

Douglas Wu's Family Prayer Letter from South Africa

March 1, 2012

On February 21, while we joyfully returned from visiting International Chinese Biblical Seminary in Europe (ICBSIE) and Lisbon Chinese Christian Church and tried to figure out what we should share with others, Brother Xiang yang He called us, “Teacher, Mr. Lin’s five family shops in Impala Platinum’s Rustenburg were completely vandalized by 15,000 striking workers.” The news startled me. “How are the family and their employees?” I asked. “Most of them are okay, but the damage is about R3,000,000. One of their relatives’ fourth vertebrae was fractured from violent assault. He is now paralyzed,” he answered. On the next day, I accompanied Mr. Lin’s son-in-law to discuss the matter with an attorney. After reading the insurance contract, the attorney informed us that his coverages do not include damage caused by strike riots! However, one of the insurance companies had transferred under SASRIA (South African Special Risks Insurance Association), the family may claim R300,000 of damage, but it’ll take two to three years to process. I called out, “Oh Lord! How could this happen!”

On the next day, SIM missionary Rev. Chang YuJing called me. A brother of the African church he serves murdered his wife and committed suicide. This event almost ignited a riot in his district and caused great distress to the Church.

On Sunday morning of Feb. 26, Brother Weng Xiamu came to me and said, “Teacher, my daughter-in-law was pregnant for eight months, then she delivered a preemie on February 13. We tried to call you from a hospital near your home, but your daughter said you were gone to Spain. The child died the next day!” I cried out again: “Oh Lord! How could this be!”

On Sunday afternoon, Jing Shao asked me to pray for his dad’s recovery from an intestinal tumor resection. After the prayer, the doctors discovered that his gut was leaking. The physicians suspected that his thoracic diaphragm was injured during his cancer surgery three years ago. Theoretically, he is not suitable to undertake any major surgeries under such conditions. Currently, Mr. Shao relies on antibiotics to reduce his high fever. Please pray that his inner wound would be healed soon.

After Sunday night’s service at Rustenburg, Jianwen Xie asked me to go to his home and pray for his son who lives in China. The child had a kidney transplant three years ago. Starting last Wednesday, he experienced sharp pain in his buttocks every night. Brother Xie planned go back to China the next morning. Therefore we knelt before the Lord and asked Him to heal his son.

While I was on my knees, the Holy Spirit reminded me that when the church was facing crisis on 2004, our former CIM Executive Director encouraged me from [Isaiah 6:1-5](#) “I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple...” However, I was clueless on how to comfort Mr. Lin for I have never gone through such a traumatic experience. Nevertheless, Mr. Lin said to me, “Teacher, Don’t worry. Shaved beard will grow back. Our only job is to trust the Lord!” Brother Wang also said to me, “Teacher, there’s nothing we can do to bring back the child. God has His own plan. Didn’t He promise Abraham to bless him?” After I heard their words, I confessed my sins to the Lord for I was complaining, “Lord, how come you always give you children the bread of adversity and the water of affliction?” Do you have to use this method to allow your children to see that the

teachers will be hidden no more? Is this the only method to make your children walk in your ways? Can't we see you in richness, glory, and success instead?" Oh Lord, please forgive me!

Praise God! While we were tempted, He always provides a way out so that we can endure it. On Monday morning, Brother Xie called me, "Hallelujah! I don't need to go back to China. The doctor discovered that my son had pediatric rashes instead of allergic reactions to immunosuppressants. Thank God for healing him. His pain has been reduced." Then the Holy Spirit also reminded me: Didn't Hailing Zheng and Yaqing Huang just had a newborn at 3am on the 24th? Didn't Liyu Zhang also had a healthy baby?

[Ruth 2:12 "May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge."](#)

Our trip to International Chinese Biblical Seminary in Europe (ICBSIE) and Lisbon Church last month was very fruitful. Seeing how our fellow Spanish and Portuguese Chinese brothers and sisters served the Lord, Alex Ko, his wife, and Bijin Chen were greatly encouraged. Alex shared his experience with the congregation on Sunday, he also prayed for a revival in Pretoria.

