

# Douglas Wu Prayer Letter

01 April 2015

In March, Whitney and I had the opportunities to testify in San Francisco Bay Area how God had graciously healed me from the misery of hepatitis. Through our mission organization, CIM, our family, ministries, and financial needs were met during my one-year treatment. We are grateful for God's grace, your prayers, and financial support which enabled us to give these testimonies from place to place. All honor and glory to God, of course. As we tribute glory to God forever, we still need to give thanks to our board members, pastors, churches, and individual brothers and sisters whom cherish us with Christ's love. May the Lord multiply His blessings upon us for He is the Lord who gives and takes away.

Ephesians 2:1-5 "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved..."

To our surprise, CIM arranged a four-day Hawaiian excursion for us. During the trip, I don't know why I kept comparing the place with Cape Town. There are some differences, however, to my opinion, Cape Town's scenery is superior than Honolulu's. To be honest, at the very beginning, I was a bit disappointed and mused over the idea that these tourists should visit Cape Town instead (pride)! After two to three hours into the tour, I noticed, the greatest difference between Honolulu and Cape Town was that you could go any where without worrying about your wife being robbed! As tourists, our feelings were safe and relaxed whether we shopped or laid on beach at night, we had never felt so carefree in South Africa (humbled). Later on I discovered that the Hawaiian government and people manage their land with uttermost care which allowed every visitor to appreciate her land and the wonder of God's creation. As a result, both the hosts and the guests were blessed because our hearts and minds were rested and refreshed. On the contrary, Cape Town is one of the most unique and beautifully created lands on earth; however, due to the people and their government under the bondage of sin, they haven't learned to take care of God's creation, therefore the scenery is tarnished, tourists are diminishing.



Honolulu Sunset at Waikiki Beach



Hanauma Bay, Honolulu

Dimond Head, a volcanic tuff cone

coastal scene





Pearl Harbor

USS Arizona Memorial / Location of sunken hull of the battleship

Pearl Harbor has left an indelible impression on me, especially the film we saw documenting the unexpected attack in 1941. It reminds me the hour of Lord's second coming, no one would know in advance; therefore, we need to keep watch! As a matter of fact, at the time of Japanese invasion, an American radar operator did report seeing an unusually large "blip" on their radar screen, but no one paid much attention to the report which caused the U.S. irreversible and devastating consequences. What a lesson to us not to ignore the warnings of prophets, saints, elders, and pastors because we don't want to end up in "weeping and gnashing of teeth."



Nu'uanu Pali Lookout

Running shoes given by Brother Kou

**CCIC-NV** mission members

In retrospect, when God gave me good health, shrewdness, and wisdom, I abused His goodness, fell in sin, and became Satan's servitude for I did not know God. I lost the original beauty of God created in me and lived in jealousy, treachery, and greed which ended up in hurting myself, others, or the community. I was even proud of what I was doing. Little did I know that I was charging toward death.

Ephesians 2:6-9 "6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

I am so thankful that Jesus Christ reached me and saved me. He redeemed me from the penalty of sin -- death-- and resurrected me through His grace. Throughout our furlough in the SF Bay Area, we experienced the depth and width of Christ's love! We are also thankful for many, whom we don't even know, praying and giving to us with willing hearts. Words can't express how appreciated we are. We believe that God will remember you and bless you. In Christ, may His glory be magnified through broken vessels such as Whitney and me. We'd also like to express our deepest appreciation to our spiritual fathers who cared for years for CIM and those who work under the organization. Our family is one of the beneficiaries. I believe the care was done through grace of Christ, that's why they remain unshakable yet newer by the year. Consistently, they keep watch over this mission organization which is as tiny as a mustard seed. I remember our late Director had



quoted to me, "God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right." (Acts 10:34-35)

We also saw with our own eyes how the CIM board of directors have labored in response to God's love. Voluntarily, they work tirelessly as described in the following verse, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters," (Colossians 3:23) We know that they will receive the inheritance from the Lord for He is the one whom we serve.



Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Due to pastors and brothers' support in the past year and change of South African visa regulations, I am thinking about inviting and recruiting short-term or middle-term missionaries while we wait for long-term career missionary to join us. This plan of shared ministry may be implemented by "a team of 3 to 7 individuals who take turns to come at least once a year, stay for two to three months at a time, and consistently shepherd/care for one church with their teammates." I brought the idea before our Board. If it fits God will, may the Lord open the door wide for us. If it is not God's will, I am sure that He will send His own laborers to do His work.



