

Thursday



Entering Puberty

“My son is 13 years old. He is entering puberty stage and has become rebellious. He blocks me from his WeChat Moments. I used other account to read his Moments. I discovered that he falls in love with a girl. I don't know if it is out of curiosity of the opposite sex, but I'm worried that frustration over relationship with the girl will bring psychological harm. I haven't asked him about his love affair nor interfered in it. I only observe how it develops, hoping to guide him along the right way, yet I don't know where to start, not to mention that the relationship between myself and my spouse has been so broken that we are on the verge of divorce. I have been working away from my hometown and my child is in the care of his grandparents. He no longer gets in touch with his mother.”

(Brother Li)

✂ Pray that the Lord will grant Brother Li the wisdom of knowing how to take care of his child who is not around him. Pray also that he can save his marriage.

Housing Problem

High property prices in cities makes it difficult for young people to find affordable accommodation. In the Central Economic Work Conference held earlier, plans were made for the development of the rental housing market with a view to solving the housing problem. Measures to be carried out include speeding up the construction of social security so that poor families and citizens without housing will be benefited; and accelerating the improvement of the long-term leasing policy to put the rental market in order and regulate the rental level. The authority will increase land supply by looking into the feasibility of using lands designated for mass construction, as well as idle lands owned by enterprises and corporations to build rental housing.

(“Xinhua News”, January 6, 2021)

✂ The scandals relating to rental housing have revealed that the lack of government supervision makes it difficult to legally charge those not in compliance with tenancy regulations, leading to a series of domino effects. Pray that the government will review the rental policy as soon as possible so that the rights and interests of all parties concerned can be protected.

Friday



Divorce forbidden?

“This year, bringing up children is very difficult. My two sons which are 15 and 8, are very disobedient. They often scold me and quarrel with me. My husband doesn't send me money. When he is home, he scolds me for squandering money and not teaching the children well. I am furious. He doesn't forgive me for betraying him in the past. He has even been gambling all along and thus neglecting the family. I want to divorce and leave this broken family. Perhaps there is not any solution to my marital problems. Doing my best does not earn the least respect. Is it true that being a Christian, I cannot divorce even if I am living in pain all the time?”

(Sister Liu)

✂ Pray that Sister Liu will lean on the Lord to face her difficulties and learn how to educate her children, and to seek God's strength and wisdom to solve her marital problems so that she can see hope in her marriage.

Being in Debt to Dongxiang

With a population of over 600,000, the Dongxiang ethnic group is the fourth largest community among the Muslim in China. They mainly lived in the Dongxiang Autonomous County in Gansu. The ratio of illiterate population of people aged 15 or above in the Dongxiang group is highest out of all the ethnic minority groups in China. The adult illiteracy rate is still as high as 48%. Although there are missionaries sharing the gospel and actively translating the Bible, the number of people converted to the Christian is still very few. The nearby church of the Han people does not even believe that preaching the gospel to them is feasible.

✂ When we think of the Dongxiang people, we regret that we owe them the debt of the gospel. Pray that the Lord will give us faith and ability to plan how to co-operate with the Dongxiang believers in using the Dongxiang dialect to tell Bible stories. As for ethnic groups with a high rate of illiteracy, using the medium of audio gospel is appropriate. Pray that the Lord will give us the wisdom to help the co-workers to put the ideas into practice and effectively preach the good news of salvation so that non-believers can be converted. Pray also that the Lord will guide the few believers to pursue spiritual growth even under pressure.

Saturday



God's Love Can't Be Felt

“I have believed in God since my childhood. I'm now 27 years old, but I still cannot feel God's love. The gap between teachings and real experiences of God is great. I have tried to be submissive, yet it is hard to be embraced by God's love. My childhood experience of being abused has been torturing me and affecting my spirit, soul and body up to now. I cannot find a way out in my environment. I want to rely on God, but I don't know how to feel the sense of security from God, and how to trust that He loves me and helps me. The situation has not improved for so many years. I cannot turn to be strong amidst all kinds of domination, contradictions and pains. I feel being hurt all the time, whether from my family or church. Although my body is lacerated and bruised all over, God is indifferent. I have tried to seek help and participated in services, but I still cannot experience God's love and healing after so many years of efforts. I have neither power nor hope. I even have no motivation to be healed urgently.”

(Sister "The Lost")

✂ May the God's love fill her heart to let her experience love and compassion. Please pray that God will heal her and build her up, and make her have confidence and hope. Also pray that she can re-establish her relationship with the Lord.

