

## Prayer Letter of Douglas Wu and Family

February 1, 2020

Just before the Chinese New Year, when brothers and sisters were in the midst of recounting God's blessing in the past year and sending each other joyful greetings on WeChat, the Wuhan 2019 novel coronavirus infection unexpectedly erupted, which immediately extinguished all the festive spirit and celebration. When people who went to China for the holiday gradually returned to South Africa after the Chinese New Year, we learned about the severity of the viral infection and its spread around the globe! The Chinese churches in Johannesburg announced on Sunday, Jan. 26, that all weekday fellowships were suspended and only the Sunday worship remained unchanged, although further adjustment could be made depending on the virus situation. We've also immediately started to pray about this infection. *Jeremiah 29:7 "Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."* The uncertainty of the coronavirus infection is testing our faith. Some of the Chinese Christians in South Africa have strong faith and believe in simply proclaiming God's name and God will keep His children safe, while some others are not as strong.



Johannesburg Tuesday night Bible study   New Wednesday night Bible study   Praying for brother Liu's travel

*Psalm 122:6~9 "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: 'May those who love you be secure. May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels.' For the sake of my brothers and friends, I will say, 'Peace be within you.' For the sake of the house of LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity."* Five brothers and sisters in Rustenburg have postponed their trips back home to China by up to six months, and have also reduced their runs to Johannesburg for merchandise. Under the circumstances, they held strong onto the Lord with faith, hope, and God's love. On the night of Chinese New Year they held a potluck, followed by communion on the next night. During the fellowship they prayed intently for the Wuhan coronavirus situation, and Whitney and I were deeply moved. O Lord, may your compassion be on China, and our fellow kinsmen may repent and follow Jesus. Not only their physical health is restored, but also their soul and spirit are redeemed by the grace of God.



Rustenburg Chinese New Year potluck   Rustenburg church Sunday worship   Brother He calling to worship

We also prayed for the safety of the brothers and sisters who went to China at beginning of the year, as well as for God’s will for their remaining itineraries in February, whether it’d be returning to South Africa or continuing to stay in China. But the most important is for them to be safe.



Rustenburg Sunday Bible study   Rustenburg Monday night Bible study   Children Sunday school



Visitations & prayers on Mondays in Rustenburg

On Sunday afternoons Whitney and I usually travel to Rustenburg. We’d stay overnight and on the following day we’d do visitations at city center with the shops and at the mining area. Usually we’d return to Pretoria on Monday nights after the Bible study fellowship, but we’d stay another night if needed. On Tuesday nights we normally meet for Bible study at the Liangs home in Johannesburg. We praise God that He opened another door for us to meet in the Xiongs home in Johannesburg on Wednesday nights, after the previous Friday night Bible study was stopped. May God watch over this new Bible study fellowship and the six members.



Sunday worship at Johannesburg / Speaker at New Year's benediction for Taiwan / 3-Day vacation at Cape Town



Wirh Dr. Huang's family at Cape Town      With Minister Chen's family      Visiting brother Zheng and new baby

Our daughter Helen started her internship at the beginning of this year. The Odendaalsrus Provincial Hospital, where she is assigned, is located at the mining area and doesn't have a lot of patients. Therefore, she has to spend two days each week for rotation in four other clinics. The distances of those clinics range from 20 minutes to an hour by car. She seemed happy with the arrangements but acknowledged it'd be tiring with all the car travels. Please pray for safety in her travels and for her personal safety from crimes.



The new pastor of CCS church      Holy Spirit led us to brother Zhu      The 3 Lin brothers visiting doctor

... **Our blog - <http://douglaswufamily.blogspot.tw/>**

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### **Praises & Intercession**

1. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to be invited to the Republic of China New Year's Day flag raising ceremony in Johannesburg and to lead the benediction prayer for Taiwan.
2. Praise the Lord that Helen has found a suitable church, and it also happens to be of the same denomination as the church hosting us in Johannesburg.
3. Praise the Lord that South Africa is still free from any Wuhan coronavirus infection so



far. Please continue to pray for us.

4. Praise the Lord with thanksgiving that Clarence wasn't hurt in his recent car accident. A piece of glass fell from the car in front but it only damaged the hood and radiator, and the case has been settled with the insurance company.
5. Praise the Lord that Whitney and I were able to enjoy a 3-day vacation with just the two of us.
6. Praise the Lord for the opportunity to serve separately from Alex and Nicole Ko in the past year. Since there's no overlap now, I'll resume sending my prayer letter at the beginning of the month starting in January. Please continue to pray for our family and CIM.

### **Prayer List**

1. Pray for the Wuhan coronavirus infections to be contained quickly and extinguished, and ask God to keep South Africa safe from infections. When I held a class with brother Zhu in the church, the new white pastor asked us to wash our hands and put on face masks. We also leave the decision on whether to continue the fellowship and worship services in God's hands, and we'll proceed in whichever direction God points us. Please remember this in your prayers.
2. Pray for the security and tax related obstacles faced by the Rustenburg church in their effort to open a bank account.
3. The Tuesday Johannesburg Bible study had just resumed for two weeks and the Wednesday Bible study had just started for two weeks when the Wuhan coronavirus infection erupted. Pray for God to give us wisdom, so we can act within His will and for the peace of God that transcends all understanding.
4. Pray for God to provide a suitable house at a safe location in Johannesburg for us.
5. Pray for the brothers and sisters who went home to China for the New Year celebration but are now stuck in China because of the coronavirus infection quarantine. In most families only one partner took the trip as the other had to stay behind and manage the store, so there's anxiety on both ends in most cases.
6. Pray for God's protection and peace that no anti-Chinese incidents occur in cities like Johannesburg because of the Wuhan coronavirus infections.
7. Pray for Helen's South Africa birth certificate application process as we wait for God's timing.
8. Pray for South Africa's political and crime situations. May God watch over the South African Chinese people and that they may enjoy peace in Jesus Christ.

Please send donations to: **Chinese International Missions**

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Immanuel,  
Clarence/Helen/Sharon Whitney/Douglas