J Pastor Kung before leaving for the U.S. /Du family visiting Alex's family in Taiwan



..... Douglas and Whitney's BLOG http://douglaswufamily.blogspot.tw

My E-mail address: douglas1218@telkomsa.net or douglas@cdts.org.tw



## **THANKSGIVING**

- 1. I am extremely thankful for your fervent prayers and financial support when I was treated for Hepatitis C interferon. CIM board of directors notified me that the balance came out even which proved to me again that God's grace is sufficient for me. He always knows our needs. May God blessed us as we worshipped Him and served Him in one accord.
- 2. Special appreciation goes to Abraham & Milly Kou, CT & GH Tarn, Brian & Kathy Tse, and Donald & Eunice Wong's family. Your faithfulness in serving the Lord encourage us and made us realize that we are not alone on our celestial journey. We shall meet again at "pearl gate, jasper wall in New Heaven and New Earth."
- 3. If it wasn't for Pastor Kung's coming to support us for two months, and Mrs. Kung's generosity to let her husband to come, Whitney and I would not be able to complete our deputation and furlough successfully. May our sharings inspire more to follow the Lord. We are also thankful for Brother Chan who accommodated Pastor Kung for two months in his home. May the Lord bless him and his family!
- 4. Wang & Lily Li took us for a trip to a National Park during our furlough. We enjoyed a few-day hike and rest. May the Lord remember them.
- 5. We are grateful that CIM arranged Whitney and I to visit Hawaii for four days. I had a close encounter with the Lord during the trip. He is always with me. If I go up to the heavens, He is there; if I make my bed in the depths, He is there.
- 6. We were very thankful to be reunited with XiangYong He's family and to be invited for dinner in Honolulu for a great fellowship. I met him in Fuqing in February. What a surprise to see him again in Honolulu.
- 7. Donald and Eunice are taking a marriage counseling course. While we stayed at their home, we received extra bonus -- learning more about each other and accepting the way we are. We learned in humiliation.
- 8. We are thankful for our eldest daughter, Sharon, who took care of her sister and brother like a mother and helped them to be more self-reliant at home.
- 9. We'd like to give thanks to all the faithful board members of such a small organization as CIM. Their goodness helped us to stand on a firm foundation.

# **SUPPLICATIONS**

- 1. Sharon plans to apply for psychology graduate program in Taiwan or in the U.S. Please remember her in your prayer.
- 2. We are looking for a venue for July and December family camps. May the Lord direct us in finding the right time and place(s).
- 3. Please remember South African government in your prayer. New policy regarding electricity load-shedding has not solve the problem. Energy bill will continue to inflate another 12%. Due to tariffs increase, oil and gas price will also raise to \$1.05 per liter. Unless the dominance of ANC is weakened by other parties, check and balances of powers will not take place.
- 4. Please pray for wisdom as we try to balance between four church ministries located in three cities. Our hope is that brothers and sisters will draw nearer to God through our ministries. Our greatest longing is that more missionaries would come and stay for a long time.



- 5. Please pray for Lord's will be revealed to CIM board of directors as soon as possible concerning short-term and middle-term mission strategies, so that we may act in one accord.
- 6. Continue to intercede for God to raise up more local workers to serve the Chinese on this land.
- 7. South African electricity load-shedding policies had impacted on the country's economy (foreign divestment), security (unemployment rate increase), government efficiency (snail-speed), health system, and transportation, etc. Please pray that our government will quickly solve the problem of power shortage.
- 8. South African public security is despicable. Vandalism and robbery occur frequently among the Chinese. Please pray earnestly for us that new immigrants may adapt to South African way of life including new banking habits. They also need to keep alert at all time for personal and home safety. May the Lord watch over us wherever we go.

North American Donations

Title: Chinese International Missions

Mail to: CIM Headquarters,

P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, U.S.A

Please specify the offering is for "Douglas Wu - South Africa Missions"

#### **Taiwan Donations:**

臺灣奉獻帳號: 華泰商業銀行、石牌分行

帳號: 1761000047661

戶名: 財團法人臺北市中華基督教長老會石牌信友堂

◎ 請注明奉獻 CIM 南非宣教士吳元國

## Immanuel

Douglas / Whitney Sharon /Helen /Clarence