

Douglas Wu Family Prayer Letter

02.May ,2016

Psalm 56:10-13 “In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise—in God I trust and am not afraid. What can man do to me? I am under vows to you, my God; I will present my thank offerings to you. For you have delivered me from death and my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.”

CCIC-Cupertino’s short-term mission team (STM) left us on April 1st. Two nights before their departure, at about two o’clock in the morning, burglars invaded our small community. The suspects did not only damaged the window glass (a crack about 10m) of the neighbors’ who live right across the street from us, but also broke the window glass (about a 30m crack) of other neighbors’ who live behind us. For years, Whitney and I hesitated to lodge our guests in commercially operated hotels (‘guest house’) for fear of such perils. To our surprise, burglary even happened in a gated community such as ours. This event allowed the missionary guests to experience South African deteriorating public safety. Nevertheless, when Whitney and I prayed for the short-term missionaries, we realized that God had already put hedges around them to protect them, we bowed with thanksgiving to the Lord.

I would like to mention specifically one of STM team’s legacies. Before the team members departed, they left us a set of worksheets developed by the “Bible Seminary.” We readily shared the materials with our brothers and sisters in hope that God will fill us with His Word and give us peace. But honestly speaking, When I passed out the first sheet, my faith was small. I thought that only one or two would do the work, and the rest would forget to bring the sheets back. As a result, contrary to my expectation, ten brothers and sisters completed the worksheet. Their diligence encouraged others to keep on studying. Besides this, more amazing things happened to us.

In the past month, robberies at Chinese stores took place one after another. Worse yet, after a shop-owner shot and killed an armed robbery suspect in mid-April, robberies, assaults, and gun-shots happened almost everyday targeting toward the Chinese. Two of our brothers and a Gospel friend were looted. Robbers sacked Brother He’s shop. The doctor had to close his head injury with five stitches. A gunshot narrowly missed Brother Lin at a crossroad when the suspects attempted to robbed him but fell through. Three men tried to subdue Mr. Yu with the intent of robbing him when he was at a hypermarket. He fired at least eight shots to scare the culprits away. However, they still took his iPhone 6! Lin Mama told us later in her testimony that bullets have no eyes; if the Lord had not changed their trajectory, Brother Lin would be shot either on his arm or chest. It is God’s Word that kept all three of them safe!



Sister Lin gave testimony on how the Lord deflected the bullets and kept them safe RECCC prayed earnestly for local law and order.



Lin's 5 grandchildren attending Sunday School Shop opens for business even though crime rates are high Move into a guarded community

We had a new comer, named Fion, at PECCC last month. She is a cross-cultural missionary sent by OM (Operation Mobilization) from Hong Kong. At the end of April, she also brought with her four young colleagues: Brother Zhang, Brother Zheng, Sister Su and Sister Zhuang. Their appearance brightened our fellowship group. We believe that we are witnessing the fulfillment of God's promise: He shall send His own workers to harvest the field. Our whole congregation is immensely encouraged by their presence. In the past twelve years, Whitney and I have been praying for CIM missionaries coming our way. Instead, these young people sent by OM are in our midst. Honestly speaking, we are a little jealous. However, when we come before God's Word, we know for sure that His promise will come true one day. [Isaiah 52:7](#) "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"



Fion (Right 2) in white shirt OM missionary with the youth group STM team presents a gift to their host family

Sometimes, whether it's STM team or other organization's missionaries visiting, how we wish that they could stay. However, knowing the vast needs for the Gospel all over the world. We quietly hope and wait for His will be done.

On April 19-29, Whitney and I went to Turkey and visited the ruins of Ephesus, Laodicea, and Pergamum, etc. We are very grateful that CIM gave us 10 days off, and my oldest sister financed our trip, so that we may go. Since I took a Holy Land class at the Seminary in 2002, I always wanted to visit the cities where Apostle Paul had set foot. Unexpectedly, the Lord made my dream come true. While we worked on the itinerary, terrorists were attacking the Turkish capital. The day before we left, explosions happened in in the SE of Turkey. After we arrived, blasting also took place in a city. While the country remains unrest, one benefit we enjoyed was fewer tourists and relaxing visits. As Whitney and I trolled by the ruins of those once populous and affluent cities, especially Ephesus where Apostle Paul had lived for two years, we couldn't but recalled the warning prophecy recorded in the book Revelation: "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people... Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.



Ruins and Remains of metropolis Ephesus



Ruins and Remains of Laodicea

Thus, we pray for our own spiritual life. May the Lord keep us, so that we will not be spit out from His mouth, and the lamp stand won't be removed. We also pray for the South African brothers and sisters. May the Lord keep our minds and thoughts, so that our faith may be strengthened in His Word, and one day we will see His glory face to face. Of course, we pray even more deeply for the fulfillment of the Great Commission. May the Gospel be preached to the ends of the earth including the Middle East. **Until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in, and so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob." (Romans 11:25-26)**

..... Douglas & Whitney's BLOG <http://douglaswufamily.blogspot.tw/>

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THANKSGIVING

1. Thank God for protecting Brother Lin and Brother He from arm assault during robberies. We are even more thankful that their faith has been strengthened through the experiences.
2. Thank the Lord for helping Sharon, our oldest daughter, to renew her driver's license successfully. She will receive the new driver's license in six weeks.
3. We are very thankful for the opportunity to visit Turkey and to tour the ruins of the cities where Paul had proclaimed the Gospel. We are also grateful for the generosity of my eldest sister who financed the trip and CIM who approved our vacation time. While we were gone, thank the Lord for keeping our three children safe to and from school, and they learned to take good care of themselves.
4. We are thankful that Ko Fo and Xin Yue Zhang's family is applying for joining CIM as missionaries. With the U.S. visas in hand, the whole family plans to interview at the CIM headquarter in California at the end of June. May the Lord provide their traveling needs.
5. Please give thanks to Clarence's recent grades improvement. He is studying hard and living by a routine schedule.

SUPPLICATION

1. Please remember South African worsened public security in your prayers. We desperately need better law order. Please pray especially for the safety of our kinsmen in Rusttenburg. May the Lord keep them, and robbery incidents may decrease.
2. Please pray for open door for a new Bible study group at PECCC. We hope this will be a disciple equipping fellowship.
3. Please continue to intercede for Sharon's graduate applications. She is waiting for the response from the psychology program she had applied in the U.S. May the Lord open the door for her.
4. It is Clarence's turn to take the college entrance examination this year. Please ask the Lord to grant him persistence, perseverance, and resolve to do well in his tests.
5. Please pray for a suitable venue for our year-end church retreat. May the Lord provide, so that we may reserve a place in the near future successfully.
6. May the Lord raise up local workers to serve our kinsmen on this land and make disciples of Christ.
7. Pastor and Mrs. Kung plans to come for short-term missions at the end of May for three weeks. May the Lord keep them and grant them a convenient, comfortable, and safe place to live.
8. Our greater hope is that the Lord will send out missionaries through CIM to harvest the field together.
9. 10、Law and order unravels in South Africa. Burglaries and robberies emerge endlessly. Please pray earnestly for immigrants to improve their way of life including money usages and circulation. They also need to guard their home against crime. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon them and keep them safe.

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