# Thursday

## **Resistance Inside**

"In my life, there are numerous problems that I am unable to solve. Losing the drive to talk or work, as if I had depression. I want serenity, yet there is no calmness in my heart. Even out of my mother's good intention, whatever she said would annoy me easily. I become lethargic, and feel sorry for being powerless to face, let alone to overcome my own weaknesses. I prayed but my prayers were not answered. As a Christian I should be used to confession, this is hard for me though. I do not feel that I have committed sins. Full of restless struggles and regrets, I wish that I were in an unawakable dream where no trouble could come close to me any longer."

ℜ Pray for the Lord to help Sister Ye see her condition clearly. Whether she is emotionally troubled or if there is a stalemate. Pray for God's mercy on her, heal her, and let the church be her help.

# **OFF the Principal**

As the NCEE result of Nanjing No. 1 Middle School was rather undesirable this year, its principal was criticized by parents. Numerous raging parents even blocked the school gate, holding signs read as "No. 1 High is OVER" and "OFF the principal" etc. These parents were shocked to know that Nanjing No. 1, which is known as a sought-after high school, has only 20 students got more than 400 out of 480 points this year. In contrast, Nanjing No. 29 Middle School had 68. Parents claimed that Nanjing No. 1 Middle School usually takes in high-scoring junior school leavers, but now the "high scores in, low scores out" has agitated these parents, complaining that the school has spoiled their high-achieving kids and delayed their future success. The principal was accused of trading off the original exam-oriented approach to a guality-oriented approach. When the whole society is under fierce competition, Nanjing No. 1 Middle School's exploration of quality education will undoubtedly weaken its bargaining power.

("Southern Metropolis Daily", August 12, 2020)

✤ Hope that one day the whole society will value quality in education rather than drills for the youngsters to passing exam.

## How to Move On

Friday

"Recently, my work has reached a bottleneck. Distrust from my senior at work has upset me, nevertheless, God is merciful, and He provided me many orders out of my expectation. Despite the stable situation, but I weep often without reasons. I prefer sitting quietly by my own, to cry. Someone's shoulder can no longer help, neither do sips of wine. It is vanity. I lost my goal in life and find myself running inexplicable tears... Not seeing clear what I will become. Suddenly, I want to take a few days off; but no idea where I will spend the time. I am vulnerable and I have lost my direction to move on."

(Audience "The Confused")

ℜ Pray for Audience "The Confused" and ask the Lord to open a way for her, to calm her down; and let her get close to the Lord to move on her journey with His strength.

## Miao Youth

The Miao region is the earliest ethnic minority region in Yunnan where the gospel has developed more rapidly. As early as in 1883, missionaries started evangelizing and establishing churches in Zhaotong in the northeast. The initial result was not obvious. Until 1904. Miao gospel seekers invited a British missionary. Samuel Pollard, to preach the gospel to them and enthusiastic responses were received. Since then, the churches have grown on a large scale. However, the Miao churches, once are prosperous, no longer prosper. The secular atmosphere has been influencing the young people. Some co-workers point out that Miao girls get married early, so it is necessary to pay attention to their love and marriage issues. In this summer, a summer camp has been held to teach the young Miao people the biblical views on love and marriage.

 He Miao pastors have worked hard to nurture young believers. They have produced audio programs of the Miao church history to remind the young believers about the grace of God and revival of the churches. Please pray that God will use all aspects of the ministry to let the Miao youths rise up again so as to ignite the gospel fire and strive to preach the gospel; and that the revival will come again!



#### "I am a married woman with an affair. I adhere obstinately to faults because he said he loved me. I have attempted to escape since our first sexual relationship. After one and a half year, I have still failed. No one has ever said he loves me or has shed tears for me. I cannot help myself. No one has loved me from my childhood to adulthood. I am often beaten by my parents. They didn't let me go to school, saying that women are useless. I have got married, but my husband doesn't care about me. We have no communication. My marriage has been arranged by my parents. There is no affection between my husband and me. Everything has to be resolved by myself. No matter how painful I am, I cry alone with no sense of security. I am failing my son because I have copied my parents' temper and have harmed my child. I feel so regret and totally a failure."

(Sister named "The Failure")

Please pray for the sister, "The Failure", so that she will rely on the Lord to come out of the harm from her family and will not be indulged in the wrong relationship. Pray that she can seek satisfaction in the Lord's love and will have a life of repentance.

