

WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP

August 4, 2019

The Weekly Newsletter of the Church in Irvine

Morning Revival

HWMR: The Experience of Christ
(Memorial Day Conference 2019)—
Week 1

Bible Reading Schedule

(text and footnotes)

	OT Pages	NT Page
Monday	1588-1589	518
Tuesday	1590-1591	519
Wednesday	1592-1593	520
Thursday	1594-1595	521
Friday	1596-1597	522
Saturday	1598-1599	523

Truth Pursuit

Life-Study of Mark, messages 31-32

Community Gospel Time

Lord's Days at 2pm at Hall 3

Oak Glen Project

Due Date	Goal	%
3/31/2019	\$996,000	98%
Actual Contributions		
As Of	Amount	
07/20/19	\$975,946.06	

DETAILED PRAYER BURDENS

International: European Young People's Conference in Male Ciche, Poland

- ⊗ Pray for the lasting impact of the European Young People's Conference on all attendees, and that the enjoyment they gained and the help they received would be sustained in their normal church life back in their localities.
- ⊗ Pray that the parents would see their vital function in raising up their own children in this evil age.
- ⊗ Pray for the strengthening of the young people throughout Europe, that they would be companionized and built up to stand as a strong testimony for the Lord in their schools and be gospel seeds to gain a new generation for Christ and the church on that continent.

Germany

Through the prayers of the Body, a purchase contract has been signed for the Church in Berlin's new meeting hall!

- ⊗ Pray that all the payments required by the contract will be made on time so that the church will obtain the title to the property in November 2019.

Sri Lanka

- ⊗ Pray for the weekly propagation in Japura University, and that the Lord will gain more seeking ones and establish Bible-reading groups.

Local: Irvine

- ⊗ Pray that the saints in Irvine would preach the gospel of the kingdom and disciple those from many nations right here in our communities, for the spread and development of the kingdom of God.
- ⊗ Pray for the continuing outreach to the incoming freshmen at UCI during the ongoing Student Parent Orientation Program ("SPOP") sessions in the month of August, and that a good number of these new students will make solid connections with the saints even before the fall quarter begins.
- ⊗ Pray that the young people will continue to read the Bible and gather with their companions during the remainder of the summer to stay positive and vital when school begins.

MINISTRY PORTION

BLESSING THE YOUNG CHILDREN

In 10:14-15 the Lord Jesus says, "Allow the young children to come to Me; do not forbid them, for of such is the kingdom of God. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a young child shall by no means enter into it." Having said this, the Lord took the young children in His arms and blessed them (v. 16). We see from this that the Lord Jesus treasured the young children and embraced them. By taking the young children in His arms and blessing them, the Lord was indicating to His followers that they should not become old, that they all should be as young children in order to enter into the kingdom.

In 9:38 John, one of the sons of thunder, said to the Lord, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name who does not follow us, and we forbade him, because he was not following us." The fact that John forbade someone from casting out demons in the

Lord's name was an indication that John had become old, spiritually speaking.

The disciples of John the Baptist also became old. They followed John for not more than three years. But even in that short period of time they became old and eventually formed a religion. The same thing in principle may happen among us today. I am concerned that oldness is creeping into the Lord's recovery. Once oldness comes in, we shall no longer be fresh day by day.

We may use the gathering of manna in the Old Testament as an illustration of our need to be new and fresh every day. The principle with the gathering of manna was that it was gathered one day at a time. Except for the Sabbath, any manna that was left over for the following day would stink and bring forth worms. This portrays our need to be refreshed and renewed daily. Day by day we should become newer and fresher.

(continued on page 2)

Upcoming Events

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

<i>Message #:</i>	31	32
<i>Title:</i>	The Move of the Slave-Savior's Gospel Service (15)	The Move of the Slave-Savior's Gospel Service (16)
<i>Scriptures:</i>	Mark 10:1-31	Mark 10:32-52
<i>Verses to Pray-read:</i>	Mark 10:14—"...Allow the little children to come to Me. Do not forbid them, for of such is the kingdom of God.	Mark 10:39—"...And Jesus said to them, The cup which I drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you shall be baptized."
<i>Radio Msg:</i>	26	27

LSM Radio Broadcasts: <https://www.lsmradio.com/audio/mark.html>

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

4TH Lord's Day	☪ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts
6TH Tuesday	☪ 7:30-8:30pm Prayer meeting by districts
8TH Thursday	☪ 10:00-11:00am Sisters' prayer meeting at Hall 3
9TH Friday	☪ Evening Small groups in the homes
11TH Lord's Day	☪ 9:30am-12:00pm Lord's table and prophesying meetings by districts

MINISTRY PORTION (CONT'D)

(continued from page 1)

I believe that the truth in the Gospel of Mark can be presented in an even fresher way than in these messages. We, of course, do not change the truth. However, we can have a fresher way of presenting the truth. For example, although the earth remains the same, the means of transportation has improved. In a similar way, God's truth does not change, but the way to present this truth should be newer and fresher all the time.

God's kingdom has come in a new way. It was necessary for the Pharisees and scribes to be reborn in order to enter into the kingdom of God. What does it mean to be reborn? To be reborn is to be renewed. Because oldness has nothing to do with God's kingdom, we must be reborn, renewed, in order to enter into the kingdom.

A great problem among Christians today is their oldness. Many turn to old expositions or cling to the old teachings of their denomination. Lutherans, for instance, may check matters by what Luther says. No doubt, justification by faith is a basic item of the truth. However, with respect to this truth we need to be renewed and refreshed.

In one of the foregoing messages we spoke of Christ as our entire, universal replacement. Before that message was given, I had never used such an expression. It was while I was speaking that this expression came forth. I do not know of any other expression that is so helpful in conveying the truth of Christ's replacing us. I use this as an example of not staying in our old knowledge.

We all should be new, and the teaching among us should also be according to new light. We have seen from chapter seven that the Lord Jesus is a Surgeon operating on our heart and exposing its condition. Is this not a new, fresh understanding of the Lord's dealing with our heart?

I do not want to be old in any way. Neither do I want to be limited by old ways of expressing the truth in the Word of God. Be-

fore 1949, we never spoke about being one spirit with the Lord, and we did not use the term "life-giving Spirit." Further, we never mentioned anything about the sevenfold, intensified Spirit. All these are new expressions among us.

Even the matter of calling on the name of the Lord is new, as far as our practice is concerned. When we were in China, we did not emphasize calling on the Lord's name. Some claim that I invented this. I did not invent calling on the Lord's name. At most, I discovered this matter in the Bible. As early as Genesis 4 men began to call on the name of the Lord. By the Lord's mercy, He has used us to discover this matter, but we surely did not invent it. A great many saints have been blessed by calling on the Lord's name. But even our calling should be new and fresh.

In a previous message we saw that prayer is actually a matter of "not I, but Christ." Have you ever heard that prayer is a matter of not I, but Christ? I can testify that this understanding of prayer is new to me. This is a further illustration of our need to be new, young, and fresh.

Be assured that in the future more new things will come forth, and more striking terms and expressions will be used. Through new terms and expressions we may receive more light and grace. Therefore, let us not keep our oldness, but daily be renewed and refreshed.

—*Life-Study of Mark*, message 31