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Feature

Someone Is Praying for You

Written by/ Fu-Ming Tse

Preface

There is a hymn named “Someone Is Praying for You.” Every time I hear or sing this hymn, I am moved to tears and encouraged. The lyrics are “When it seems that you have prayed ’til your strength is all gone, and your tears fall like raindrops all the day long, Jesus cares and He knows just how much you can bear. He’ll speak your name to someone in prayer. Have the clouds’ round you gathered in the midst of storm. Is your ship tossed and battered, are you weary and worn? Don’t lose hope, someone’s praying for you this very day. And peace be still is already on the way. The chorus: Someone is praying for you, someone is praying for you. And when it seems you’re all alone, and your heart would break in two, Remember, someone is praying for you.

Intercession is a life of godliness

Paul encouraged us: “Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may

lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior” (I Tim 2:1-3). Intercession is part of a Christian’s lifestyle. It allows us to live a peaceful and godly life. Praying is a life-long homework for Christians, which draws us closer to God.

Intercession is to gain strength through the Lord

In the ancient days, Moses was able to exit out of Egypt, and walk the Red Sea and the wilderness through prayer. God’s almighty hand manifested great power through Moses’ hands. Psalms recorded “You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron” (Ps 77:20). When the Israelites battled with the Amalekites, Moses said to Joshua “Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.” So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with the Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses’ hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun” (Ex 17:9-12). Joshua was able to win over the

Amalekites through the power of Moses’ praying hands. Be victorious through the Lord. We know that men are weak; Moses’ hands grew heavy and needed Aaron and Hur to keep them steady. Just like Lord Jesus praying for Peter saying, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren” (Lk 22:31-32). “When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. Then He said to them, “Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation” (Lk 22:45-46). Both passages can help us be more alert and pray in an even more watchful way; lest we go into temptation. Therefore, we must rely on the great power of the Lord to live with strength, because we are fighting against the spiritual host of wickedness (Eph 6:10-12).

Intercession is doing things through love

The Prophet Samuel interceded for the people of the nation: “Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way. Only fear the LORD, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you” (I Sam 12:23-24). Intercession reveals our responsibility, duties, love, and actions. Just as Abraham prayed for Sodom, “Then the men

turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. And Abraham came near and said, ‘Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked?’” (Gen 18:22-23). Moses interceded for the people, “Then Moses returned to the LORD and said, ‘Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written’ (Ex 32:31-32). When Peter was in prison, the church prayed for him. Through the love of intercession, God saved Peter out of prison through the angel (Act 12:5). May the love of intercession become a lovely fragrance that will be remembered by God.

Intercession is praying always at all occasions

The work of intercession is praying always with supplication (Eph 6:18). Whether it would be physical illness, spiritual weakness, lost in truth, for the nation, society, church, family, children, or Gospel. The Bible encourages us “Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose” (Rom 8:26-28).

James records, “Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much (Jas 5:13-16).

We must have more strength through intercession in our life of faith. Pray for the peace of the nation (Jer 29:7), pray for the peace of the church (Ps 122:6-9), pray for the peace of the family (Jer 10:20), pray for our parents and family members (II Tim 5:8), pray for our children (Lk 23:28), pray for marriage (Gen 24:12), pray for holy work (Col4:2-4), pray for the ministers (II Thess 3:1), and pray for the members (I Thess 1:2-4). Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need (Heb 4:16). Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all (II Thess 3:16).

Conclusion

Paul is a warrior of prayer; constantly reminding us to pray for one another in his letters

because the power that God gives to those of us who believe is greater than we can imagine. Therefore, Paul said, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Phil 4:6-7). I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting (I Tim 2:8). We must pray and intercede in all things and present our hearts in front of the Lord. Let our spirituality continue to grow, our faith be stronger, our love be fuller, so that we shall be victorious through the Lord.

