

Thursday



Back Against the Wall

“Sister Li is a very spiritual person, and she keeps covering her husband's evil deeds. In fact, her husband becomes demonic whenever he is drunk. With eardrum perforated and face deformed, sister Li has almost been strangled to death. She did communicate with her husband, but nightmares always come when he consumes alcohol. Sister Li had quietly bore with all these. We have all witnessed these. Ultimately, she couldn't tolerate him any longer. 'His daily ferocious attacks on me dripped away all my love to him; the grievances against him were however spread to my two children. Can't go on like this, whether divorced or separated, let my husband quit alcohol at least,' said sister Li. She has no retreat. Being a victim of domestic violence and husband's unfaithfulness, she filed for divorce with no regret, but with peace rather. We are on her side too.”

(Sister Jiang)

⌘ Ask the Lord to comfort sister Li, let her bravely get over the suffering of domestic violence inflicted by her alcoholic husband. Let him realize the impact of addiction to his family and be willing to receive treatment. May the Lord have mercy on the family.

Legal Aid

Jointly initiated by the China's Supreme People's Procuratorate and the All-China Women's Federation, a special campaign has been launched to strengthen judicial assistance to the women in need. The campaign aims to support women who are eligible for assistance. The targets include women farmers who have the risk of returning to poverty, female victims of crimes such as sexual assault and domestic violence, women who bear the responsibility of raising children or supporting the elderly as their family's breadwinners have died or lost their ability to work due to criminal conduct, women who are seriously ill or disabled, and the aged women who have no alimony payers or whose alimony payers are unable to support them.

(“Xinhua Net”, April 7, 2022)

⌘ Pray that God will take charge of the Judiciary and enable the officers to administer justice to protect people under the law. Pray that people are kind and compassionate and willing to help the underprivileged.

Friday



My Daughter's Problems

“I asked God for a daughter, and I was pregnant when I was thirty years old. It was me who had neglected her as I had strived hard for a livelihood. She is in the third year of senior high school. Unwilling to study and loves surfing the internet on her mobile phone during the pandemic. Not having finished the examination, she went home crying and saying she didn't want to take the examination. It is unacceptable. Recently she has frequently stayed at home playing with her mobile phone. She even stayed up late till 4 am. It is no use trying to reason with her as she refuses to listen. My mother is a Christian and prays for her always. Maybe I have spoiled her by saying yes to all her requests. I don't know how to raise her by the grace of God.”

(Sister Zhang)

⌘ May God give sister Zhang wisdom to take care of her daughter. Pray that Sister Zhang will find strength and patience in God. May God bless this family.

A Long Way to Go

A television station in Hong Kong spent three months in China to film a documentary on ten counties which are in extreme poverty. It shows the changes of these places. People can thus learn more about the lives of those the majority of whom were ethnic minorities living in remote regions. The regions are “poor” from a biblical perspective as well. In 2007, one of an ethnic in Yunnan was upset due to a family-related problem. He was introduced to a gospel broadcast and became a Christian. His whole family believe in God. Then he received training and took the initiative to preach the gospel to nearby areas and shepherd followers of Jesus. He has blessed a lot of people and led many compatriots to salvation.



⌘ May God bless the above ethnic pastor as well as his missionary team, and make them the gospel messengers of their ethnic group and those around them to preach the gospel about Jesus' life to the Southwest regions. May God equip and ignite local followers to preach the gospel among the minority groups of the regions where outsiders cannot reach.

Saturday



Amazing Experience

“This is an amazing experience preaching to a non-believer. I feel sorry every time meeting with non-believers after becoming a Christian. I wonder where their souls may go. I even think that I may be the only Christian they will meet throughout their lives, and they will lose the chance to be saved if I don't preach to them. I'm new and I don't know how to preach to others. Thankfully I listened to a radio broadcast sermon, and it talked about how to share the gospel with others. Then I followed the instructions and started sharing with my friends on how I met God, and how I was saved and healed by God. It was so amazing that my friends seemed very interested in what I was saying. I know God is working, and I am very much encouraged.”

(Sister Min)

⌘ Pray that sister Min will have more experience of being touched by and walking with God, be sensitive to other people's needs and have the courage to share the gospel.

