

## Prayer Letter of Douglas Wu and Family

December 1, 2020

*Lamentations 4:17* “Moreover, our eyes failed, looking in vain for help; from our towers we watched for a nation that could not save us.” Since COVID-19 began in South Africa on March 7, it once rose to over 11,000 confirmed cases a day, but in October the confirmed cases had dropped to below 1,000 a day. Many people had thought the pandemic would quiet down during the summer, yet in November the daily confirmed cases went back up to over 3,000.



Over 3000 confirmed cases a day

Visiting Rustenburg mining area

Brother Lin's shop

*Psalms 130:5-8* “I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. My soul waits for the LORD more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.” The Rustenburg shopkeeper brothers and sisters have been wearing masks daily for over 200 days. They endure the hot weather of summer through the help of the Holy Spirit. Even though the shopping foot traffic has increased, but both the pandemic and business didn't improve. Unlike previous years, even the Christmas atmosphere is nowhere to be found! We can only persevere in prayers; asking God for grace, mercy, and strength through His words. We're all waiting for the vaccine to be available and for this long pandemic to be over. We long for God to show His love and salvation so we can be redeemed from sin, just as described in the Scripture.



Rustenburg visitations – with brother He

With sister Chen

With sister Weng



With sister Lin in Rustenburg

Visiting sister Lin of Johannesburg

Helping to fix a flat tire

Thanks be to God that none of our brothers and sisters have contracted the coronavirus thus far in this pandemic, and we've kept up with our online worship, Bible studies, prayers, sharing, and counseling. I've also adjusted our visitation schedule to just once a month. Certainly there are brothers and sisters in Rustenburg who'd like to resume in-person meetings, but I'd rather for all of us be led by the Holy Spirit and ask God to end the pandemic quickly. *Psalm 123:1~2 "I lift up my eyes to you, to you whose throne is in heaven. As the eyes of slaves look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid look to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the LORD our God, till he shows us his mercy."*



Chenyu accepted Jesus Christ

Marble-sized hail stones

Obstacles in Dept. of Transportation

Fourteen-year-old Chenyu has been part of our Friday night in-person Bible study group. On November 20, a heavy hail and rain storm came down before the meeting, and that led Chenyu to ask about God's creation afterward. I used passages from the books of Job and Isaiah to explain to him that Jesus Christ is the Lord of the world, as well as the Savior for all mankind. In amazement, he accepted the teaching right away. I continued and asked him if he believes in the resurrection of Jesus? He quickly replied affirmatively! Yet still I went on to describe to him the fulfilling of various Biblical prophecies through archeological and historical studies. Chenyu then wanted to affirm his faith and receive Jesus as his personal savior on the spot! Hallelujah! His parents and grandparents sat nearby and also listened intently. We give thanks to God for this heavenly joy.



Welcoming back sister Maggie

Farewell party for the Zhangs

Whitney happily feeding baby

Whitney and I needed to renew our driver’s licenses in November. Due to the COVID-19 nationwide lockdown, the South Africa government pushed to use the online reservation system, which is a good policy. But when we first tried to register online, the system showed that we don’t have valid South Africa ID numbers! We therefore went ahead and registered as foreigners, and we got an appointment at the Department of Transportation office at Sandton, Johannesburg after about two weeks. On that day, as we finished the renewal process and were ready to make the payment, we were informed that we must use South Africa Non-Citizen ID numbers instead, and we needed to go to the Pretoria office to make the correction! We spent two days visiting that office and provided all required documents. When we returned a week later and tried to pick up the new licenses, the office told us that we already hold South Africa Non-Citizen ID numbers and they couldn’t figure out what needs to be changed! We asked a supervisor for help, but he said we need to sort things out with the first Department of Transportation office we visited. We ask for your prayers in this matter! If we can’t renew our driver’s licenses, then we may have to resort to use our International Driver’s Licenses from Taiwan.



A nice walk in the park and we saw God is still in control through the covenant He set with us.

*Psalm 126:5~6 “Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. He who goes out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with him.”* Whitney and I want to thank again the church which supported us with online English classes for adults and youths. The offerings enabled us to continue our gospel outreach in the midst of the nationwide lockdown and established new relationships along the way. We look forward to visit those new friends when possible, and we ask for God’s blessing for all the seeds that were sown to grow up and bear abundant fruits.



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### **Praises & Intercession**

1. South Africa Level 1 nationwide lockdown is extended to December 15.  
Thanks be to God that He has kept our brothers and sisters safe during the pandemic.
2. We give thanks to the Holy Spirit for helping young brother Chenyu to accept Jesus as his personal savior! All the angels rejoiced in heaven along with us.
3. Praise the Lord for the brothers and sisters of CCIC-Tri Valley to offer an online English class, which enabled us to break the limitations of the nationwide lockdown in reaching out to new friends. God's will is more than our will.
4. Thanks be to God for leading both brother Kao Ming, who has lung disease, and sister Zhang, who has sold her store, to safely return to China.
5. Thanks be to God for leading sister Maggie to return to South Africa and reunite with her husband after a year of separation.
6. Thanks be to God for daughter Helen has been offered a job at a Johannesburg hospital and she'll start in next January.
7. Son Clarence has completed his final exam, and the school will announce on December 5 whether the internship and the semester would be extended.

### **Prayer List**

1. Please pray for the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. May God speed up the vaccine development and availability to heal the world.
2. Ask God to send His messages for my weekly sermons, and that I'd accurately explain His words!
3. Please pray for sister Zhang and brother Lin so they could consistently participate in our Tuesday Practical Bible Study class.
4. Please pray for our South Africa driver's licenses renewal. Ask for God's grace so we can complete the process smoothly.
5. Helen's application for the Physical Therapist license in New Zealand has been submitted and the review would take four weeks. Please remember this in your prayer.

6. Clarence wants to transfer to the formal dental school. Ask God to give him good final exam grades and for the school to end the semester on time, so he can submit the application in January. Please remember this in your prayer.
7. Please continue to pray for the safety of all brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit protect all of them from coronavirus.
8. Please continue to pray for Helen and Clarence with their internship work in the hospitals and protect them from coronavirus.
9. Crimes in South Africa are still rampant! Please pray for the crime situation and for peace during Christmas and the New Year.

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