

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

January 28, 2018

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Morning Revival

HWMR—*The Genuine Church Life, Week 2*
(2017 Thanksgiving Conference)

Bible Reading Schedule

(text and footnotes)

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	712-713	80
Tuesday	714-715	81
Wednesday	716-717	82
Thursday	718-719	83
Friday	720-721	84
Saturday	722-723	85

Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of 1 Peter
Messages 5-6

Oak Glen Project

Due Date	Goal	%
12/31/2017	\$820,000	100%
Actual Contributions		
As Of	Amount	
1/27/2018	\$744,497.43	

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: Gospelize, Truthize and Churchize North America, Canada and Puerto Rico

FTTA trainees are traveling to 38 cities to gospelize, truthize, and churchize. They are joining local and visiting saints to distribute free Bibles, ministry books, gospel tracts, and brochures. The 2018 GTCA cities include:

In Canada: Hamilton/St. Catharines, Ontario; Kitchener/Waterloo/Wilmot/Guelph/Alymer/Dresden, Ontario; Lethbridge/Calgary, Alberta; Ottawa, Ontario; Montreal, Quebec; Windsor/Toronto, Ontario

In the US: Everett/West Richland, Washington; Chico/Folsom, California; Clovis/Merced/Madera, California; Morgan Hill/Monterey, California; Reno, Nevada; Davis, California; El Paso, Texas; Laredo, Texas; Lawrence, Kansas; Clemson, South Carolina; Atlanta/Athens/Kennesaw, Georgia; Orlando, Florida; Manassas/Richmond, Virginia; Baltimore, Maryland; Wilmington, Delaware; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Kalamazoo, Michigan; South Bend, Indiana

Additional teams of trainees will join saints in cities throughout British Columbia, California, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Alabama, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Florida, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Illinois, Ohio,

Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Puerto Rico for gospel outreach through the giving away of Bibles, books, and BfA materials. Please pray for:

- ☉ The Lord to open the door for the Word that the teams could freely speak the mystery of Christ.
- ☉ The brooding Spirit to prepare the hearts of the people in every place.
- ☉ Pray especially for the cities in California and Nevada that the word going forth will prosper in feeding and enlightening the sons of peace and strengthening and raising up the Lord's testimony in these cities: Chico/Folsom, CA; Clovis/Merced/Madera, CA; Morgan Hill/Monterey, CA. Davis, CA; and Reno, NV.

Raising up the Lord's Testimony in Amsterdam and Rotterdam in the Netherlands

There is a burden to raise up the Lord's testimony in two additional cities in the Netherlands. For the advancement of the Lord's move in the Netherlands, the saints there are burdened to raise up the Lord's testimony in two major cities—Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

MINISTRY PORTION

DOCTRINE CONFIRMED BY EXPERIENCE

First Peter 1:2 says, "According to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ." This verse contains matters that are deep both in doctrine and in experience. One of these deep matters is the sanctification of the Spirit; a second is the obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ. According to this verse, the blood of Jesus Christ is the object both of obedience and of sprinkling. Hence, the obedience is of the blood, and the sprinkling also is of the blood. It is not easy for us to understand how obedience can be of the blood. Furthermore, it is not easy to have a proper understanding of the sprinkling of the blood.

Recently I have spent much time to study the writings of Peter again. In years past I did not realize that Peter, a Galilean fisherman and an evangelist, as indicated by the book of Acts, could be so deep in doctrine and experience. The Epistles of Peter are a composition of doctrines confirmed by experience. Peter's writings are mainly on experience, yet the experience is based on doctrines.

Humanly speaking, Peter did not have a high education. He was not nearly as learned as Paul was. Nevertheless, the vocabulary used by Peter in his writings indicates that he was deep both in doctrine and in experience.

THE SANCTIFICATION OF THE SPIRIT

Paul in his Epistles indicates clearly that the sanctification of the Spirit is of two aspects. The first aspect is positional sanctification, and the second is dispositional sanctification. But Paul does not tell us that the sanctification of the Spirit positionally and dispositionally is of two periods of time, the first period before we were justified and regenerated, and the second period afterward. Peter, however, does refer to the two periods of time related to the sanctification of the Spirit.

According to the general understanding of the sanctification of the Spirit held by Christians today, first God the Father selected us, then Christ redeemed us, and then the Spirit sanctifies us positionally and dispositionally. I have had this understanding of

(Continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Friday, Feb 16 - Lord's Day, Feb 18
International Chinese-speaking Conference, Taipei, Taiwan
- ❖ Friday, Apr 13 - Lord's Day, Apr 15
ITERO, Anaheim, 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

28TH Lord's Day	❖ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts
30TH Tuesday	❖ 7:30-8:30pm Prayer meeting by districts
1ST Thursday	❖ 10:00-11:00am Sisters prayer meeting at Hall 3
2ND Friday	❖ Evening Small groups in the homes
3RD Saturday	❖ 6:30-9:00pm Young People's Meeting
4TH Lord's Day	❖ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts

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

<i>Message #:</i>	Message 5	Message 6
<i>Title:</i>	The Full Salvation of the Triune God and Its Issues (2)	The Full Salvation of the Triune God and Its Issues (3)
<i>Scriptures:</i>	1 Peter 1: 5-9	1 Peter 1: 5-9
<i>Verses to Pray-read:</i>	1 Peter 1:5—"Who are being guarded by the power of God through faith unto a salvation ready to be revealed at the last time;"	1 Peter 1:7—"So that the proving of your faith, much more precious than of gold which perishes though it is proved by fire, may be found unto praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;"
<i>Radio Msg:</i>	4	5

LSM Radio Broadcasts: <http://www.lsmradio.com/audio/1peter.html>

MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

sanctification for many years. The messages I have given concerning sanctification also have pointed out that after the Father selected us and the Son redeemed us, the Spirit comes to sanctify us. But in 1:2 Peter says that sanctification comes after the Father's selection and before Christ's redemption. According to this verse, the sanctification of the Spirit is unto the obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Christ. Surely, this indicates that the sanctification of the Spirit precedes the redemption of Christ. As I prayed over this verse and studied it, I was enlightened to see that not only Christ's redemption needs to be applied by the Spirit, but the Father's selection also needs to be applied by the Spirit. Without the application through the Holy Spirit, how could God's selection have anything to do with us in a practical, experiential way? God's selection has reached us through the Spirit's application. This application is what Peter means by the sanctification of the Spirit.

In eternity past God selected us. But how could this selection be applied to us? In order for it to be applied, there is the need of the Spirit's application. We all can testify of this from our experience. We were wandering on earth, perhaps as those who never had a thought concerning God. But one day the "wind" of the Spirit "blew" us to a place where we heard the preaching of the gospel. While we were listening to the preaching of the gospel, faith was infused into us. In this way God's selection was applied to us. The next thing to be applied was the redemption of Christ. In this sense the sanctification of the Spirit preceded our experience of Christ's redemption.

In 2 Thessalonians 2:13 Paul says, "But we ought to thank God always concerning you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you from the beginning unto salvation in sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth." As far as sanctification is concerned, this verse is all-inclusive. Paul says here that God's salvation is in the sanctification of the

Spirit. This means that the part played in salvation by the Father and the Son are in the sanctification of the Spirit. Therefore, without the sanctification of the Spirit, there would be no way to apply what the Father and the Son have done for us. What the Father and the Son have done for us is applied to us by the Spirit. Paul refers to this application as sanctification of the Spirit. The salvation of the Triune God, therefore, is carried out in the sanctification of the Spirit.

—Message 4, *Life-Study of 1 Peter*