



Germany
Karen Tang
Prayer Letter
May 2021

Dear brothers and sisters,

“In peace I will both lie down and sleep, For You alone, O Lord, make me to dwell in safety.”

Psalms 4:8

Since we started our daily Bible reading meetings, I feel that time has gone faster. At first there were five of us, but now there are often seven or eight of us, and at most, there are ten of us. Because one of the sisters invited another sister from Munich, she also attends. Originally, she and two other sisters were also reading the Bible, but the response was not very good, so they stopped. When she heard that we were reading the Bible, she was very happy to join us and she also invited another sister to join. Since most of us were over 70 years old and I was the youngest, we had to wait for them to come in slowly at the beginning because sometimes they didn't know how to get on the Zoom (our meeting platform). Sometimes there might be no sound and when they got in, there was no video. After a few weeks, we all learned to come on. However, one of us, a sister who lives alone and always forgets things. One sister once spent four hours teaching her how to get on Zoom, and she even wrote down every step herself, and she was told to put the note on the table so that she could follow the instructions. The next day, she had already forgotten and the note was nowhere to be found. Therefore, we spent a lot of time teaching her every day, while other brothers and sisters learned the lesson of being patience. Sometimes she still couldn't come to Zoom, so we called her landline to let her listen. She is a Singaporean Chinese and cannot read Chinese. Although she has technical problems, she is still very happy to listen to God's word with us. Last week it was our oldest sister, almost 80 years old, who couldn't come up. She was very capable and tried to learn to go into the Zoom by herself, but suddenly she said she couldn't come up for 2 days last week. We also had to use the phone to let her listen. Later, her daughter helped her solve the problem.

God's leading is amazing. If not for this epidemic, it would not have been possible to facilitate this morning Bible reading class, bringing together the elderly who live in different places, nor would it have been possible to persuade them to read the Bible on their own, either because they could not understand it or because their eyes were not well enough to read it. One sister said she usually meets with people in the afternoon because she doesn't know when she wakes up in the morning. But now she is the first one to go up to the Zoom. Now they all listen quietly, and when someone explains, they understand a lot and find it interesting. In the past, a sister who told me

that she had to go to the doctor or go out to run some chores, she would say that she would not read the Bible that day. Now, if it is possible, she comes back early and continues to attend the meeting. There is another sister who is sometimes in the car and sometimes waiting at the clinic, she always try to come up to listen. Two months ago, I thought of a brother who had returned to China, so I invited him to attend. He was a little depressed at that time, but his wife thanked us for inviting him. He has been happy and positive since he joined the Bible reading. Besides listening to the Bible, we also discussed the scriptures and prayed. It happened to be our seniors' turn for vaccination a while ago, so we could have some discussions, share their experience and encourage each other by praying.

The oldest sister in our church, 92 years old, fell and broke a bone at home and had to have surgery and then rehabilitation. Due to the epidemic, she could not even have her own children visit her in the hospital, let alone bring her soup. Her ability to speak Chinese had also deteriorated, and I could not even understand what she said when I called her. Gratefully, a Christian doctor helped her apply for a tablet computer provided by the hospital, so her children and for twice I, could make appointments to video with her. She was discharged from the hospital last week and went home.

Thanksgiving and prayer items:

1. Thank God for the morning Bible reading, so that the older brothers and sisters can listen to God's word with joy, understand more of God's heart, and obey God's teachings! Pray that the Lord would move the unbelieving family members to accept salvation soon!
2. Thank God for the 92-year-old sister who went through surgery and rehabilitation and went home! Pray that the Lord will strengthen her legs, give her the strength to walk, and restore her to health soon!
3. Thank God that most of our brothers and sisters who are over 70 years old have been vaccinated and they have had little or no reaction to the vaccine!
4. Pray that the Lord would remember the brothers and sisters who lost their jobs and whose restaurants being closed due to the epidemic! Pray that the Lord would comfort them, strengthen their faith, and look to God in the midst of trouble! We are thankful that one sister who owns a restaurant business has more time to read the Bible with some brother and sisters and attend various online meetings and bible study class during the epidemic! May the Lord's grace be with you! Have peace and joy in the midst of the epidemic!

Serving Him,
Karen Tang