# **Gospel Broadcasting**

- 1 Evangelical Program: We uphold the mission of spreading the gospel to the compatriots in Mainland. In addition to the establishment of gospel channel on Radio Yiyou in October last year, we have paid efforts to adjust our program content for nearly a year. Currently gospel programs account for about 40% of all programs! Pray that our programs can reach out to the new generation via radio and other platforms!
- 2 LTS Students: Thousands of Liangyou Theological Seminary students have continued to study hard during the epidemic. They learn under difficult circumstances persistently; and, their testimonies have encouraged us. Pray especially for the students who are pastors and leaders in their churches. Pray that the Lord will sustain them so that they not only rely on the Lord to be steadfast, but also more concentrate on preaching and nurturing believers under the challenges of the epidemic.

# China News and Prayer

# *Sep/Oct 2020*



Dear Warriors in Christ,

September is originally the time for starting a new school year but Hong Kong students can only study online at home this year. They cannot meet new classmates and teachers in person. Everyone has to pay a price during the time of battling the epidemic. The global economy has been hit very hard. Ask the Lord to give leaders of all countries the wisdom to work along both lines of fighting the pandemic and reviving the economy.

In the light of the COVID-19 epidemic, Mainland churches must comply with strict epidemic preventive measures before they can reopen. Public churches in major cities have resumed physical gatherings, but many churches still face numerous obstacles. Many home churches still maintain online gatherings. Please ask the Lord to enhance the faith of believers so that they can still worship the Lord amid different circumstances.

The epidemic has not retreated yet. In addition, Mainland China also faces threats of flooding. Rainstorms have brought disasters not only in the southern. The Yellow River has also caused floods in the north. More than 27 provinces and cities have been devastated, including Hubei, Jiangxi and Anhui. Many listeners of Radio Liangyou live in Anhui. They have shared the fact that they have once evacuated and now they are grateful for their return to home.

Liangyou Theological Seminary has accompanied the audience and joined them to pray for the fight against the epidemic in various provinces and countries through dozens of articles on "Love Hubei" and "Love the World". The Anhui audience have noted that the churches have prayed in accordance with the matters mentioned by Liangyou Theological Seminary. Sister Lu said, "Every time I read 'Love China', I cannot help but burst into tears."

I hope we can see the needs of China and the world via our prayers. Let's rise up to become warriors of intercession.

Jenny Yuen Officer-in-Charge, Training Center

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# Sunday

#### Reconnection

"Radio Liangyou was my acquaintance from 1990 to 1992. At that time, there was a radio at home, and I ran into it occasionally at night. The signal was poor with a lot of noise but I still listened on time every night. I have forgotten the names of these programs. I learnt about and believed in Jesus and made Him my Savior at the end. I later stopped listening due to work, marriage, and etc. Grateful that I was able to believe in Jesus when I was young, and the seeds of the gospel were sown in my heart. He has been with me these days to keep me from losing my way. Last week, a sister from my church recommended your WeChat channel to me, and now we reconnect again. Thank God for His grace."

(Sister Wu, Anhui Province)

Here we are grateful that Sister Wu can reunite with Radio Liangyou. May her get encouraged and edified through our radio programs and to become good witness of God.

#### Landslide in Sichuan

Recently, there have been consecutive torrential rains in Wangcang County, Sichuan Province. In the early morning of August 14, a landslide occurred and caused mudslides in Yizi Chang, Donghe Town Ershe. As a result, two houses were washed out. One person had found no vital signs and the contacts with the other two persons were lost after the search. Relevant leaders and departments of the county rushed to the scene as soon as possible to organize emergency rescue operations after the disaster. The rescues were being carried out intensively and orderly. The disastrous losses were further verified. In addition, the current round of heavy rainfall was coming to an end and water of the major rivers was retreating in Sichuan. The flood level of Jialing River basin had fallen below the warning water level. The floods of Changjiang and Tuojiang main streams, and the floods of Fujiang tributaries were retreating.

("China News Net", August 14, 2020)

ℜ Please pray for the follow-up rescues and rainstorm cessation. Also pray that the relevant departments can do their best to carry out rescues and minimize the damages.

# **Light of Holy Spirit**

Monday

"I turned to the Lord at Christmas. Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, I confessed my sins and repented. At the beginning, the Holy Spirit drove me to read the Bible and prav eagerly. In 1996, I moved to live in a county city. As I had treated my rural church as my only spiritual home at that time, I therefore did not join any churches. I then stopped reading Bible and praying, and stayed away from God. During the 13 years that followed, I experienced the trough in my life: Every day I wandered about just wanting to earn big money. My business, however, caused me a loss of RMB 20,000. On the fourth day of my son's birth in 2003, my husband ran away and wanted to divorce me. The Holy Spirit then taught me: If I love my husband and things more than God, I am not worthy to be a disciple of the Lord. I repented and I should not regard money or anyone more than the love to God."

