

Thursday



Don't Forsake Me

"My soul is extremely weak. I am very distressed. I feel my sins and God forsakes me. I have no confidence even in praying. Evil thoughts often come out of my heart. My family issues are not smooth and the atmosphere of my whole family is very poor. My kid is not happy in the kindergarten. I have felt some kind of fear and depression that I have never had before. I even have the idea of suicide. I feel that being alive is meaningless. My heart always struggles with two voices. I am sick and only God can save me. Ask God to give grace to such a poor person like me and let me see the future. Do not forsake me. Please help and pray for me. I cannot stand it!"

(Sister Lily)

✚ Please ask God to guard Sister Lily. Pray that the Lord Jesus reigns in her heart so that she would not be controlled by negative thoughts and would get rid of sins. Also pray that she can gain the peace and power from God so as to face her problems.

Major Traffic Accident

A major traffic accident occurred at a toll booth on a highway in Lanzhou, Gansu Province in the evening of November 3. A heavy vehicle which was suspected to have brake malfunction collided with 31 vehicles which were waiting to pay there; 15 people died and 44 were injured. The police said that the driver involved had frequently stepped on the brake making the brake system out of order. The location was a traffic black spot where toll booth was at the end of a 17-kilometer downhill road section. If a vehicle was out of control, this would cause serious casualties. The injured were sent to Lanzhou Hospital of the People's Liberation Army. Official data showed that 14 people were killed on the spot, 46 injured and 22 discharged after treatment. The driver involved was also slightly injured. He had been arrested for investigation.

("Xinhua News", November 4, 2018)

✚ Please pray for the families of the dead and wounded. Pray that someone around are willing to care, comfort and help them. Also pray for the local transportation department and the officials that improvements can be made to reduce the occurrence of these accidents.

Friday



Where is Jesus

"I have no money to support my family. I have had depression and want to commit suicide. I have believed in the Lord for many years. Where is Jesus? I have been unemployed for more than ten years. Jesus, why do you forsake me? When I was young, you abandoned me. I was admitted to a specialized secondary school in 1980. I started working in a state-owned enterprises as a steel-making professional in 1984. But then I was arrested in a revival conference and the Public Security Bureau informed my company and I was dismissed. Anyhow I am helpless. I have a younger brother who has been already admitted to a psychiatric hospital because of a blow by his divorce. Moreover, my mother has passed away. I hope that God is the god of the alive, not the god of the dead!"

(A brother)

✚ Ask God to open a way for the brother and give him an opportunity to work so that he can support his family. Please pray that the brother can taste the kindness and love of God, and experience that He is a true and living God.

Dong's need

According to the National Bureau of Statistics of the People's Republic of China, Dong ranks the tenth of 55 ethnic minorities in China. Dong people live in provinces such as Guizhou, Hunan and Guangxi. Its population is about 3,000,000 and there are about 3,000 believers. Dong people have a very long history, but they don't have their own characters. Cultural traditions, customs, and social etiquette are all passed from generation to generation via their songs. A folk proverb says, "Three treasures of the Dong culture are drum tower, big song (folk chorus) and flower bridge." The big song is the cultural cradle which has been passed from generation to generation. There are Dong believers who are called to rise up. They are willing to use the new media to preach the gospel and seek the Lord's will as to whether they should participate in the gospel broadcasting.

✚ Ask the Lord to lead the gospel ministry for Dong. Please pray that God will show His will as to whether this gospel broadcasting ministry can be carried out in the near future.

Saturday



Worry about Mother

"Mother has advanced gastric cancer and she believed in God because of the illness. She is 63 years old and has gone through repeated hospitalization. Despite the Lord's healing on her, she has not thoroughly repented. Other family members are indifferent to our belief in Jesus. Mother is hospitalized today for an acute stomachache. I am intensely afraid of losing her. I fear that her demise would disgrace the name of God, for not worthy of being a Christian. Mother is willing to listen to gospel and others' testimonies as well as praying with me. She is however, not reading the Bible, not going to church nor praying to God herself. Sometimes I argue with her, which always ended up in conflicts. I am too impatient perhaps. In fact, we rarely attend church gatherings: it takes 40 minutes to drive to the church, but we don't have a car. Our spiritual life is thus hard to establish."

(Sister Wu)

✚ May the Lord strengthen Sister Wu's faith and ensure her that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law! May sister have patience while leading her mother to know God; have wisdom to arrange transportation for church congregation where they can build up their spiritual life.

Gospel Broadcasting

1 **Broadcasting Ministry:** Thanks to the Heavenly Father's protection. Our broadcasting keeps normal. Our platforms via the internet and various new media are basically smooth. Since the beginning of this year, the users of various media platforms have grown considerably, with an average of more than 310,000 people per month! The audience's life has been changed and they have gained salvation because of the program messages. This has made us very delighted.