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Church News

U.S. General Assembly Holy Work Update

I. Strive for the Gospel We Believe in One Accord

In this country of democracy and freedom, it is a major challenge to lead one into understanding the truth. May the Lord have mercy on those living on this land who have not yet been saved. May the Lord also continue to move the good workers to work together in prospering the Gospel. Below is the summary of works done in the Evangelical Department:

1. Hosanna English Outreach: It has been implemented for many years in the southwest, northeast, and east regions. Thank God, the youths were in charge of each activity of planning, promoting, and executing.
2. Evangelism seminars conducted in each region: Constantly training the evangelism soldiers. Personal evangelism is still the most effective tool in the Gospel work in the US. It is an active direction of evangelism.
3. Spanish work committee: In charge of US and Dominica Republic Spanish evangelism holy work and recruiting volunteers. The first Southwestern district Spanish hymnal evangelical service will occur in October this year

II. Must Feed the Flock Among You

There are currently about 3100 members, 19 churches, 4 houses of prayer and 11 full- time ministers in the US. Due to the large distance between the locations in the US, the pastoral work of the members needs to have close work between the G.A. and local churches. The members will continue to steadily grow if the elders, deacons, and volunteers can help. Below is a summary of work from the pastoral department:

1. National religious education coordinators and teachers seminar: Only when the teachers' quality is constantly being improved will the students' faith and life be deeply rooted.
2. Missionary Volunteer Program: Since it started 5-6 years ago, many high school and college youths were able to be involved in the church evangelical, pastoral, and literary ministry work through internships. They were also able to understand the church holy work better.

III. Training and Equipping Church Holy Workers

The church will continuously grow only when it constantly plans a systematic way to train workers. All the trainings not only teach the truth from the Bible, but emphasizes on the training of the students' spirituality as a basic foundation. This way, the students will have the correct attitude toward serving and will obtain the spiritual ability to become the right vessels for God.

The Summary Work of the Training Department:

1. G.A. will recruit two theological students and one religious education specialist in the year of 2013.
2. National Youth Theological Training Seminar: The graduate program changed from a three year program to a four year program; 124 youth attended this year.
3. Youth Volunteer Training Plan: Long term plans to train volunteers to help out with the needs of local churches and remote areas.

IV. Literary Work

In order to have more efficient ways to publish all the publications in the literary work, we have some long-term volunteers to be involved in the production and management of the literary items. We also hope that through the USGA website and other multi-media methods support evangelism, pastoral, and training needs. Below is the summary of the Literary Department:

1. The new USGA website (www.tjc.us): The first version launched at the end of last year. The plan is to update to the second version within the next six months. The new version will be more personalized. This will enable the members to receive more church information and literary information through the website.
2. New Hymn Books: Printing is completed and the hymnals have been distributed to each local church. The electronic version is published and ready for members to

download.

3. The Bible study material for the Book of John is completed and finished distribution.

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Church News

Myanmar Holy Work Overview

Myanmar's pastoral work is currently being supported by the Singapore Coordinating Center, the overview of work is below:

Year	Date	Location	Work Content
2012	2/1-22	Yangon	Pastoral/Training
	2/17-29	Yangon	Music Training
	3/1-10	Aizawl & India	Pastoral
	4/13-22	Kalay	Pastoral/Religious Education
	5/9-14	Aizawl	Training
	6/8-22	Yangon & Kalay	Pastoral/Training Spiritual Convocation
	7/12-16	Aizawl	Pastoral

Pioneering New Villages

Mamoh is a village located north of Myanmar called Sagaing (It takes one and a half hours to drive to Sawbuayasin.) In 2010, when some Christians visited Sawbuayasin, they received the Gospel literature, *Mizo*. They then invited Sawbuayasin church to visit them and teach them about our doctrines. In 2011 there were two visits there. In December of that year, five were baptized. In June of 2012, the second baptism was performed and two were baptized.