(Sister Ann, Heilongjiang Province)

**#** Grateful that Sister Ann is able to see her problems. May the Lord strengthen her and grant her wisdom to rebuild a godly family.

# **Clean Plates Campaign**

In 2013, catering industry in Wuhan began a "Clean Plates Campaign" hoping to cultivate a sense of frugality. Restaurants would remind their customers to order less and add some more when necessary. Packaging service was given if there was left-over on the plate. On August 11 this year, China has stepped up measures to reduce food waste by introducing the "N-1" system. For instance, groups of 10 can only order 9 dishes; in case of insufficiency, diners can add their order to ensure that they are well-fed on the one hand, and doing their best to cut food wastage from its source on the other hand. Owing to this "Clean Plates Campaign", people's food wastage has reduced significantly. By the end of 2019, the average rate of food wastage in Wuhan has dropped by 50% in comparison to a 10% in 2012.

("National Business Daily", August 13, 2020)

H is indeed a gratifying phenomenon that the catering industry would spontaneously treasure frugality than profit-making. May this campaign arouse the public's awareness and stop all food-wasting habits ever after.

# Tuesday **Save Face**

D

#### "I am a child of God. I am supposed to long for God's words and to know God more deeply. But how lazy, weak and proud I am. I always have reasons why I do not participate in learning: I am neither young nor in good health. However, my biggest problem is that I want to save face. When I encounter some kinds of lessons such as writing or sitting for an examination, I really don't want to participate. I have been avoiding learning for these years because I worry about my performance in writing examinations. I do not have any confidence in myself at all. I have tried to learn; basically I can start but cannot finish. It is self-destructive."

#### (Sister Zhang)

D

Wednesday

Hease pray that the Lord with help Sister Zhang with her weak personality, and her fears of failure and inability to understand. These have hindered her pursuit of the Lord. Ask the Lord to enhance her growth of faith so that she can look to the Lord alone for her own personality breakthrough.

# Mukbang

On major online platforms, there appear many hosts of Mukbang, or "Big Stomach Kings" so called. By having big appetite and sometimes eating wired food, they attract viewers to follow, subscribe and offer rewards. However, the "big appetite" images created by "Big Stomach Kings" are being produced by post-editing and synthesizing of videos. By inducing vomiting and throwing up during intervals of filming, these hosts return and gobble up more food. These eating shows however are extremely popular, Due to the issues of terrible food waste, misleading consumption, and the practice of induced vomiting, Mukbang becomes pathological and extreme. Following CCTV's criticism on mukbang, short video platforms such as Douyin (Tiktok) and Kuaishou responded on August 13 that they will delete their mukbang production, shut down their livestreaming and ban their accounts.

("Tencent News Network", August 14, 2020)

 $\mathfrak{H}$  Hoping that under the supervision of various platforms, these unhealthy mukbangs can change their production direction so that a positive energy can rightly be projected.

# **Christian Unity**

"As a Christian, we must handle all kinds of interpersonal relationships. Christian brothers and sisters should be united because we have the same hope; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and unity in the truth. We should try our best to achieve harmony with the Gentiles. Let our light shine before others so that they can see our good deeds and give glory to the Father in Heaven. Learning makes us remember well that we are the son of peace. We should be the light and the salt of the world. We are a group of people set apart and called by God. We shoulder the Great Commission of being the glorious testimony for God among all people and leading them to the Lord. Therefore we should have good deeds and equip ourselves with God's truth."

#### (Sister Tao)

H Thank God for Sister Tao who knows her identity and mission as a Christian. Please pray that the Lord continues to establish her life so that she will be a witness to the Lord and glorify Him.

## **Poor County, Luxury School**

Zhen'an of Shaanxi Province shed its poverty-stricken county tag just in May 2019. However, the county with total revenue generation of RMB 178 million in the last fiscal year is spending RMB 710 million to build a luxury middle school. The new facilities include a four-layer fountain and stone carps, as well as a group of rockery waterfall cluster built in real mountains. Some local officials believe that building schools with high standards embodies the concept of "one can be poor, but education cannot." Some teachers of the school reported that despite a great improvement on hardware, its software such as teachers' manning and qualification remain. Moreover, it may be waste of resources due to wrong planning, causing the Zhen'an County to repay at least RMB 50 million in loans yearly for 12 consecutive years. ("Xinhua News Agency", August 14, 2020)

ℜ Emphasis on education in poverty-stricken areas is worthy of recognition; but investment on improving teachers' gualification and teaching effectiveness may sound more essential. May the officials can truly understand what education needs most.