2 **Local Broadcasting:** Our program "Dance with Sickness and Disabilities" has been awarded "Top 10 Programs" by the RTHK-Community Involvement Broadcasting Service. The efforts of our co-workers have been recognized! We hope that the audience will get information of biblical values through our local programs.

China News and Prayer

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Dear Warriors in Christ,

"Waiting in prayer is the disciplined refusal to act before God acts." (Eugene H. Peterson)

The famous quote of Rev Peterson has deeply impressed me. Yes, prayer is a discipline that a Christian must strictly observe. We often face a great temptation to solve problems with our own wisdom and actions while dealing with problems and facing challenges. The discipline of prayers is to remind us that we should come to God via prayers and seek His guidance. It is because God still sits enthroned when the flood is overflowing; everything is still in His control, and He is not out of control! It is alright if we keep our mind on waiting for Him, and following His guidance and commands. It is because victory or loss never rests with us, but with God!

Our "China Prayer Meeting" was held especially for the churches amid "cold wind" in the evening of October 30. A total of 77 brothers and sisters came together to pray for the mainland churches which are facing the increasingly severe pressure. Here I especially list some prayer items to invite you to join this prayer ministry and to raise our praying hands for the compatriots together; and to follow God's footsteps after God's action.

Pray for those in authority: This is the apostle's teaching in 1 Timothy (2:1-2). Ask the Lord to change the hearts of those in power to make them do what is right in the eyes of God!

Pray for the church pastors: Ask the Lord to look after the churches which are facing challenges. Also ask the Lord to give the pastors the confidence and courage, and the heavenly wisdom to continue with their pastoral services.

Pray for the pressured believers: The believers in the Mainland are facing the impact of violent winds and waves. Ask the Lord to strengthen their faith and love so that they can live faithfully for the sake of the Lord and show a good testimony which cannot be forbidden by the laws.

Wish you a deeper love for the Lord!

Rev Raymond Lo
Executive Director



FAR EAST BROADCASTING CO LTD

Phone: (852) 3717-1818 Fax: (852) 3717-1919

Website: www.febchk.org

Address: 10/F, Midas Plaza, 1 Tai Yau Street,
San Po Kong, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Sunday



Filling the Gap

"My dad, who has a bad relationship with us, was yelling to divorce my mom last year. The crisis was settled grudgingly but we, as their children, wonder what role to take over the matter. My mother is tired of my dad, as well as their marriage; but grandma's feeling concerns her very much. Except father, everyone in the family has believed in Jesus. Father claims that he is the God, as Jehovah is translated as 'I am'; and God is in his heart, father therefore becomes the representative of the Lord, he declares. Father would never admit his mistakes and my mother seems to be extremely exhausted. In fact, my childhood was also very unpleasant as my father beat me a lot. Thank God for giving me a good sister to make up for this flaw."

(Audience "Heart Keeper")

- ✚ Pray for the family of "Heart Keeper" so that his father would introspect the hurts he made. May the Lord keep her mother strong and after all the hardship in life can she experience the deepest love of the Lord.

Chaos of We-media

According to CCTV's report, mainland's official media has recently besieged the We-media (personalized media) with accusations of unbearable chaos involving those proliferated rumors and money-grubbing-related. Su Ren, Deputy Director of the Cyberspace Administration of China pointed out about the six-major chaos of We-media which include vulgar pornography and "Clickbait" etc. The Cyberspace Administration of China will, as implied, coordinate the relevant departments to jointly conduct graded and categorized administration of We-media on a localized and comprehensive basis. Rectifying measures on We-media in particular will be introduced and severe punishments will be imposed violated the laws and regulations.

("SINA News Finance", November 10, 2018)

- ✚ May the Lord help curb the unrestrained influx of We-media to enter the rapidly developing online payment system. Rectification on their operation is inevitable and punishments should be imposed on online fraud cases. May children learn to use network-related information in a controlled manner.

Monday



Open my Heart

"In order to get away from home, I went out to work at 17. Things were not going as planned though; so, every time when I felt tired, I would return home, hanging there for a few days and left again. This time is much different: I have converted to Christ! I have peace in my heart. May the Lord open and strengthen my heart so that I can settle down and live a purposeful life. I am currently 37, fully tired out and confused. I know that He is here, but I am so weak to lift my spirits. I feel sorry but helpless on my apathy to life. Thank God that I am fond of listening to all your radio programs. Having been home for almost a year, I listened to your programs at night to help me fall asleep."

