



South Africa
Christina & KoTa Jen
Prayer Letter
March 2019

Dear Prayer Partners,

We thank God for bringing us back safely in Durban. During our furlough, we not only reported on our ministry for the last term but also had wonderful sharing with brothers and sisters who are supporting God's work in South Africa. We were greatly refreshed and encouraged. The caring, prayers and support from all the churches were no less than we first started 18 years ago. We also shared at a newly-established sister church in the States. Among the congregation was a sense of energy, a sense of genuine concern to reach out for the soul with the gospel. We believe that church growth stems from the spiritual growth of the congregation. We also had the opportunity to meet with a few retired ministers. They still serve in the church voluntarily. Some of them even rally among the retired brothers and sisters to form a prayer group to intercede for the church ministry. They are living out a good example of faithful servants!

God's protection is always at perfect timing. Only when you experienced it, you would not fathom the depth and width of God's love for you; especially when it is so critical that even every minute counts. Brother Yang is a Sushi chef. One morning about three months ago, he tried to trim a tree branch with an electric saw. With the slip of the hand, the saw cut across his right hand. The first thought that came to his mind was, "Oh no! I'm done!" It was because his wife should have gone to work at this time, and no one could take him to the hospital right away; but then he remembered that she was still home due to some unexpected delay, and he called out to her. He might be able to save some fingers after all! When they arrived at the emergency room, there was, to their surprise, an orthopedic surgeon on duty who could operate on him right away (usually people had to wait for a long time to be attended to even in an emergency thus caused irreversible delay in treatment). The operation was a great success. Later that day, Ko-Ta and another couple visited him. He was full of awe at how God had protected him and provided him with the best possible care. At this moment, the nerves of all the fingers are working again. He just needs another operation on one of the fingers. Praise the Lord! He is always right on time!

God's provision is always beyond our imagination. Sister Mei and her family have been living from day to day because her husband is the sole breadwinner of the family but has been paid poorly. It was due to the fact that his long-time boss had helped him and his family gain South African citizenship. He is a simple and honest man; he does not want to be ungrateful by changing jobs or asking for any raise. In the middle of last year, his boss was contemplating to retire and sell him the Chinese takeaway shop where he works as the chef. We were all praying for them. They were facing a difficult time as their two children just started secondary school, and the husband's pay could no longer support their livelihood and the tuition. The business would be a good solution. Praise the Lord! They finally got the business. As the shop is located about a 40-minute drive from where they live, they needed to look for a new place that is closer to the shop. They also had to find a way for their son to commute to school every day (his school is close to home, their daughter's school is close to the shop). At that time, a sister whose house is about a five-minute drive from their shop was looking for tenants. Since her son and daughter-in-law had decided to spend most of their time back in China, she wanted to find reliable Chinese to occupy the detached house on her property. God also moved the heart of a friend who lives very close to their son's school to take him in for a very low rent as well as agreed to drop him off and pick him up from school for free. Everything worked out perfectly! The whole family was full of gratefulness at God's hand in their lives! Our God is wonderful!

Prayer Requests:

1. Thank God for Sister Mei. They had made a commitment to operate their new business honestly and legally. Please pray for all the preparation in starting the new business and for them in finding a suitable auditor and a good employee.
2. We praise the Lord for Sister Jie Ying who accepted Christ as her personal Savior. We have arranged for her to attend Basic Christianity classes and for her baptism. Please pray for her continued faith and growth in the Lord.
3. Please pray for complete recovery for Brother Yang.
4. Please pray for Brother Zhang's daughter. She is suffering from anxiety disorder, and this last year of high school causes more stress on her. Please ask for comfort and peace from the Lord as well as effectiveness of her medication.
5. Please continue to pray for our safety as we travel to different cities and towns.

In His service,
Ko-Ta & Christina