anaheim will join local saints in 22 cities to go out to preach the gospel and minister Christ to people for the Lord's spread in North America. These are the 22 cities: **United States** Manassas, VA; Charleston, SC; Clemson, SC; Orlando, FL; Kalamazoo, MI; South Bend, IN; El Paso, TX; Laredo, TX; Lawrence, KS; Everett, WA; West Richland, WA; Chico, CA; Clovis, CA; Folsom, CA; Morgan Hill, CA; Reno, NV **Canada** Hamilton, Ontario; Kitchener, Ontario; Lethbridge, Alberta; Ottawa, Ontario; St. Catharines, Ontario; Windsor, Ontario.

- ☉ Pray for the many preparations still to be made, including team formation, coordination with local saints, and the securing of venues for distributing free Bibles and books.
- ☉ Pray that the brooding Spirit would go before the saints that the hearts of many would be prepared to receive the word.

MINISTRY PORTION

LABORING ON CHRIST SO THAT WE MAY HAVE SOMETHING OF CHRIST TO BRING TO GOD

In coming to the tent of meeting, we should not come empty-handed, but we should come with something of Christ. Leviticus 1:2 says, "When anyone of you brings an offering to Jehovah, you shall bring your offering from the cattle, of the herd or of the flock." Notice the words "brings" and "shall bring." The Hebrew word for bring here means to bring near, to bring something to someone's presence. Further, the word implies presenting, offering.

Suppose an Israelite who had inherited a portion of the good land was a loose and lazy person, not tilling the ground or sowing seed and watering. At the time of harvest, such a person would not have anything to reap. As a result, he would not have anything to bring to the feast; he would come empty-handed. Like the foolish virgins in Matthew 25, who wanted to borrow oil from the wise virgins, a lazy Israelite might have tried to borrow or to buy from others something to offer to God.

Today many of the saints are like this. They are loose and lazy and do not labor on Christ, in Christ, with Christ, and for Christ. Paul, however, was different. He said that he strived, struggled (Col. 1:28-29), labored (1 Cor. 15:10), and even fought for Christ. Paul was a busy person; he labored more than all the other apostles, yet it was not he but the grace of God that was with him. Like Paul, we need to labor on Christ that we may have something of Christ to present to God.

Of course, in ourselves and by ourselves we are nothing and we can do nothing. We surely must depend on the rain from the heavens. Suppose the heavens send rain, yet we do not labor. What would happen then? We would reap nothing of Christ, and thus we would have nothing of Christ to bring to God. We need to labor on Christ that we may be able to bring something of Christ to God. This is not a matter of doctrine concerning Christ as the burnt offering but a matter of experience related to offering Christ to God.

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Friday, Jan 19 - Lord's Day, Jan 21
YP Winter Getaway, Oak Glen, 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

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

MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

The Hebrew word that is translated as "offering" in Leviticus 1:2, the word *corban*, means a gift or a present. What we bring to the presence of God becomes a gift, a present. If we would have a present for God, we need to labor on Christ and struggle, strive, and fight for Christ. To labor on Christ as the good land is to till the ground, to sow the seed, to water the seed, and to take care of the crop. This is to work, to toil, diligently as a farmer. Second Timothy 2:6 indicates that we are farmers, the most diligent and industrious of people. As farmers, we need to labor on Christ. If we labor on Christ, we shall have something of Christ as the burnt offering to be a present for God.

SLAUGHTERING THE BURNT OFFERING

The way of offering the burnt offering is a demonstration of our experience of Christ; it is a demonstration of how we have experienced Christ's experience. The way of offering is thus both a demonstration of our experience of Christ's experience and of how we have experienced Christ's experience.

"He shall slaughter the young bull before Jehovah" (Lev. 1:5a). This indicates that as the burnt offering Christ was slaughtered. Being slaughtered was Christ's personal experience when He was on earth. As lovers of Christ who would take Christ as our burnt offering, we need to experience His being slaughtered. Have you ever been slaughtered? Have you ever experienced Christ's being slaughtered? Have you ever made Christ's experience of being slaughtered your experience? We need to make Christ's experience of being slaughtered our experience.

We should have this experience in our married life. Suppose a brother's wife is very strong and insistent with him. What should he do? Instead of arguing with her, he should experience Christ's experience of being slaughtered.

Consider the picture presented in the Gospels of the Lord Jesus standing before Pilate, who was about to make the final judgment concerning His crucifixion. The Lord was handed over to evil men who then brought Him to the place of slaughter. In this situation the Lord Jesus did not resist. If we have the real experience of Christ's being slaughtered, we shall not resist being led to the

slaughter by our husband or wife. Instead of resisting, we shall allow our husband or wife to put us on the cross.

If we experience Christ's being slaughtered, we shall come to the Lord's table and praise the Lord, perhaps with tears, saying, "Lord, thank You for giving me the opportunity to experience Your being slaughtered. How sweet it was to be one with You in being led to the slaughter!" This is to offer Christ to God as our burnt offering. This is also a demonstration of how we have experienced Christ in His experience of being slaughtered.

If we in the churches have this experience, there will be no quarreling or fighting but only the experience of being brought to the slaughter. At the Lord's table there will be many praises, perhaps offered with tears, to the Lord for giving us opportunities to experience Christ's being slaughtered.

Sometimes we reason with the brothers or with our spouse. Whenever we do this we turn away from the cross. Reasoning is nothing but a turning away from being slaughtered. If this is our situation, then at the Lord's table there will be no praises to the Lord. Whatever we say in our prayer or praise will mean nothing because we have not had the real experience of Christ in His sufferings and, hence, we have no burnt offering. In such a case we are not absolutely for God; neither do we take Christ as our burnt offering, experiencing what He experienced in His being slaughtered. This is the reason that at the Lord's table we have repeated, common, and customary songs, prayers, and praises, without the real experience of appreciation and presentation of the Christ whom we have experienced.

If we experience what Christ experienced in being slaughtered, there will be much praise offered to the Lord at the Lord's table, but there will not be any quarreling in the church life or in our married life. Certain ones may oppose us or criticize us, but we shall not fight with them. Without saying anything, we shall simply allow others to lead us to the cross and slaughter us. If this is our experience, we shall have a large burnt offering to bring to God, and we shall have much praise in the tent of meeting. What we present to God will be a demonstration of how we have experienced Christ's experience of being slaughtered.

—Message 4, *Life-Study of Leviticus*

YP WINTER GETAWAY ANNOUNCEMENT

The YP Winter Getaway is approaching! This special time for the young people to retreat to the mountains for family fellowship and blending will be from January 19-21 in Oak Glen.

The deadline to register is TODAY, January 7, 2018. You can register online at <http://www.irvineyp.com/winter-getaway>. The registration fee is \$110 per person and an optional

hoodie is available for \$20. We hope all the young people can join this sweet time!

The YP Serving Ones