

Thursday



Relationship Changed

“Recently I baptized. I am going back to my parents to re-establish my relationship with them. They used to be very manipulative and insisted on controlling my life. Therefore, I escaped from them after my graduation from college. Although we live in the same city, I go back home to spend a few days only during the Chinese New Year. I don’t meet them in any other time. My life has embarked on another track after my baptism. I’m no longer worried about whether or not to take the postgraduate entrance examination. I have started a new job which is going well. My newly rented house is closer to my parents. I can now go home more often. As everyone says, if our relationship with God is harmonious, so will our relationship with other people be.”

(Sister Shannon)

⌘ If we are willing to change, the Lord will do amazing work in our lives. May God continue to lead her in her journey ahead so that she will become a marvelous witness at work and at home.

Measures To Recruit Talent

The Ministry of Public Security announced a series of convenience measures last month. The measures targeted at foreign residents who work, study, research, invest, start a business and visit relatives in China. When foreigner apply for residence permits, they can get back their passports after the verification. There will be no need to hold their passports until they have obtained the residence permits. This is for foreigners’ convenience to handle with their passports the affairs such as tours, accommodation, taxation, banking and mailing in the meantime. In addition, it is also proposed that foreign businessmen coming to China can apply for port visas which replace multiple-entry visas. The proposal will help create a convenient and friendly business environment, and promote cross-border exchanges of business and trading personnel.

(“China News Service”, August 3, 2023)

⌘ It is hoped that the Chinese government can further open the country to attract more visitors, and give an impetus to the cooperation between China and foreign countries in various fields. Please pray that these convenience measures will help foreign missionaries and believers to go to China to spread the gospel.

Friday



Rooted in Christ

“Thank you for the faithful service provided by Radio Liangyou for decades to allow more and more people to hear the pure gospel. Thank God for teaching me for more than 10 years through the radio programs. Learning God’s words has made the foundation of my faith take root and grow in Jesus Christ, and has let me understand more and more the Words in the Bible. May God bless Radio Liangyou so that the more it serves, the more joyful it will be and the more powerfully it will glorify the Trinity God in this last era.”

(A Christian sister)

⌘ Seeing so many loyal listeners who have been supporting and encouraging the radio station is the motivation for the co-workers to serve. May God lead all listeners, including the sister, so that we can grow in Christ and travel on this heavenly road together.

Pumi Converted To The Lord

Five years ago, some missionary scholars pointed out that the Pumi group in China is the ethnic group with the smallest number of Christians. It is estimated that there are only 30 Christians who account for 0.09% of the population. The Pumi people, who are scattered in northwest Yunnan and near Sichuan, have a history of 2,000 years. But their population is small with about 38,000 people. Once violated by plagues, they have been plagued by poverty and disease for a long time. Therefore, the population growth has been affected. Moreover, it is known that a German missionary has preached the gospel to the Pumi people but to no avail. In the 1990s, some Pumi people watched a movie about the life of Jesus and 30 people accepted the Lord in prayers. In recent years, a group of believers who care the ethnic minorities in Yunnan in the form of educational aid reported that a Pumi recipient converted to the Lord with the help of the believers, became spiritually mature, and devoted himself to the gospel ministry.

⌘ Thank God. He does not neglect this ethnic minority with a small population. The gospel seeds have borne good fruits among the Pumi people. Please ask the Lord to remember this ethnic group’s need of the gospel, and ensure that those believers will obtain spiritual nourishment and their faith will persist.

Saturday



Amazing Healing

“Thank God for making me reborn in the first half of this year. Originally, I was in the middle and late period of a severe heart disease. God Himself has removed all my sickness and healed me. I will have been put to death, but God’s amazing power has saved me. This is a pretty true testimony. I have started to attend Sunday services of a church constantly since last month. People in the church also witness the amazing power of God. I thank God for redeeming the people in this area. I also implore God to completely make a religious breakthrough. Please pray that God’s salvation will spread to every corner of this area and that more people can be saved. May the heart of the heavenly Father be satisfied and may my life be used by Him. Glorify and Praise Him! Amen!”

(Sister Yu)

⌘ Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for healing your beloved child, Sister Yu. It is really your amazing grace to see the sister being healed physically and being able to worship you in the church to become a nice witness. May your name be glorified by the sister.

