



Germany
Karen Tang's prayer letter
12/2015

Dear brothers and sisters,

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

Rom. 8:28

Thank God, through the 40th anniversary of CEM, missionaries got together for a few days to have a time of fellowship and sharing of God's grace and leading. We also had the opportunity to witness God's wonderful works and ministries in Thailand and a time of worship with various ethnic groups

Because of an absence from church for several months, after returning from Thailand, I resumed my ministry. When I heard that the sister whom I'd been serving before I left for N. America was hospitalised, I went to visit her not knowing that that day would be our last day together on earth. A few days later, I was told of an accident in which she was killed instantly by a street car. I was shocked and didn't believe that it could be her. Later it was confirmed that she was that sister. So, I offered to provide accommodation for her sister and her niece who came hurriedly from Taiwan to help bring the ashes home. They stayed at a place provided by the buddhist temple for the first two days. Even though the dead sister's sister is a buddhist, after she and her daughter moved to stay at my place, I was able to bring her to bible study group, to church. They were surrounded by Christians who offered their condolence, who offered help in translating their documents etc. They also prayed for her. They were touched by Christian love. God listened to their prayers and did a miracle. They got the necessary document which was originally thought that it would be hard to get. She would then ask me to pray at each meal. Because they didn't have enough time to get all the processes done in time, they changed their flight to one which was the same as a Christian couple who flew to the same town. But unfortunately, the sister's mother was hospitalised and they changed their flight back again to fly home two days earlier. Although they could not fly together, they knew each other already and hopefully the couple could follow up.

Recently I also learned that there was a first time mother who gave birth to a twin. Right after her delivery, she was sent to another hospital for an operation. She was hospitalised since then. It has been more than 7 months now. She still has high fever now and then. The twin was taken care of by the father and some helpers. The father was so tired of taking care of the new born babies and visiting her wife at the hospital that he felt very weak. Although they are Vietnamese, because our sister knew them, she asked if our church could help. By taking turn. we might help to lessen some of the pressure of a few women who had been helping along. We could only help to bring her some soup cooked according to a Chinese doctor.

There are always needs for serving others. But God give us a vision that no matter what kind of religious background, what ethnic group one could be, they are still our serving targets. Several weeks ago, some of our church members and I had the opportunity to attend a gospel meeting for refugees. Since most of them have an Islamic background, the meeting was held in Arabic and German. We saw that the German brothers and sisters

were very zealous in preparing a good meal for them. Among the helpers, there were some Indonesian brothers and sisters too.

Refugees is a very disputable issue in the European countries. But for those who had already entered Germany, there were German churches who tried to help them. Some churches had refugee ministry for some years already. Because of our limitations on place and language, our Chinese church is difficult to start a refugee ministry independently. We are still observing in which areas where we could help together with the German church to share their burdens. Last week our brother brought a pot of fried rice to the meeting. He was very happy because it was all gone since there was not much hot food that day. Perhaps we could serve in cooking for them.

Thanksgiving and prayer items:

1. Thank God for the caring love of brothers and sisters so that the buddhist might see God's love and power! Pray that God will continue to touch her so that she would be willing to go to church and know the true God!
2. Pray that God has mercy on the young mother and heals her sickness so that she could go home and take care of the twin whom have never been nursed by their mother! Pray that God will also have mercy on the father and give him the strength to live on and take care of the wife and babies!
3. Pray that God has mercy on the refugees who left their homeland because of war! Pray that they would be settled down and be able to learn a new language and adapt to a new culture! Pray that through the help of churches in Europe that they may come to know God!
4. Our Christmas worship service will be held on 12.13.15. Pray that God will help those brothers and sisters who are preparing for a Christmas play! Pray that new comers will be invited to hear the gospel message and they will continue to come to church to seek God!

Although this letter didn't make it to you before Thanksgiving, God's grace is abundant that we can give thanks to Him every day!

May God's peace and joy be with you!

Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Serving Him,
Karen Tang

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