Gospel Broadcasting

1 Under the Pandemic:

Under the fifth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, one-thirds of our colleagues and their family members were tested positive for the virus. Thankfully their symptoms were mild and have already recovered after rest. Our office temporarily closed in March, and has gradually resumed operation in April. We are grateful for the efforts of our well-prepared and trained staff to maintain normal production and broadcast by working from home over the past two years.

2 Liangyou Theological Seminary (LTS) App:

With the launch of the updated app in late January, we have a good start of the newly designed program. The monthly number of our mobile app downloads is similar to that of last year. Audience are expected to gradually adapt to the new way of learning. Teachers have been working hard on compiling the questions of multiple-choice tests in smooth progress.



PRAYER NEWSLETTER

May/June 2022



Dear Warriors in Christ,

“Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.” (Ephesians 6:8) - Paul gives us some precious and timely teaching on prayer in Ephesians 6:8.

Rely on the Holy Spirit: We rely on the Holy Spirit to testify of what God has done in our lives, and also need the power of the Holy Spirit to pray for ourselves and others. “Rely on the Spirit” in the original text means “in the Spirit”. We should be filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit so as to pray for others.

All times: “All times” does not mean any time but every occasion. “All prayer and supplication” means all kinds of prayers including those for others. Let's pray for the needs of people in China on different occasions and at different times.

Keep alert with all perseverance: “Be alert” in the original text means “eyes wide open”. That means staying alert everywhere, being well-prepared for praying for the needs of others. This is also our aim to publish this “Prayer Newsletter” - helping people stay alert with all perseverance to pray for others.

For all the saints: “All saints” means the Lord's people. We pray for all believers and pastors, gospel broadcasting coworkers in China.

In the blink of an eye, I have been working in FEBC Hong Kong for 20 years and am going to retire soon. It is time to say goodbye to you. Thank you for praying persistently over the years to support and encourage us. Your prayers have also blessed all compatriots in China. May God accept your prayers and bless you in all your endeavors which lead people to salvation and God's grace.

Raymond Lo
Chief Executive

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Sunday



The Meaning of Life

“Living in a remote mountainous region and being uncivilized, I was reached by the grace of God at work and studied the Bible at a family church. Then I took an odd job at a children care center, growing crops and raising livestock for seven and a half years without pursuing any spiritual interests. Wasting time and letting God down, I have glimpsed the same single and poor me in coming decades. I have been living in the same place for a long period of time and have got used to my life. It seems to me God doesn't give me any guidance and I don't know where I should go. If this continues, I will fall back into the same abyss. Pray but being speechless, fast without successes. Thankfully I'm healthy, I'm not houseless, I have enough food and clothing. What is the meaning of life? I know well that He is the answer to all questions.”

(Audience “Brother Anonymous”)

✚ May God's words guide “Brother Anonymous” and lift him up. Pray that he will build a close relationship with God and be spiritually happy.

Counterfeit Certificates

With the development of innovative technologies, new industries have been created. Vocational training institutions therefore grab the business opportunities and put forward various training courses. Chaos in the industry, however, occurs frequently. Some fake the names of other institutions and falsely publicize, train and issue certificates; Some claim to help students with academic qualifications to meet the registration requirements of vocational skills examination. In mid-March, the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security issued “Notice on the Special Management of the Counterfeit Certificates in the Technical Skills Category”, requiring all sectors to comprehensively verify the evaluation and certification activities of technical skills training.

(“Beijing Evening News”, April 7, 2022)

✚ Pray that the work of credentials verification can be conducted smoothly and stop the dishonest acts of vocational training institutions. May the government establish an appropriate and effective vocational training mechanism to create more education and employment opportunities for the people.

Monday



Emotional Blackmail

“For the last 13 years, I have to climb six floors to get home every day. Last year, my husband and I finally bought a small flat with lift access. I was conscience-stricken though when seeing my 70-year-old father lives on the third floor of a building without elevators. Should I swap the flat with his as I'm much younger than him? I hesitate because I don't want to climb the stairs either. The flat where my father is staying was also bought by me under my provident fund loan. However, I always have thoughts of relocating my parents to a better flat. At the same time, should I think about us who are in our middle age? We want to have a flat with lift access too. But I began to pity my father who needs to climb three storeys. My husband and I plan to buy a bigger house in a few years, and let my father live in this house with elevator.”

(A Sister)

✚ May the Lord affirm the heart of “A Sister” that she can frankly open her thoughts and arrangements with her father, and to resolve their dilemma. May the Lord lead and guide her all along.