Gospel Broadcasting

1 **Streaming System:** At present, our online radio "Tongxing Channel" relies on one third party supplier for program scheduling and streaming. For the purpose of diversification, we formed a new development team whose function is to search for other platforms and systems that can serve as a contingency alternative for scheduling and streaming. Pray that the Lord will grant wisdom for the team that another suitable platform may be found, that we may do online streaming with added flexibility, ease of use, and stability.

2 **Future Plans:** The Chinese Program Directors Conference was held in Manila in June. Program directors from different offices met for the first time in person after the pandemic, with wonderful fellowship and discussions. Among many issues, we explored with extensive discussions on a new direction of programming that would better cater to the needs of the now generation. And we looked into the potential applications of A.I. (artificial intelligence) in this ministry, resulting in some meaningful exchanges.

PRAYER NEWSLETTER

SEP / OCT 2023



Dear Warriors in Christ,

“When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Will you give me a drink?’”

(John 4:7)

The Bible said that Jesus “had to” go through Samaria when he left Judah for Galilee. Although it was said that going through Samaria was the most convenient way, it was not regarded as “the only way”. In fact, many Jews chose to take a detour in order to avoid the contact with the Samaritans at that time. Therefore, many people will think that Jesus’ “had to” in the scripture is the “must” in terms of His mission.

It is also a rule-breaking action for Jesus to take an initiative to get water from the woman beside the well. First, most Jews are not willing to socialize with Samaritans. Second, there is no one around and a man who accosts a lone and unfamiliar woman may leave room for scandal. Here we can note that Jesus is eclectic and willing to make an innovation and a breakthrough for the sake of the mission.

FEBC Hong Kong overcame all difficulties to start broadcasting the gospel to China more than 70 years ago. This is also a “must” regarding the mission. We must continue with it. Moreover, we must continue to make innovations regarding how to put into practice.

The “wideness” of gospel broadcasting refers not only to spread the good news to people, but also the requirement of a widespread support behind it. Thank you for walking with us always in prayers. I hope to continue to have you accompanying FEBC Hong Kong side by side along this journey of holding fast to the mission, and making breakthroughs and innovations.

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Sunday



Perplexed Youths

"My son has failed the China National College Entrance Examination this year. Having spent many depressed days in bed, he has indulged in mobile games. He was a Christian before and has left his religion due to studies, peer pressure, interpersonal relationship and teen temptations. He knows his own problems but feels so powerless to change the situation. I don't know how to help him neither but can only pray for him. I pray that God will give him strength and courage to face his problems. More important is that he will return to God. I don't know whether he will retake the examination or choose another path, and dare not discuss with him in this situation. May God give me wisdom to help my son."

(Sister Lin)

☞ God knows how helpless sister Lin and her son are. The China National College Entrance Examination is only one of the paths to success in life. May God help this young man to face the challenges ahead and find hope in Jesus Christ again.

Attack in School

Six people have been killed and one injured in a knife attack outside a kindergarten in Hengshan town, according to Lianjiang city police. The casualties include one teacher, two parents and three children. A 25-year-old man has been arrested but the police has not elaborated on a possible motive. The person-in-charge of the kindergarten said that their staff would try their best to deal with the aftermath and step-up security and inspections. The attack has again raised public concern and dialogue on school safety management. A netizen questioned the security measures of the kindergarten.



("China News Net", July 6, 2023)

☞ Pray for the injured and his/her family. May God heal their physical and emotional wounds and help them. Pray that local governments and schools will enhance school security measures to prevent this from happening again.

Monday



Hard Working Sower

"I met many old friends on the wedding ceremony of my friend's daughter. I talked about religion and God with two of my university friends and sent them some radio programs after coming back home. The next morning, one of them sent me a voice message that she was very touched after listening to the program that warmed her heart. Thank God! Hope that my friend will be chosen by God. I'm dealing with difficult family relationships right now. May God also give me wisdom and patience to make an impact on their lives."

(Sister Dai)

☞ May God use sister Dai to contact her friends and help them get God's grace. Pray for sister Dai for her enthusiasm and that God will lead her to settle her family conflict.

