

Prayer Letter of Douglas Wu and Family

September 1, 2020

In light of the rapidly decreasing COVID-19 cases, South Africa government announced on August 17 to lower the national lockdown measures to Level 2, which meant restaurants, schools, and churches can reopen with some restrictions. However, all South Africans know very well that the numbers came down because the government drastically reduced COVID-19 testing from the original 50,000 to 60,000 people a day to only about 10,000 people a day over a period of ten days. Therefore, the daily count of positive cases dropped from about 15,000 to only about 2,500! But our brothers and sisters all agreed to wait until late September to decide if in-person meetings should resume, and our host church also hasn't taken any action either.



John 15:5~8 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.” We thank the Lord that He has led me and Whitney in our walk with Him. When we were tired, Jesus carried us. When coronavirus swarmed around us, Jesus protected us as we marched forward. In August I was asked by a minister to produce a 30-minute video on the status of South Africa evangelical ministry. The Holy Spirit reminded me the will of God on South Africa, and what was bestowed on the CIM missionary predecessors. We submit once more to God’s reign and power, for His will is much more than our will!



CIM Founder Rev. Clarence Pi

Passed away in 1998 at South Africa

Rev. H.Y. Li (1997-1998)

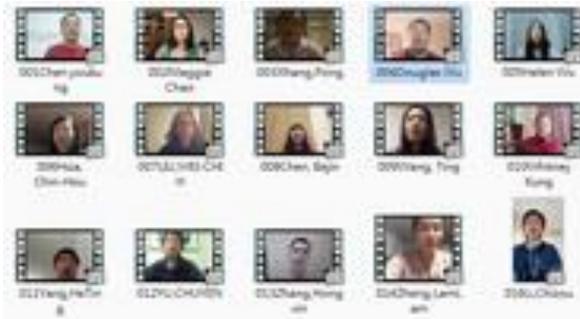
Returned to US for son’s Down Syndrom

Minister G. Liu (2000-2009)

Returned to US for cancer treatment

To expand worldly enterprises usually requires good marketing and sales strategies.

However, I think that idea is rather foreign to most pastors and preachers. But most pastors are familiar with Jesus' strategy: *"I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds."* Jesus also said *"A man needs to carry his cross if he wants to follow me."* But it'd be difficult to follow exactly what Jesus prescribed, at least for me! Especially under the threat of rampant coronavirus, combined with ineffective South African government control measures, I've lost all sense of trust during the pandemic! Brothers and sisters worry they may infect me and Whitney if we visit them, and vice versa. So when is the time to go back to what we used to do? Praise the Lord for giving us the opportunity, during the lockdown, to meditate on whether to ask for God's grace to lead 3,000 to the Lord in one sermon, or to follow Jesus' ministry model of "to fall, die, and be buried". Of course, it'd be best if it's "to fall, die, and be buried" after leading 3,000 to believe in God!



Virtual Choir hymn presentation for CCIC



Baby LeLe attending online Sunday school

Psalm 1:1~3 "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers." CCIC has asked me to produce a virtual choir for a hymn. I didn't have the confidence myself and I also didn't want to bother others. Yet Whitney was full of faith and asked many for help, even Brother Chen who moved to Mozambique also pitched in along with his family. Whitney and I were moved by the passion of the brothers and sisters to participate in this ministry, and it was evident that God's grace and blessing are abundant in their lives. On the subject of children's Sunday school run by Whitney, we were happy to see Baby LeLe started to attend online classes regularly. I give thanks to God for the blessings as I hear Whitney's joyful singing and her storytelling with the children. She truly adores those children! Another more wondrous event happened with my niece's daughter, as she started attending online Sunday school through the help of my eldest sister. I had originally thought it had to wait until my retirement before I'd have more time to tell my family about the gospel. But God has already acted and made this happened before my timing!



Helen helping Mom to install Zoom app Drawings from online Sunday school Clarence practicing on his Dad

In August I took the time to read again “The Messiah in the Old Testament in the Light of Rabbinical Writings” by Risto Santala. The book reaffirmed to me the God’s promise that Jesus is truly the Messiah. I understood more clearly this time about the disappointment of the Jews in their misled expectations for the Messiah. Furthermore, the Jews rejected the truth about Jesus because of their misunderstanding of the scriptures. But author’s discourse through his perspective on the rabbinical writings is something I failed to grasp when I first read this book 20 years ago. I’m thankful to God to open my eyes so I could receive a deeper appreciation of the Biblical truth that Jesus is Christ.



Sister Hsia replacing water heater Increased online counseling & praying Sister Peggy died from COVID-19

Under God’s grace, I’m given more patience and God’s love to help brothers and sisters to face problems in life together. And we also approach the Seat of Mercy together in prayers, because God has promised that “Those who seek Him will find Him.”

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

E-mail address : douglas1218@telkomsa.net or douglaswu1218@gmail.com .

Praises & Intercession

1. Praise the Lord! South Africa national lockdown is lowered to Level 2 and limited visitation can be resumed.
2. Praise the Lord! Beginning in August a suitable schedule was reached for Whitney’s online children’s Sunday school. The kids were full of joy, although the moms had to accompany them in front of the computer throughout the session. Thanksgiving and praises for the Lord!
3. Praise the Lord for we’ve received our daughter Helen’s college diploma in the mail, and she was the first one in her class to receive it. Ask God for her internship



certificate could be received without issues by end of year to help with her job search next year.

4. Praise the Lord! Although our daughter Sharon's car in San Jose had parts stolen, but it was fixed through the help of the church pastor.
5. Praise the Lord for our daughter Helen and our son Clarence have been safe in their internship work in hospitals, and donations from brothers and sisters helped to provide N95 mask and protective clothing for them. We thank the Lord for all His provisions.
6. In my commissioning ceremony 10 years ago, I testified about a debt of NT\$500 which I didn't repay. After 30 years I've finally located the debtor and repaid my debt! I thank God for His compassion on me because Jesus said "You will not get out until you have paid the last penny."
7. I give thanks for each intercession on our behalf from every CIM partner. I give thanks for the faithful God listens to the prayers of the justified.

Prayer List

1. Please continue to pray for us in adapting to the changes and challenges to our ministry. As we've just accustomed to online meetings, now we're facing the move back to in-person meetings! Ask the Holy Spirit to send us peace as we look forward to return to normalcy.
2. Ask God to provide a good time slot for children's online Sunday school classes to continue as the schools reopen in September.
3. Please continue to pray for the brothers and sisters of the Rustenburg church who are shop owners, and ask the Holy Spirit to keep them safe from the coronavirus.
4. Pray for Brother Y.H. Lin's health problems with his throat, stomach, and bowels, and that he is able to return to China for treatment. Ask God for healing and peace.
5. Please continue to pray for our daughter Helen and son Clarence with their internship work in the hospitals. We ask God for peace within us.
6. Please continue to pray for our daughter Sharon's next steps in schooling or serving the Lord, and for the Lord to lead her directions.
7. Crimes in South Africa are still rampant! Three Chinese have been killed during crime in August. Please pray for the safety of the Chinese people and for the overall safety situation.

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

P.O.Box 700185, San Jose, CA. 95170-0185, U.S.A (Specify "For Douglas Wu")

Immanuel,

Clarence/Helen/Sharon Whitney/Douglas