Myanmar Holy Worker Visits Singapore and Malaysia

November 17-22, Preacher Timothy from Myanmar visited West Malaysia for the second time along with assistant Vanram Nun Mawia. In addition to visiting Kepong and Sungei Long's members and truth seekers, they also assisted in the medical evangelism of Sungei Long. November 21-22, Preacher Peter Shee met with the Myanmar holy workers and arrived to Singapore together and did some holy work: Home visitation to the members of

Sembawang church and translated “The New Birth” from Mizo to Burmese. They recorded “Law and Grace” in Mizo as an evangelism video. Attended spiritual convocation of Adam Road Church and assisted student spiritual convocation and delivered sermon in Burmese on Sabbath service.

Myanmar is still a pioneering country. We have seen that God led the work Himself and poured His Gospel on this land so that the workers truly experienced His abidance. Even though the material needs are lacking, Myanmar members still have a joyful heart to 2 pursue this faith and serve God. We deeply believe that we will see even more grace in Myanmar. May everyone continue to intercede for the works in Myanmar.

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Intercession

1. IA WORK IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES:

Date	Location	Program	Personnel
Sep.9/24-Nov. 11/12	Japan	Pastoral and Pioneering work in Sumida and Chiba	CJ Change
Sep.9/28-Oct. 10/26	Indonesia	Theology College Banjarmasin Church Spiritual Convocation Preacher Seminar	YZ Lee
Oct.–Nov.	India	J Residential Pastoral for a month	Ezra Chong
Oct.10/1-8	Japan	Autumn Spiritual Convocation & Short Term Bible Study Seminar	ZY Chan DW Huang CJ Change
Oct.10/5-7	Germany	Autumn Spiritual Convocation - Heidelberg Prayer House	HH Ko
Oct.10/5-19	Philippines	Evangelizing to the Chinese Filipino Spiritual Convocation PMC Meeting PGA Delegates Meeting	Boaz Wong + SVMT SABAH GA CHAIRMAN & PMC COD. & PMC COD

Oct.10/7-13	Canada	National Adult Theological Seminar - Vancouver	CH Chou
Oct.10/8-28	Korea	Spiritual Convocation – Gwang Ju, Jeon Ju, Western Churches	WM Chang
Oct.10/12-14	UK	Evangelical Spiritual Convocation- London/ Forest Hill	MY Chao Derren Liang Joshua Phoong
Oct.10/15-21	Canada	Bible Seminar- Edmonton	HC Hsieh
Oct.10/18-No v.11/10	Thailand	Evangelical Spiritual Convocation	ZR Yang
Oct.10/18-29	Chile	Pastoral Work & Evangelism Training	CM Chu
Oct.10/19-Dec.12/16	UK	Evangelical Spiritual Convocation Preacher Seminar Church Council Training	CY Hsiung
Oct.10/22-28	Canada	Bible Seminar- Toronto	Jonathan Chou
Oct.10/23-No v.11/20	Malaysia	National Regional Spiritual Meeting	YZ Wang
Oct.10/23 - Nov.11/23	USA	Theological Training	HH Ko
Oct.10/25-29	FOZ	Pastoral Work & Training	M. Kuo
Oct.10/26-28	Austria	Autumn Spiritual Convocation - Vienna	TK Chin

2. DEVELOPMENT OF DIVINE WORK IN ALL NATIONS

3. WORKERS IN ALL PIONEERING AREAS

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 **Bulletin**

Western Hemisphere Africa Voluntary Missionary Workers' Training Seminar

Date: 6~11 January 2013

Venue: London, UK

Closing for registration: November 15, 2012

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 ***You Could Help the Worldwide Evangelism Mission Simply by Contribution
a dollar a day...***

How You Can Help



You are called to take action for the sake of worldwide evangelism and the spreading of the gospel...with **a dollar a day**. If everyone could daily extend one dollar towards the International Assembly World Evangelism Fund, we could, together, accomplish the commission that our Lord Jesus Christ left behind. Your financial commitment will open up possibilities and resources that will lead us to save many souls.

Please take time to fill out the offering sheet available at your local church, to pass this message on to loved ones and family, and to pray for God's ministry. May the Lord be gracious to you!

To find out more about the dollar-a-day program and donation options, ***please contact*** ia@tjc.org or tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net.

✧ ***May our Lord remember your contribution and bless you abundantly!***

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