

Thursday



Grandma's Prayer

"Grandma is a veteran believer and has never gone to school. Some people of our village think that she is very good at praying. If there is anything wrong with someone's family and if anyone is sick, they will come to her for her prayer. Then she prays first and says that you have done this wrong or that wrong; what she says is very specific. Once I was ill and could not be healed; she said it was my father's fault. Someone of our village had given birth to four daughters and wanted to have a son. My grandma said, 'Do believe it, you will have a boy.' But it turned out to be a girl. I know that she might have said according to her own feelings. I want to tell her that it is fine to offer someone a prayer, but she should not say too much. I think she will definitely feel very unbearable."

(Sister Zheng)

✞ Ask the Lord to help Sister Zheng know that the result of prayers rests with the Lord and not with the people. It is good to pray for others. It is also good to make people humble and teachable before the Lord.

Kid's Genetic Research

A sixth grader in Kunming, Yunnan won the third prize in the National Youth Science and Technology Innovation Competition with his research project on colorectal cancer genes. This however sparks viral debate from the public. Even experts would doubt whether such a young student was truly capable of completing such a doctoral-level research: C10orf67 in Colorectal Cancer-Functions and Mechanisms in Development. How could this young man who knew not much about genes a year ago publish an award-winning high-quality research? Since the winner is the son of a researcher at the Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, netizens questioned whether the child's "research results" was ghosted by his father. The Yunnan Provincial Association for Science and Technology stated yesterday that they would intervene in the investigation.

("Beijing Daily", July 14, 2020)

✞ If the research is verified as fraudulent, that will definitely bring harmful impact to the child. Pray that parents nowadays would devote more attention on building children's character than their achievements.

Friday



Is it Appropriate?

"I was baptized in a church in Guangdong and gladly to have been pastored for almost a year there. But owing to the epidemic, we changed to online gatherings. Listening to radio programs could keep me nurtured and grow in Him throughout the period. When these sanctions were relaxed and our daily routine resumed, I started seeing a brother from the church. We are in love. We have seen parents from both sides, and we have rented a place to live together. I also use the place as a studio for my start-up business as beauty tattooist, an industry which I have always been in. My initial intention was to serve God with my career and spread the gospel through my work. But I hesitate now in the fear that living together with a church brother will affect our relationship with God."

(Sister Li)

✞ May the Lord help Sister Li entrust her career, love relationship and church life onto God. Let her learn from Lord's words that single man and woman living together should be avoided lest they are tempted.

The Lord Loves Mosuo

An elderly Mosuo woman asked her granddaughter, "Who is God?" The granddaughter, who came to visit her family, replied, "God is our Father." Then she told the visiting missionary, "My family will believe in God one day." The Mosuo ethnic group has a population of about 40,000, inhabiting mainly the banks of Lugu Lake on the borders of Sichuan and Yunnan. This ethnic group is a matriarchal society. Mosuo women have no husbands and practice a "walking marriage" system-no husbands and wives. Men are not responsible for raising their children. Father is a difficult concept to understand. It was reported that the old woman heard the gospel from her niece who was led by a foreign teacher to believe in the Lord. The old woman has passed on her faith to her granddaughter. Believers among the ethnic group are still very rare.

✞ The missionary has returned despite many difficulties. Pray that they can be protected and guided by the Lord serving them with love and patience despite limited resources. Also pray that they can move people's hearts and that the door of the gospel can be opened to lead more people to the Lord.

Saturday



I Am Struggling

"I have been divorced for more than three years. My ex-husband is a non-believer. He has had an affair. I knew my current boyfriend online last year. He is a gentle Christian; and his character is my favorite one. Therefore I have decided to meet him in person. We confirmed our relationship after we had chatted for the whole afternoon. He is really very considerate, and I believe we can be complementary to each other. Yesterday was my mother's birthday. He came to my home after work and cooked for us. All my parents and son liked him very much and they were glad. However, he confessed to me that he had visited prostitutes 10 years ago. He said he was very painful and regretful. He was worried that I would not accept him. He has written a spiritual diary, saying that I am 'the last straw' the Lord has given him. He has given me all his bank cards and let me handle them. I am still struggling. I hope that we can experience the Lord's presence when we come together."

(Sister Lu)

✞ May the Lord help the sister have spiritual wisdom to understand that honesty is valuable and important in their relationship. Pray that she will have the courage to enhance her boyfriend's healthy growth.