Free-to-Fee

Some netizens in China reported over-deduction when they donated via fundraising platforms for serious illness. Sometimes a donation of one RMB would turn out to be a three. In fact, such fundraising platforms are not charities. Behind the fund-raising is to attract traffic and then publicize profitable business. However, since the government issued the “Notice on Carrying out Special Rectification of Internet Insurance Disorders” last August, the platform could no longer operate in the same way, so it charged a handling fee instead. To avoid over-deduction, users should be careful not to tick the related options. There are yet platforms that would draw a percentage of the raised funds as operating expenses.

(“Beijing Daily”, April 7, 2022)

✚ To regulate such fund-raising platforms, the law must be amended as soon as possible. Pray that the government can target loopholes and specify the source of income, charge rate, expenditure ceiling, etc., so that the platform can make appropriate use of money to help people in need.

Tuesday



At Stake

“The church is at stake. During the epidemic, our church was closed for a period which our pastors were asked to return to work every day. It is said that the church-in-charge had arranged some unfinished tasks such as checking and refining the information of church members in order to cope with the inspection from the government, making access cards for members, and many other things. The church-in-charge also prohibited our pastors to read scriptures, pray, meditate, or prepare sermons during work. They weren't allowed to go home until about 10 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Some have resigned, and the rest of the pastors are sighing, not knowing where the direction of the ministry is. In short, all the pastors have suffered all kinds of hardships and humiliations under the leadership of the church-in-charge. They become effortless and have exhausted in bodies and minds for a long time. They have no time for spiritual cultivation, and they have lost their ability to preach. How can we pray in this case?”

(Audience “Church Sister”)

✚ The Lord of mercy, you understand the current situation of the church. Please strengthen the members of the church to pray for the shepherds and the person in charge of the church. Trust that you will keep the church in your hands with truth and peace

Psychological Dilemma

Earlier, a survey of “social phobias” found that up to 80% of the university students interviewed said they had slight “social phobias”. Despite the increasing prevalence of such barriers, many young people use the term “social phobias” as a ridicule for escaping from society. Faced with overcrowded living conditions, total disrespect for personal space, pressure to deal with strangers in the workplace, as well as the fierce social competition, many young people will choose to withdraw from part of their social life and hide behind the label of “social phobias” for protection.

(“China News Weekly”, April 7, 2022)

✚ Pray for the young people of this generation when all kinds of pressure have made them breathless. May the love of the Lord come upon them and bring them true freedom in salvation. Pray that their inner fear and anxiety be relieved, and they are fully healed.

Wednesday



Puzzled

“I've heard that many pastors' children were killed in car accidents; young ministers died with cancer; brothers and sisters owing a big family business collapsed after a big fire; family dismantled, or children suffered from various kinds of severe diseases etc. Why is it said that they were God's work and God's will? He gave all His love to His children, then why was there so much malevolence? Why don't you say they were the deeds of devil who is like a roaring lion looking everywhere for a man to eat? The more one loves and have faith to God, the more likely one will be attacked by Satan. My younger sister hosted a gathering point at home, and she often went to various points to preach and to witness the evangelization. A few years ago, in her forties, she didn't wake up from sleep. I don't understand. My sister was picked up by the Lord.”

(Audience “A Puzzled Sister”)

✚ The comforting Lord, please let “A Puzzled Sister” see not only the misfortune, but also the blessing and grace of the Lord. Give her the strength to face her sister's departure, and the wisdom to understand the true meaning of faith.

Flow Trend

Facing the challenge of aging population, different cities in China are striving for more youngers to live in. China released data on the population growth of permanent residents of cities last year. The top 10 include “new first tier cities” such as Chengdu, Hangzhou, Qingdao, Zhengzhou, Ningbo and Nanjing. These cities have high level of economic development and can provide many employment opportunities. There are also diversified entertainment enjoyment such as catering, sports, culture and art, as well as good public facilities such as medical treatment and education. Compared with Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, their lower house prices make them more attractive to youngers and get them easier to settle down.

(“Chengdu Economic Daily”, April 7, 2022)

✚ Pray that the Government has the wisdom to make good urban planning, promote social and economic development, have a perfect supporting and living environment. May the seeds of the Gospel take root in every place and revive the churches everywhere.