(Sister Yang)

- ✚ May the Lord strengthen sister and comfort her not to lose hope or passion to live well, despite being a single at her middle-age. Pray that the Lord rekindle her enthusiasm in living a purpose driven life, both earthly as and spiritually.

Tongzhou: Beijing Deputy Center

In 2012, at the 11th Party Congress in Beijing, the Beijing Municipal Committee decided to build a fully functional Beijing Deputy Center in Tongzhou. This is a major strategic decision: package Beijing into a cosmopolitan city with lavish Chinese characteristics to help promote the scientific development of the capital. Shifting some of its administrative functions out of the city center will enable Beijing to address her "urban ills" by better spatial restructuring and redeveloping the city. The move is part of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei integrated plan. According to reports, the planned Tongzhou will have a working population of 600,000 to 800,000 who mostly takes up residence in there. The moving of offices to Tongzhou Deputy Centre has started recently, including those of the Beijing Municipal Party Committee, the Municipal Government, the Municipal People's Congress and the Municipal People's Association.

("Beijing News", November 9, 2018)

- ✚ Pray for the construction of the Beijing Deputy Center, so that the ills of the capital can be removed on the one hand and a green city for the benefit of the people will be created on the other hand.

Tuesday



Weak and Benighted

"I am weak and benighted. All through the marriage of longer than a decade, I have been living in inferiority, grievances, bitterness and hatred. Despite the comforts and prayers from many of my church fellows, I failed to get over the sufferings. My physical and spiritual problems also lead me to dislike praying or reading the Bible; if I do, I do it perfunctorily only. I am like an orphan, lonely and helpless... I have concealed and repressed my fear from others in the workplace-a place I hate to go as the feeling of lowliness is always there haunting me! I therefore very distressed, disregarding that many have told me to let go. I don't know how, and I really can't!"

(Sister Jiang)

- ✚ Pray for God's healing on Sister Jiang: She is spiritually depressed and psychologically feeling inferior and repressed. May she experience the truly presence of the Lord by embracing the love of God.

Ecological Protection

The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge was officially opened in October, and the number of Chinese white dolphins listed as national first-class protected animals in the nearby waters has been receiving much attention. The Bridge Authority recently said that the number of white dolphins in the Mainland has not decreased. However, the monitoring report commissioned by the Hong Kong Agriculture and Fisheries Department showed that the number of white dolphins in the waters of Hong Kong fell by more than 40% to 47 after construction. The monitoring report of mainland Chinese institutions also showed that the number of white dolphins in the Mainland fell by 20% to more than 900 after the construction of the bridge. It is known that since 1997, the South China Sea Fisheries Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences has been monitoring the number of white dolphins in the Pearl River Estuary and the monitoring method is the same as that of the Hong Kong Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

(Editor's Take, Ming Pao, November 12, 2018)

- ✚ Please pray for the rapid exploration and development of Chinese societies, so that the authorities would pay attention to the protection of China's natural ecology.

Wednesday



Love the Lord More Deeply

"Rev Stephen Tong Tjong Eng said, 'A person's understanding of the degree of pain in the Christ's death is the possibility of the degree of he can love the Lord.' I am willing to love the Lord more deeply, but my love is never deep enough. My understanding of the degree of pain in the Christ's death is truly inadequate. Sometimes I wonder if I should encounter sufferings in order to understand more. But I dare not ask for sufferings. I know that sufferings will come sooner or later in this world. Perhaps no one really wants to suffer or asks for sufferings. I really miss my fiery spirit that I have had just after my rebirth and salvation!"

(Sister Lucy)

- ✚ Ask God to rekindle Lucy's passionate heart of loving the Lord. Also pray that she can put into practice God's commands by serving and loving people; and establish her close relationship with God, brothers and sisters in Christ; and devote her life to the Lord.

Bus Safety

On November 4, there was a dispute between a passenger and a bus driver in Hunan in which the former was arrested by the police for grabbing driver's steering wheel. Surveillance footage shows that after the bus started, an old man asked to get off the bus. Being rejected by the driver, the old man turned tempestuous and went to strike the driver's console and yanked his steering wheel. Fortunately, the bus was not in high speed or it may turn otherwise. A similar incident occurred in Jiangxi on November 2. A 65-year-old bus passenger was rejected by the driver when he asked to drop him in the middle of nowhere. He was furious and tried several times to seize the driver's wheel. The driver then stopped the car emergently to call police for help. While, in Chongqing a bus passenger had a fight with the driver, causing the bus to plunge into the river killing all 15 people in the bus.

("Daily News", November 5, 2018)

- ✚ Pray for the Lord's mercy, so that the violent behavior can be minimized; drivers of public transport can handle disputes properly and take passengers to their destination safely. It is hoped that severe sanctions of the law can make vigilant effect on law offenders.