Gospel Broadcasting

1 **Getting ahead with “5Ps”:** Basing on the inspiration received from the God, leaders of FEBC Hong Kong is moving forward with the “5Ps”: People, Program, Platform, Promotion and Partnership. Global economy is experiencing a downturn under the gloom of the pandemic, but with faith we will look to the presence of God's grace and strive towards the goals set.

2 **Noontime Live Broadcast:** Radio Liangyou's new program “Gimme Five”, broadcast live online every Monday to Friday in the afternoon. We pray that the program will help to expand the audienceship, spread the gospel and train up young colleagues to participate more in live broadcasting. Pray also that the God will strengthen them and use the ministry.



China News and Prayer

Feb/Mar 2021



Dear Warriors in Christ,

The transition to the Year of the Ox brings back memories of the CNY in my poor childhood. My father and elder sister would buy us new pajamas and slippers. We excited to put on new clothes, but sometimes we would feel uncomfortable and wanted to change back to the old ones. We all need time to adapt to new things but old things are worth remembering. “Old friends are like old shoes; the more you wear them, the cozier you feel.” Sometime, the old has its inadequacies and it is exactly where the new can improve on. The willingness to admit the imperfection of the old requires courage to explore the true, the good and the beautiful. People who hold on too persistent to the old may hinder the discovery and exploration of the new.

When I look back to my journey on exploring life and searching for the God, I thought deeply about the reality of life. If God really existed and I was His creation, how I was going to face Him? My “old self” seemed to be in tattered clothes, but I thanked God for shining upon me. I plucked up the courage to accept Christ, leaving the old and taking up the new. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5:17) After believing in Christ, I was impressed by Paul's teaching on putting off the old and putting on the new garments. “...with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self...to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.” (Ephesians 4:22-24) “Out with the old, in with the new” is the “action” of Christian on their road to righteousness and sanctification!

The CNY is just around the corner. Let us pray for ourselves, and things mentioned in this leaflet. Pray that we can know His good will better, have the courage to put away the old and put on the new, and lean on God to live out the righteousness and holiness of the truth.

May God shower you with blessings!

Janet Yiu
Senior Personnel Officer I

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Sunday



Learning a Lesson

"I'm divorced. I have just received the verdict. The custody of my child is awarded to his father. I have to pay an annual alimony of RMB\$1,500 until the child reaches the age of 18. While the court was adjourned, the court clerk told my sister in private that if I wanted to be granted a divorce, we could give the Judge some money. My sister gave the clerk RMB\$1,000 for her to pass on to the Judge. I didn't know what to do then, so I said nothing about it. Now I have to confess to God and ask for His forgiveness. Since my child's father had also agreed to the divorce, the only dispute was the alimony and that was why we brought the case to court. My mother always asks me to remarry by the end of the year as I'm getting old. Of course, I do not wish to do so. I have to learn from the lesson of my failed marriage and deeply reflect on it."

(Sister Guo)

✚ Pray that the Lord will help Sister Guo to rebuild her life after the divorce, to cope with her emotions and to establish a close relationship with the Lord. Pray also that she will not remarry hastily because of the pressure from her mother.

To Relieve Nostalgia

The CNY is a day to reunite with family. However, since the epidemic, governments have urged citizens not to travel afar but to stay at their workplaces for the holidays. It may be a comfort for not returning homeland if workers can have their hometown cuisine. There are restaurants in Shanghai which offer CNY dishes of cuisines in various places, such as Sichuan, Yangzhou, Suzhou, Hainan, Guangdong, etc. These dishes are made to relieve the nostalgia of outsiders. In addition, the restaurants prepare a variety of packaged meals for families of two to four who choose "no home return, no gathering". They echo the "food wise" culture with appropriate food quantities to reduce waste.

("China News Net", January 6, 2021)

✚ Please pray for people who choose not to return to their hometowns so that they can still reunite with their family in other ways. Also pray that various local governments can implement epidemic prevention measures in public places so as to reduce the risk of virus transmission during the CNY travel period.

Monday



God Opens the Way

"I used to be the pastor of a church of cell groups. I'm 35 years old, unmarried. At that time, a married sister who is almost 50 years old has been approaching me constantly. She has even kept hinting that she wants me to be with her. She has also used all means to destroy the relationship between me and other Christian sisters. Once she knows which single sister I have connection with, she makes troubles for us. I don't know what to do. I'm so helpless. I have fasted for a few days to seek God. Then God has opened a way out and given me a vision of going to Ganzi Autonomous Prefecture. He has also opened a way for me by preparing my job as a seaman. I'm a chef on board at present. Please pray for my service and marriage. Ask God to protect me and lead my way in future."

