

Thursday



## Mental Health

"After experiencing a terrible panic two years ago, I went to check to find out that I have got depression. For half a year now, I have been taking low dose of drugs, for stabilization. I told my seven-year-old son about my illness to seek his understanding. Recently, I found him very much attach to some of his favorite toys. I was later told that my son was craving for companions and they could help him into better sleep. Should I take my son to see doctor? After the inquiry, I underwent a psychological counseling therapy and now my situation has turned better."

(An Overseas Sister)

- ✚ May the Lord help this overseas sister continue her psychological counseling therapy to settle her melancholy on the one hand; and help understand the spiritual needs of her son on the other hand.

## Expired Honey Reused

It was disclosed that the Tong Ren Tang manufacturer recycled and reused expired honey. The Beijing Food and Drug Administration had been involved in the investigation. According to Jiangsu TV, the honey manufacturer of Beijing Tong Ren Tang, Yancheng Jinfeng Food Technology Company Ltd., recycled a large quantity of honey which had expired or was going to expire. The company claimed that "it was returned to beekeepers to raise bees". However, a reporter found that the returned honey, which was poured into large barrels, was sent to the ingredient warehouse. In October, the company also changed the date of honey production and illegally extended the shelf life. Tong Ren Tang said that its subsidiary company, Tong Ren Tang Bee Industry, was held accountable for poor supervision and oversight in the process of entrusting the production.

("The Beijing News Commentary", December 17, 2018)

- ✚ Honesty and trustworthiness are the basic requirement to establish a company. The current issue of food and drug safety has become a social pain spot. Please pray that the Lord will help the companies pay attention to their moral responsibility for consumers, cherish their brand honor and strengthen their maintenance of food safety.

Friday



## Spiritual Battle

"After getting married and having children, thankfully God called for me. I was entangled in Satan before and became extremely frustrated: I went to temples to burn incense; bought consecrated gourd hoping to break the curse. The situation however deteriorated day by day. I became lethargic during daytime and when I woke up at night I could hear and see strange things. A fellow aunt then took me to a nearby seminary. I burst into tears when I heard people singing hymns. Since then, joining the church's Saturday fellowship becomes the highlight of a week as they bring me joy and good sleep when I return home. But I am feeble again. Immersed in sin without repentance... until this morning in the dark, I was terribly disturbed by Satan again. Thank God that at the time I cried out for His salvation, all the evilness was over."

(Sister Wang)

- ✚ Pray for Sister Wang that the Lord will strengthen her mind when following in Jesus's footsteps. May sister experience the all mightiness of our Lord and by holding on to Him all evil disturbances perish.

## Audio Bible

There are many linguists who have spent a lot of painstaking efforts and years on doing translation of the Bible for Chinese ethnic minorities. They have also used their money and energy to publish the translated bibles. Recently, they produce audio version and put it on the Internet for people to download and disseminate. It is a beautiful missionary service. The New Testament bibles for the tribes of Liangshan Yi, Qianxi Yi, and Guizhou Black Miao and Kam have been uploaded. These include the text version with comparison of Chinese characters and the audio version. All two versions are very precious. These painstaking contributions can be used by more people to bless the ethnic minorities being ignored.

- ✚ Thank God for the achievements and efforts made by many experts over the years and for their unselfish dedication to publicly offer many translated versions of the Bible. Please pray that the Lord will let more Yi, Miao and Kam people hear the gospel and the Holy Words. Ask the Lord to bless the ministry of distributing the bibles.

Saturday



## Inharmonic Family

"I am 29 years old. I have believed in the Lord since my childhood. I have been married for one and a half year. My baby is four-month-old. I have been arguing with my husband because of our poor communication. My parents-in-law work in a foreign area. Moreover, my character makes me pursue everything perfect. But I feel that my husband is lazy. He does not seek advancement. He procrastinates when he does everything. He fails to take care of the family. My mother-in-law hurried back during the period I gave birth to my baby. But she left without taking care of me in the first month of my confinement. In addition, I was very sad and cried because of my mother-in-law's bad words and attitude. I still could not let go and my heart was full of bitterness after four months."

(A Sister, Anhui Province)

- ✚ Ask God to help the sister and her husband improve their ways of communication, and learn to how to understand and accept each other. Also ask the Holy Spirit to release the sister's bitterness against her mother-in-law in her heart, help them accept each other with love in the Lord, and remove all their contradictions and gaps.