Gospel Broadcasting

1 **Anniversary of Radio Liangyou:** Radio Liangyou has experienced 71 years' history. Thank God for preaching the gospel throughout China via radio waves and multiple media. In the past, there was a time for happiness and a time for sadness; a time for worry and a time for trust. No matter what the situation is, God is our strength and our shield. As long as we rely on Him, we will get help!

2 **Equipment Upgrade:** We have moved to our current location for more than ten years. The equipment and the system of the studios have been operating well. Instability rarely occurs. In order to maintain the normal operation of our ministry, it is necessary to replace and upgrade our old equipment one after another. This is expected to involve a huge investment in the future. Please ask the Lord to offer us.

China News and Prayer

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Dear Warriors in Christ,

When "although / but" is used to make a sentence, we know this is a sentence pattern that primary school students have already learned. The transitional meaning in the latter part of the sentence is the key point. These transitional words are not difficult, but it seems that not everyone understands how to practice this sentence pattern in life to make the sentence right.

In a sentence-making test of Israelites, only two of 12 people made it right. As a result, the entire nation had to repeat the test. Chapters 13-14 of Numbers gave an account that 12 spies, who returned after exploring the land of Canaan, used the following words to make a sentence: although / but / it is the God's promised land flowing with milk and honey / the people who live there are powerful and the cities are fortified.

Ten of the spies reported: "The land does flow with milk and honey, but the people who live there are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large." It means: Although the promised land is good, the enemy is too strong. Let's look at Caleb's and Joshua's replies: "If the Lord is pleased with us, He surely will bring us into the land." It means: Although people are strong and cities are fortified, it is the land promised by God.

Facing challenges and difficulties, what we see are difficulties? Or calling? Habakkuk fully understood this. "Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior." (Hab 3:17-18)

Although Chinese believers face difficulties, they still believe God firmly; the environment does not favor them, but they still do their best to do the Lord's work.

There has been a relatively smooth time in 71 years of the gospel broadcasting ministry in China. But there have been also many days of adversity. Although there are tribulations, the Lord's grace is sufficient. Ask the Lord to help you continue to pray without giving up because He is still sovereign.

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Sunday



The Lesson of Patience

“Except for meals, my elder son is sticking at home playing games all day. This annoys me very much. I do not want to love my son. I want him to get a job soon. But he could not care less about what others think and he would get mad at me when I raise this out. I am annoyed and become intolerant. Perhaps it is my son from whom I learn the quality of being patient. This is tough though. My husband died in a work-related accident last year. Same year, I got lumbar spine stenosis due to an occupational injury. I became unable to work thereafter. At home there are only me and two sons who are 26- and 11-year-old. While both my elder son and I are not making any money, we are all relying on the subsidy of RMB\$800 a month granted for my younger son.”

(Sister Huang)

- ⌘ Pray for the Lord to remove the evil habits of sister’s elder son and let he realize the needs of his family and be willing to do his part for them.

Greatest in this Decade

Affected by the heavy rainfall in Jiangxi Province and the incoming water from the Yangtze River, Jiangxi suffered the most disastrous flooding since this century. The flood control situation in the Poyang Lake area and the Jiujiang section of the Yangtze River is of utmost importance. If Poyang Lake continues to rise, it may surpass Qinghai Lake and become China’s largest lake. Regarding the Yangtze River, as the water level of Poyang Lake has risen rapidly and it cannot regulate the floods of the Yangtze River, the pressure of flood control and prevention has been increased. As all these 185 single-return dikes in the Poyang Lake District have now been fully opened to release floodwaters, the pressure of flood control on Poyang Lake and the Jiujiang section of the Yangtze River should be effectively reduced.

(“CCTV News”, July 14, 2020)

- ⌘ “Single-retreat dike” facilities for both flood intake and drainage. When the water level is low, plants are grown in the dike; or else, the gate is opened to store the floodwater. Please pray for the mercy of the Lord to stop the widespread flooding in the south and curb their impact to the minimum.

Monday



A Twin Pregnancy

“Sister Dai has been pregnant with a twin for six months. But it has been found that the big fetus has cerebral hemorrhage and the area of hemorrhage is particularly large. The small fetus has heart disease which can be treated after birth. However, it is very likely that an expander will be placed in the heart for life. The family of Sister Dai’s husband has requested labor induction for the twin and none of them could be kept. She is very sad at this moment and does not know how to face it. Please pray for her. Ask God to give her strength and confidence so that she will face all bravely and rely on God to become strong. She really wants to keep the small fetus.”

(Brother Liu, Shandong Province)

- ⌘ Please pray for the sister. The condition of the twin fetus is really worrying. Please ask for the mercy and healing of the Lord. The sister really wants to keep the small fetus. Pray that the Lord will move her family to take up the responsibility willingly.