Boosting Domestic Demand

To revive the economy, the National Development and Reform Commission has introduced measures to restore and expand consumption. The Commission aims to stabilize spending of big-ticket items (remark: roughly categorized into three groups, i.e. energy, metal, agricultural products that will be traded in the product market), expand service consumption, boost consumption in rural areas, explore new types of expenditure, improve infrastructure and optimize the overall spending environment. The concerns of people include regions should refrain from implementing new car purchase restrictions, pushing forward the work of ensuring timely deliveries of off-the-plan properties, improving e-commerce and logistics infrastructure in rural areas, boosting the construction of digital consumption infrastructure, providing financial support for sectors including hospitality and catering, culture and tourism, sports and health, elderly care, and housekeeping service, etc., and full implementation of the paid leave system.

("People's Daily", August 1, 2023)

☞ Pray that the Government can get wisdom from God to take forward policies conducive to economic development facilitating recovery and development of various sectors. Pray that people can spend money properly and wisely, and will show mercy to the poor.

Tuesday



Willingness to Change

"I felt so hopeless in 2021. I had a very difficult relationship with my son when he just got married. As his then girlfriend was a non-Christian, I strongly opposed their marriage. I wasn't aware of my problems until talking with your program host. Learning to let go, I rely on God to change my actions and let God's love bind our family together. Now, I live in harmony with my family, and we have a terrific relationship. I'm most grateful for my husband's reading the Bible and praying with me every day. I'm striving for a change, but don't know how to communicate with my daughter-in-law. I would like to help her build a relationship with God."

(Sister Wang)

☞ Thank God for working a miracle to achieve harmony in sister Wang's family. She has a much more cheerful voice now. May God give sister Wang wisdom to communicate with her daughter-in-law.

An Imaginary University

The imaginary "Shanhe University" has recently become a hot topic in the mainland. The origin of "Shanhe University" can be traced to a joke that an internet user made. While the quantity of students in the four provinces, namely Shandong, Shanxi, Henan and Hebei, taking this year's China National College Entrance Examination, is huge, the regions only have a handful of renowned universities. Netizens then joked that if candidates in the provinces donated money, there would be enough funding to establish a university covering the four provinces that could admit more graduates. In response to the online discussion of "Shanhe University", the Vice-minister of Education said that the government would improve allocation of resources for high education to support the regions in central and western areas, especially populous provincial regions, to expand the scale of their higher education.

("China News Net", July 12, 2023)

☞ Pray for education in China. Pray that sufficient resources will be allocated to different regions to sustain the improvement of education quality with a view to providing a quality learning environment for students and opportunities for the underprivileged children to achieve their maximum potential.

Wednesday



Breakthrough in My Life

"I'm an undergraduate from the mainland and have been working for one year. I contacted Radio Liangyou to get electronic copies of the lecture notes before. I have listened to many of your programs during this period of time. The programs are good, including topics such as explaining religion and human care. My mind has been developed and my knowledge about the Bible expanded. However, I'm not brave enough yet to tell my colleagues that I'm a Christian. As my company is a public institution, I may be dismissed if I demonstrate my belief. It is difficult to get a job now. Owing God a lot, I feel so distressed and don't know what to do."

(Brother Wei)

☞ Thank God for building brother Wei's life through our programs. This is the work of God in brother Wei. God knows brother Wei's struggle. May God give courage to brother Wei to be a powerful witness of his changed life.

Wheeling Around



Why are there able-bodied young people using electric wheelchairs? One of the reasons is that they want to find a way to dodge the tightened road rules on electric vehicles by turning to electric wheelchairs as an alternative mode of transport.

An interviewee said that electric wheelchairs could be driven without a license and a helmet and on a pavement, and stop anywhere. As electric wheelchairs do not run on petroleum, and therefore are not governed by the conventional motor vehicle and non-motor vehicle laws. Some lawyers in China said that although the action was not illegal, the use of electric wheelchairs by healthy people raised moral concerns and affected traffic order.

("China News Net", July 6, 2023)

☞ Pray that people will not make decisions relying on their little wisdom and not do anything harmful to others for their self-interests. Pray that more people can get to know God, live in truth and a holy life.