[I Samuel 10:6 "The Spirit of the LORD will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person."](#)

Our son, Clarence, would like to share the following story with you. He was going to have a piano audition at school. Mother asked him, "Which *shou* (song) are you going to play?" He answered, "Of course the two *shou* (hands)." Mom was delighted to hear that her son was going to play two songs, so she proceeded in asking, "which two?" Annoyed, Clarence answered, "What else? Of course I'm going to play with my left *shou* (hand) and my right *shou* (hand), what else do I have?" As you can tell, Whitney and Son's conversation was like "a chicken talking to a duck."

After we moved out from the old place, the previous landlord refused to refund our deposit. He claimed that R12,000 was spent for repair. We asked him to show proof of purchase and the labor cost through an attorney friend of ours, Anton. The landlord came up with three pages of hand-written ledger, but no receipts! Anton recommended me to accept the way it is and forget about lawsuit. Whitney and the children also encouraged me to let go. 'Health is more important' they said. Nevertheless, I kept asking the Lord, "Since this is Your money, what You say counts!" One morning during my devotion, the Lord reminded me the film, "Fly Wheel." In the movie, the pastor bought a used car from a brother. He didn't know that the car salesman overcharged him by about \$3,000. The pastor knew very little about automobile and thought he was getting a good deal, so he wanted to bless him. As soon as the salesman heard that the pastor was going to bless him, he quickly bowed his head to receive blessing. The pastor prayed: *Dear God, this brother has been good to Your servant. May You bless him just the way he blessed me with the sale of the car. In Jesus Name I pray. Amen.* At the end of the film, the brother repented and returned what he ripped off from the pastor! After thinking about this, I called the landlord and said to him, "How can I continue to pray for you and ask our Lord Jesus to bless you the way you have blessed me?" Long story short, he returns R2,000 to us. This incident reminds me of II Samuel 22 : 25~27 "[The LORD has rewarded me](#)

according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in his sight. 26 “To the faithful you show yourself faithful, to the blameless you show yourself blameless, 27 to the pure you show yourself pure, but to the devious you show yourself shrewd.”

II Samuel 22:31 also says, “As for God, his way is perfect: The LORD’s word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him.”



Brother Alex Ko practiced preaching at Fuqing Fellowship



Pray for Yaqing before delivery/ Christ's Disciples Training Seminary alumni reunion at ICBSIE



Serving at Lisbon Chinese Church/Warm reception from Pastor Luo / Eight visiting ICBSIE

..... **Douglas and Whitney’s BLOG**
<http://tw.myblog.yahoo.com/douglas1218@kimo.com>

THANKSGIVING

- 1、 Our traveling expense to ICBSIE was fully covered. We thank the Lord for His provision and the opportunity to bring some brothers and sisters to experience God and expand their vision for missions. We also thank God for Pretoria Chinese Christian Church, Pretoria Fuqing Fellowship, Rustenburg Fuqing Fellowship, and others who supported us financially.

- 2、 We appreciate my brother who gave our children rides to and from school while we were away.
- 3、 Praise God that three new babies were born last month.
- 4、 We are grateful to God that OM missionary, Wan-ming Lin, came to worship us in Pretoria. She attends our Sunday worship and Friday night fellowship regularly. She also taught “The Challenge of Cross-cultural Missions” with youth at C2S2.
- 5、 Thank the Lord for motivating Alex Ko’s family and Bijin Chen visiting ICBSIE. May the Lord continue to guide them.
- 6、 Praise the Lord that our eldest daughter, Sharon, came back safely from visiting her biological father in Taiwan. She had a great time with him and other relatives over the Chinese New Year.
- 7、 Thank the Lord for watching over His church. Thank Him also that we are able to gain access by faith into His grace in which we now stand.

SUPPLICATION

- 1、 OMF has planned to launch an African Chinese ministry training course. Please pray for this joint effort and many will come to receive training.
- 2、 Please pray for Douglas that he will be persistent in asking the Lord to heal his nettle rash. May the Lord heal him.
- 3、 Pray for C2S2 campus ministry at the University of Pretoria. University requires them to re-register. May the Lord grant wisdom and grace, so that they may propagate the Gospel on campus.
- 4、 Pretoria Church and Pretoria Fuqing Fellowship plans to conduct a Discipleship Training class in March. Please ask the Lord to guide the training.
- 5、 South Africa is in need of missionaries. May the Lord of harvest to send out workers.
- 6、 Public safety in South Africa is horrendous. We covet your prayers for the African Chinese immigrants who will not only get used to South African life style but also be on alert wherever they are. May the Lord grant us peace and safety.

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