## Gospel Broadcasting

- Broadcast Response:** The download rate of our online programs increased significantly by 40% in October, when compared with September! This was due to the development of mobile App and the use of WeChat applets on one hand. This was also probably due to the pressure faced by the Mainland churches in recent months on the other hand. Ask the Lord to maintain the smooth transmission of our programs on the Internet and via social media, and to protect our radio broadcast via short and medium waves.
- New Year Specials:** A number of special editions of different programs are produced during the New Year period. Pray that more listeners will be able to understand what God says to them through these programs at this festive time. Ask the Holy Spirit to soften their hearts so that the Words of God can sprout and grow in their hearts.

## China News and Prayer

Jan/Feb 2019



Dear Warriors in Christ,

"Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your footprints were not seen. You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron." (Psalm 77:19-20)

In times of trouble, doubts often come to my heart. "Will the Lord reject forever? Will He never show His favor again? Has His unfailing love vanished forever? Has His promise failed for all time? Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has He in anger withheld his compassion?" (Psalm 77:7-9)

Yes, we seem to have no way to see the road ahead completely and we cannot gain God's guidance in times of trouble. But let us think in prayers about the power that God has manifested in history, and about the miracles and work that He has done. He could lead millions of Israelites out of Egypt in the past. He can certainly lead us through the land of water and fire today, turning the Valley of Baka (Valley of Tears) into a spring of joy!

We are really empathetic to the sufferings and difficulties faced by the churches and believers in the Mainland. Let us persistently raise our praying hands and continuously intercede for them!

We hope that they all get comfort and hope from the Words of God:

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5)

"For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." (Psalm 100:5)

"But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." (Psalm 86:15)

"He will not always accuse, nor will He harbor His anger forever." (Psalm 103:9)

I hope that the Heavenly Father will increase your love for the Lord, the compatriots and the Lord's kingdom in the coming new year!

Rev Raymond Lo  
Executive Director



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Sunday



## Violence in Marriage

"I have been already married twice. My present husband is a man whose eyes focus on himself only. We have been living together since he was 39. In the first half of the year, he irritated me by having affairs with other women. He started abusing and beating me after he had bought a semi-trailer truck. I accepted my life as this I was thinking of my old age. Abusing me has become his habit. He violently beats me even when I utter just a word. His has elementary educational background. He has grown up amid beating and abusing by his parents. He never believes in God no matter what he has been told to. He just believes in what people of the world have said."

(Sister Ming)

- ⌘ Ask the Lord to choose her husband so that he will know the harm his violence has brought to his family. Also pray that the Lord will guard the sister and let her protect herself and have the wisdom to get along with her husband.

## Ride-hailing Safety

After successive hitchhiking related murders in Zhengzhou, Wenzhou and other places, a joint investigation was launched by various major government departments to examine the operation of nationwide online ride-hailing and hitch services, including Didi and seven other companies. The announcement came after inspection that there were severe flaws in Didi's online service with its security loopholes and leakage risk of passengers' information. The investigation team urged a halt of Didi's "hitch" function to let the company to look into the issues and fix loopholes. While Didi continues its safety assurance measures in the next six years, its hitchhike service will be suspended indefinitely, said the team. Didi agreed with the report and would sincerely rectify their problems.

("Beijing Daily", December 3, 2018)

- ⌘ Perhaps no one could imagine a riding platform, conceived purely in resource sharing, would create such a security hazard! Hope that the rectifying measures can fulfil a safe and effective operation mechanism so that the public can have some convenient and enjoyable ride-hailing services.

Monday



## The True God

"I am 41 years old, and married to my husband Chen for 19 years. We used to be an idolater family, but I have believed in the Lord Jesus for more than a year now. My husband despised me for my Christianity belief and even moved out as he claimed that we were not companions any more. His reaction, which never happened before, is known to many people now. May the Lord strengthen me and help me fight for the truth of the gospel. May the Lord save my husband and my family and let everyone around me, especially those who worship idolatry, know that the God I believe is real and almighty."

(Sister Yang)

- ⌘ May the Lord help Sister Yang win the spiritual battle. Let her experience how much we hold tight on Him, how firm we can stand by the Lord. May the Lord choose her husband. May he return home to witness the Lord's wonderful grace.

