



6.30.2014

“Who will tend my sheep?”

~Theresa Poon

Jesus lamented about who will tend His sheep as He was about to lay down His life for mankind. In a similar fashion, Rev. Douglas Wu was worried about who will tend his sheep during his absence from his ministries in South Africa while he was receiving medical treatment for his Hepatitis C in Taiwan. Seeing his anguish in Taipei during my visit in April, I tried to comfort him that God would provide and that Douglas should just focus on getting enough rest and gaining a full recovery. I was blessed to travel to SA in May to serve in any ministry the Lord put in my path.

During our short time there, Whitney hosted Christine Pi and me at her place and served alongside us in many areas of the ministry in Pretoria—preaching at the Pretoria Evangelical Fuqing Chinese Christian Church and at the PECCC (Pretoria Evangelical Chinese Christian Church); visiting church members (present and previous) at their shops and with meals; sharing at the first mothers’ group (of Taiwan nationality); observing an English-speaking class taught by Chrisna and



meeting up with her on various ministries; providing training sessions for the youth who are heading to Taiwan for their first STM trip in July; and

encouraging Whitney, their children, and church deacons and coworkers.

The Chinese nationals living in SA often face problems that we living in the West may find difficult to understand. Crime is rampant here with robbery and theft being the major ones. As soon as we left the Johannesburg Airport, we were warned to be careful of our belongings. During the entire time I was there, I was used to putting my purse in the trunk before I got in the car. Apparently there are many instances of robberies when cars stop at red lights - robbers hiding in corners, often with guns or knives, demanding cash, jewelry, mobile phones, anything of value. If you recall from Rev. Wu’s past newsletters, there had been several cases of brothers who had been the victims of such frightening encounters and have even died from them.

There are also robberies into houses, often with the homeowners inside. Even with security alarm systems, electrical barbed wires, and guard dogs the intruders do not seem deterred. A major reason is that even when they are caught, the police usually release them as quickly as they are arrested because they do not want to provide housing and food for them in prisons. With nothing to lose, these thugs become repeat offenders. I will never understand the feeling of the loss of control in my own property and the invasion of privacy that

the Chinese face here. Some have a harder time dealing with the fear and have since moved back to China. Others would send their children back to be cared for by grandparents so that the parents do not have to worry about their safety.

I often found myself shaking my head in sorrow over some of my visits with the Fuqing families. Each one has enough heartbreak to make for a TV drama. Many of them are shopkeepers who must work long hours, and often with the ambition of opening another shop or buying a bigger house or more expensive car. They are busy investing in their earthly wealth and not the wealth that can be found in God’s word. May the Lord impress upon their hearts that God desires for them to know Him more through prayer and the reading of His word.

Then there were those Fuqing who are blue-collar workers with not much education (some are pretty much illiterate). This makes preaching a sermon or holding Bible studies at a deeper level not practical since they are not willing or ready to read their own Bible. Also, their culture of arranged-marriages children before they reach twenty-one or twenty-two often means these young people need to be responsible for their own families already.

With a seemingly endless list of challenges, setbacks, and problems, it might seem like a lost cause to bring the Gospel to SA. But we know that what is not possible with men is possible with God. The Apostle Paul counseled the believers in Colosse that, “As God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone.



Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in

perfect unity.” (Col 3:12-14) Please join us in praying for the Fuqing believers to have a thirst for studying God’s word, for prayer, and a desire to invest in each other, and also in encouraging and supporting Rev. and Mrs. Wu.

Who will tend the sheep in South Africa? Jesus said there are other sheep who are in the other pen who need to be gathered into his own flock. Rev. Douglas and Whitney desperately need more workers to labor with them in this far away country in Africa. Are you willing? Will you answer the Macedonian call?

BRAZIL

We thank God that the World Cup being held in Sao Paulo has gone according to schedule on June 12 and that there have been no negative repercussions so far. Many brothers and



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sisters have been concerned about the situation in Brazil; they worried that tenuous situations may have grown even more so during the World Cup events. They have expressed fear for the safety of our short term mission team coming in July. However, in spite of danger and challenges, we can only follow the guide and will of God knowing that he is our commander and the one who gives us a heart of courage, not a spirit of fear. He is leading the way for us and we will closely follow. We pray and believe that the 18 day short term missions journey will surely be of help and encouragement to the people in the cities where we will be ministering, and that they will experience the mighty power of God at work.



The team has been working hard in preparing for the program and all the workshops, songs, messages and activities that will be taking place during the trip. They will be going to three different cities to serve and their target will include new immigrants, children, youth, adults and believers. The first stop will be in Salvador, the oldest cultural capital of Brazil (July 17-21). The second stop will be in Sao Paulo (July 22-25), and the group will end their trip in Belo Horizonte (July 26-Aug1). We know that the Lord has many great things planned for all involved and pray that the team will bring back fresh testimonies and zeal for the gospel. Please pray for God's presence and blessings.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1. Pray that Rev. Douglas Wu will not have adverse effects from his medications and for a full recovery so that he can be cured from the Hepatitis C virus.
2. Pray for the PECCC youth fellowship's STM trip to Taiwan in July, that the Lord will grant travel safety and ministry success.
3. Pray for Mrs. Wu's safety and her physical, emotional, spiritual health while she will serves in South Africa on her own during the time the 3 children are gone for STM in Taiwan and Douglas recuperates in Taiwan.
4. Pray that everything goes smoothly for the reapplication process of PECCC with the South African government.

- 5. Continue to pray for the seminary studies of brother Alex Ko and his wife Nicole in Taiwan.
6. Pray for the new immigration laws in South Africa because illegal immigrants may face up to one year in jail if found guilty. This new precept might affect at least 50,000 Chinese people there. Some of our Fu Qing brothers and sisters are in this category as they are without legal status.
7. Pray that more brothers and sisters will commit to serve the Chinese people in South Africa.
8. Pray for the preparation and hearts of the Brazil STM team. Ask that the work of the Holy Spirit will be present in their lives and ministries as they prepare to embark on this journey.
9. Pray that the coworkers in Brazil, the medical team and the STM members to have a healthy, vibrant, and cooperative heart, spirit, and body.
10. Pray for travel safety, weather, lodging, and clean and nutritious food for the STM to Brazil.
11. Pray for the expansion of the Village School Ministry in Ghana. Ask the Lord to call brothers and sisters to join STM teams to support the work there.
12. Ask the Lord to raise up French-speaking workers to join in the various ministry in Togo.
13. Ask the Lord to provide abundantly for the various financial needs of CIM.
14. Ask the Lord to raise up more coworkers to join in the ministries of CIM.
15. Pray for the healing of Mrs. Pi's eyes and for her to have good health as she works and travels.

FINANCIAL REPORT: May 2014

Table with 4 columns: Category, Income, Expense, Balance. Rows include General, Missions, and Total.

If you have a burden for the CIM ministries, please send in a check payable to CIM and mail it to P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA. Thank you!

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