(Brother Tang)

✚ Thank God for Tang's firm will. Please pray that God will guide him so that he will have an opportunity to lead people to the Lord in the new workplace. Ask the Lord to prepare a suitable sister who will walk with him throughout his life and path of ministry.

Behind Appellations

There are age-related appellations are very popular in China currently, such as "little elder sister", "little elder brother", "greasy uncle" and "middle-aged girl", etc. They seem nice, but not everyone likes them. China Youth Daily has conducted a survey of more than 2,000 respondents through a questionnaire network. More than 60% of the respondents mind the age-related labels. The reasons include the influences of these labels on social interaction, workplace, dating and marriage. They also affect some people's social image and self-perception. By comparing, it is found that those born in the 90s are the group who cares most the age-related labels, and that nearly 70% of the respondents have replied that they mind.

("China Youth Net", January 7, 2021)

✚ Although popular appellations are welcome, it does not mean that everyone accepts them. Please pray that all people will know how to respect one another while calling others, and that they will not discriminate against other people because of differences in age, gender, age, race, religion, etc.

Tuesday



No Sense of Security

"I have believed in God for 5 years. I'm 25 years old, and have anxiety and insomnia because of dating. I'm extremely sensitive and lack sense of security. When I fall in love with the other person, I'm worried that he will leave me for these reasons: he will shift his love to other; he will reunite with his ex-lover; his parents will oppose; he will lose freshness and get tired of me; he loathes my poor family; I don't have a stable job, etc. So every day I ask what to do and my life is chaotic. I always cry with scare! But after three months, I know he is a good, reliable and practical man. I dare not show him my true emotions. Recently, I have been preparing for a teaching qualification examination. However, I become very anxious and impatient, so I'm unable to continue to study. I'm even afraid that he will leave me if I cannot pass the exam. He is busy with his own work. I know the Lord is watching over me. I need some advice on dating."

(Sister Min)

✚ Please pray that the Lord will help her to find out the causes leading to her lack of security sense. Pray that she will be healed in Christ. Only when she is mentally healthy can establish good interpersonal relationships.

Tactics to Lift out of Poverty

Shanxi is one of the poor provinces in China. The local government has taken corresponding measures; such as provide training for people to increase their employment opportunities. During the epidemic, the government have also contacted employment units in other regions to collect information on job vacancies, and then provided referral services and even point-to-point special vehicles to help workers go out for work. In the New Year's Day, Shanxi has organized services involving more than 11,000 exported labors. Their job locations including Beijing, Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Guangdong, Shaanxi and Shandong.

("China News Net", January 6, 2021)

✚ There is a disparity between the rich and the poor in different provinces in China. Ask the Lord to look after the people living in poverty and give them a chance to lift out of their predicament. Also pray that they will not forget to seek the plentifulness of their hearts and obtain abundant life by knowing the Lord.

Wednesday



An Elderly Knocked Down

My father was hit by a bamboo in his left eye and his eye tube was ruptured. He has undergone three surgeries and is still receiving treatment. Please pray for my father! My elder brother knocked down an old man when he was riding on a motorbike. This elderly, uncle Xiang family has asked my elder brother to pay him medical expenses amounting to RMB 60,000. Furthermore, my father has spent tens of thousands of medical expenses for healing his eye. Recently Uncle Xiang has gone to Wenzhou Hospital for re-examination. Please pray that God will let my father's eye recover as soon as possible and Uncle Xiang come home in good health. Also pray that my family and Xiang's family will have a reasonable way to sort out the payment for medical expenses. I wish that it will be reduced a bit because my brother's finance is under great pressure."

(Sister Qian)

✚ Please pray that the Lord will enable her family to take up the responsibility for the injured and to negotiate on the compensation issue properly. Also pray for her father with eye injuries and recover smoothly.

Alarming Privacy Leakage

A doctor in Hangzhou was sentenced to five days' administrative detention for deliberately leaking a patient's privacy. The identity information and contact number of an asymptomatic infected person who was diagnosed with COVID-19 were widely spread via the Internet. After investigation, it was discovered that the doctor involved had forwarded the relevant report to a WeChat group. The leakage incident also let the other two people to take the opportunity to spread rumors. They were sentenced to administrative detention for seven days. This is not the first time a similar case has occurred in China. In the era of big data, how to ensure the security of personal information has become a social topic of public concern.

("Xinhua Net", January 7, 2021)

✚ Please pray that the government and hospitals will take corresponding measures to ensure that the personal data collected for the epidemic is handled properly and protected safely. Also pray that they can prevent the accidental leakage from causing the public to guess a patient's identity and triggering "cyber-bullying".