## Poor Hotel Hygiene

In November, an Internet influencer exposed the problem of poor sanitation in upmarket hotels in the Mainland: washing coffee cups with shower gel, picking up disposable cup lids from trash cans, and washing trash cans in bathroom basins. After the reveal of such a hygienic disaster, five chain hotels in Guangzhou -- Home Inns, City Convenience Hotels, 7 Days Hotels and IU Hotels, were detected outnumbered amount of Escherichia coli in their bathroom basins and toilets. For Hanting Hotel, not only were the towels and toilets contained exceeded Escherichia coli, there was hemolytic streptococcus too. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism thus requires all hotel and hotel operators to make a review to their facilities and to step up their monitoring mechanism.

("Ming Pao News", December 5, 2018)

- ⌘ Pray for the operation of the hotel industry. In line with a tremendous growth in business and tourism in China, a strong demand for accommodation is inevitable. Despite all difficulties, may the operators can focus on the sanitation and standards of service whereas government departments can uphold the effectiveness of concerned regulations.

Tuesday



## Memorial Prayers

"My grandparents, both baptized, were graduated from church school. My father who was their third son, had taken care of them till they rested in peace at their 77- and 96-year-old respectively. Although Dad was a member of the Communist Party, he followed my parents and believed in the Lord. After the decease of my grandmother in 2015, my father got even closer to our Lord. Father got a heart attack last week and left us suddenly. To accomplish his wish, we asked the church to offer him a memorial prayer at his burial. The church's reply was, 'It is rather ridiculous to pray for a non-baptized who, even been prayed for, would not get the acknowledgement from Jesus Christ nor his name been seen on the roster.' In such case, will baptism merely become a procedure for the sake of a memorial service?"

(Sister Xin)

- ⌘ Pray for the wishes of Sister Xin. May God provide sister a church where its priests can comfort the family and give her father memorial prayers out of the love of the Lord.

## Doctor-patient Relationship

At 10 o'clock on the morning of December 14th, a man on the 4th floor of Building One of Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University stabbed a surgeon and jumped to his death. The surgeon was still in the rescue. Eyewitness Ms. Wang said she was on the fourth floor of Zhongnan Hospital that morning when she heard the nurse crying in the next room. The scene was chaotic. Someone said a male surgeon was stabbed by a 50-year-old man and was in ICU. After going downstairs, the murderer was seen lying on the concrete ground of the first floor. The hospital then surrounded the scene with a woven cloth whereas the man inside was believed dead.

("Chutian Metropolis Daily", December 14, 2018)

- ⌘ Sadly, the current medical system in China always leads to incidents of unfavorable doctor-patient relationship. Pray for the mercy and blessing of our Lord that patients can receive proper care and treatment from medical staff; and the working environment and salary terms of medical staff should be improved.

Wednesday



## Mysterious Belief

"My neighbor said that her second elder sister, her sister's daughter and son-in-law, and her other elder brothers and sisters who believed in the Lord, held a fellowship gathering at home privately. She said they locked the door and gathered together to pray, cry and shout. When my neighbor asked them what was going on, her sister opened the door and talked to my neighbor very carefully. Moreover, the second elder sister, her daughter and son-in-law do not go to work at present. They run around to evangelize. The second elder sister's daughter also asks my neighbor to believe in the Lord every day. But my neighbor says no. As a result, they have added her in the blacklist and deleted her from the WeChat group; and they have not contacted her any more. I want to help them renew their understanding of the Lord Jesus we trust."

(A Little Sister)

- ⌘ Ask the Lord to offer the spirit of truth so that the little sister's neighbor can understand the truth of faith and turn back to the Lord. Also ask the Lord to give the little sister the wisdom to explain the truth clearly.

## Child Abuse

In Shenyang, Liaoning, parents revealed that three teachers in a kindergarten were suspected of child abuse. They used toothpicks and steel needles to stab young children. Parents posted multiple shots of injured children on the Internet, and more than ten children were equally victimized. The teachers involved have been arrested. A parent of the kindergarten concerned said that she received a message showing that some children of the same school were stabbed by the teachers with toothpicks and needles. She later found similar marks on her child's body. Her child, when questioned closely, disclosed that the hurts were made by a kindergarten teacher. Another parent revealed that her child was stabbed by the teacher because he was not eating properly.

("Ming Pao News", December 17, 2018)

- ⌘ May the Lord mercy those who are teaching in the early childhood education. Pray that there is more patience, love and forgiveness to these toddlers while they are still growing. May the Lord heal the victims and their parents in their hearts.