When it is Not Due

As of July 13, Beijing has reported no new confirmed cases or suspected cases for 8 consecutive days. From June 11 to July 13, Beijing has reported a total of 335 locally confirmed cases: 205 in hospital, 130 cured and discharged, while 18 cases with asymptomatic infections are under observation. Although the current epidemic prevention and control situation in the capital continues to improve, such a short-term stable epidemic situation is yet secured. As this big test is still on, any fatigue or carelessness may lead to a resurgence of the epidemic. At present, the NCEE is over and the summer vacation has begun. The government therefore has called the public to avoid going to high-risk countries and regions at home and abroad, now and in the near future.

(“The Economic Observer”, July 14, 2020)

- ⌘ A prolonged resistance against the epidemic has made people tired. Please pray that everyone can keep on their vigilance until a full control of the pandemics is obtained. May all the production activities and people’s life order be restored. Pray also that people’s peace of mind can be restored as soon as possible.

Tuesday



Online Trading

“Due to the winter vacation and the epidemic, schools were closed, and my eldest daughter had to attend classes online every day with her mobile phone. However, she used the mobile to sell things too, which worried me a lot. I assured her that we could support her schooling and asked her why she wanted to make money. After the school started, her studies declined. I thus put away all the things that she wanted to sell lest she kept on doing so. I was unsure if this was right. Am I doing something against her? Teaching young children is challenging and hard these days, hoping that more radio programs on child discipline can be produced. Thank you all for your hard work! May God be with you!”

(Sister Du)

- ⌘ Pray for Sister Du’s eldest daughter and ask the Lord to remove her desire of making money but to help her reset her life goal and concentrate on her studies. May Sister Du have the wisdom to teach and communicate with her daughter.

A Life under a Knife

On July 1, in a community in Yangpu Economic Development Zone, a man with history of mental illness set fire to the electric bicycles in a corridor. But at the same time, he was holding his 6-year-old son with a machete threatening others not to come close. The fire spread, but firefighter Nong and his teammates were unable to get near to extinguish the fire and evacuate the trapped people from the building. In a split second, when the man was turning to ignite an electric bicycle next to him, Nong rushed forward to grab the child and hold him firmly in his chest. The man swiftly swung his knife and slashed three times at Nong’s head. Luckily Nong’s helmet saved him from the attack. Then the firefighters and policemen on the scene swarmed up to subdue the man and successfully rescued the boy. After the incident, Nong was awarded a “Hainan Youth May Fourth Medal.”

(“Hainan Daily”, July 15, 2020)

- ⌘ Fireman Nong was brave enough to save others regardless of his own safety. Grateful that he was not hurt. May his righteous behavior become a role model for the society.

Wednesday



Love Going to Church

“I learnt about Radio Liangyou from my mother when I was a kid. With years, I am now in adulthood, but my spiritual life has held back. The turn happened at the end of last year when my daughter suddenly keenly felt about God and asked me to tell her the story of God. I hated praying in the past, but since then I started loving to bring my daughter to church. The epidemic however deterred us from doing so. Grateful that God did not forsake me. I often kneel before Him and weep, and I am so ignorant that I cannot distinguish the voice of God from that of Satan’s. Thank God that my daughter would ask the Lord over everything and she listen to my scripture reading every night. We however have so many things that we do not understand. With limited knowledge of God, I have no idea how to satisfy my daughter’s needs.”

(Sister Zhang)

- ⌘ Pray for Sister Zhang to have the opportunity to learn God’s Word. Also let her learn with her daughter so that they both grow their spiritual life with a firm basis.

Money Falling From the Sky

Recently, a citizen of Weihai City, Mr Lin, and his wife saw “money rain” falling from the sky. When the couple walked to their garage entrance, banknotes were falling like snow from the sky. The couple looked up and saw no one from upstairs. Then they started picking up the money. After counting, they found that the amount turned out to be a total of RMB\$45,000. Keeping the money carefully, they waited for the money owner for three hours. They also asked several times by shouting to the upper floors, “Whose money has fallen?” But no one responded. So they reported to the police. The community police disseminated a claiming message and no one responded. Until the next day, a woman called back. She said she had hidden the money for paying her child’s school fees in the quilt and forgot to take it out while drying the quilt. So the scene of “money falling from the sky” occurred.

(“The Paper”, July 15, 2020)

- ⌘ During the period of the severe epidemic, such a good deed of returning money found can bring comfort and a positive impact to our society.