

MISSIONS FOCUS

From bulletin: February 26, 2023

Our Missionaries, their health and ministries affected by Covid-19

Chinese Bible Mission (CBM) OMF (GCM February 2023)

From today's bulletin / Missions Report from Missions Team

2023 Summer Short Term Missions Opportunities in Taiwan

Chinese Bible Mission (CBM) is hosting a bilingual VBS in a local American School (Morrison Academy) and expect 120-150 children to attend. They need you (ages 15-70) to join in serving and sharing the Good News! It is not required that you speak Mandarin as the children are eager to learn and speak English. The trip is from June 29 - July 11 and the cost is \$1700 + Airfare additional. Here is the link for info. (https://cbmglobal.org/missions2023

CBM is also looking for summer interns who can come for 4-6 weeks mid-June through mid-July. For college students, recent graduates, or those in career transition, you will be assisting a new church plant in reaching out to the local community and helping with short term projects. Mandarin speaking is a plus but not required. For more information, please see the same link above. Note: Application deadline is March 15 for both opportunities.

OMF – Heart for Asia. Hope for Billions: omf.org/us

OMF (Overseas Missionary Fellowship, formerly China Inland Mission) has a monthly update regarding the church in China. Parts of this newsletter is here and can be read online at backc.org/missions.. This update is entitled, "After COVID - what now?" 3 changes during the past 3 years: More people value their relationship with God and spend more time reading the Bible, praying, even copying the Word by hand. More people are studying the Bible especially Christian intellectuals who are dissatisfied with practicing their faith by listening to sermons. Traditional Sunday worship has begun to move towards two formats: online or in smaller groups--some even meeting more than once a week. Christians have taken the opportunity to share God's love and care for others and have shown an inner peace based on faith. As a result, personal evangelism has become a ministry more believers are passionate about. We must continue to seek God's leading for missions. God's love for the Chinese (and all peoples) has never changed. Each day there is also provided a "prayer point." For this Sunday, February 26: Pray for the Chinese Society. The pandemic has caused more tensions and uncertainty. May God's spirit, working through the lives of His people, shed His love into different segments of society.



The entire report and prayer points along with a translated version follows;

Thank you for reading about and praying for our missionaries, countries and people locally and globally!



(Luke1:78-79)

On January 30, 2020, the Director-General of the World Health Organization-WHO announced that the new coronavirus (2019-nCoV), first discovered in Wuhan, China, constituted an international public health emergency. On the same day, WHO's "Situation Report" stated that the number of confirmed cases worldwide so far was 7,818.

Now three years later, the Covid-19 tsunami has subsided in most parts of the world, and people everywhere are trying to get back to their old lives. China has also moved from the implementation of the "zero-tolerance" policy to now learning to "coexist" with the virus, just like everyone else in the world.

In the past three years, even though they were deeply affected by the pandemic, Christians in various parts of the world have not stopped praying for China's Christians and her Church. For more than three years, all public churches have been closed under the pretext of pandemic control, and remain closed today. However, Christianity among the people has not disappeared because of Covid19, but continues to exist in different forms, and in ways not seen before.

Based on the author's observations, the biggest change in the past three years is: First, more people value their relationship with God. This includes spending more time reading the Bible and praying, and sometimes even using different methods to copy the Bible by hand. Unlike fifty years ago during the Cultural Revolution when believers copied the Bible secretly, Chinese Christians today pay attention to calligraphy styles and fonts and even consider hand -copying the Bible as a necessary part of their personal devotions.

Secondly, more people are studying the Bible, especially Christian intellectuals who are increasingly dissatisfied with practicing their faith simply by listening to sermons as in the past. They are now turning to personal study of the Bible and reading classic works on theology and hermeneutics.

Thirdly, traditional Sunday worship has begun to move toward two formats. On the one hand, it is now common to attend services online. Although online content is severely restricted, believers can still find ways to watch large church meetings and listen to sermons by well-known preachers. On the other hand, meeting sizes have grown smaller. All over the country today there are small gatherings ranging from just a few individuals to several families together. Many Christians are not satisfied with meeting only on the Lord's Day and instead are meeting several times during the week. Moreover, in order to cope with fluctuating and unpredictable pandemic control measures, small gatherings at a moment's notice can transform into small churches scattered around on the internet.

A point deserving attention is that the challenges brought about by the pandemic have affected all mainland Chinese without distinction, including Christians. However, whether quarantining at home or entering a government facility for isolation, the behavior of Christians especially after contracting the disease is particularly note-worthy. According to the author's understanding, the pandemic did not lead any Christians to "quit this religion", meaning no Christians gave up their faith because of the pandemic. On the contrary, Christians took the opportunity to evangelize those around them more frequently. In the face of the pandemic, Christians have



"because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace."

(Luke 1:78-79)

shown an inner peace based on faith. They have taken the initiative to care for others, which is an excellent means to lead people towards faith in God. During the three-year pandemic period, personal evangelism has become a ministry that more Chinese believers are passionate about.

Personal devotions are prioritized more, believers are more connected both to the online global church and to small groups, and there is greater keenness for personal evangelism – all these things show that the Chinese church is moving away from its previous peak of development marked by construction of large church buildings. Instead, it is developing toward greater maturity and toward rich vitality.

This means that neither the "zero-tolerance" policy of Christian activity since 2019, nor the cumulative effects of three years of pandemic have caused the decline of Christianity among the populace. Instead, it has transformed and matured Chinese Christianity so that more ordinary people can understand this faith in God.

However, the above-mentioned changes do not mean that church and society exist in a parallel space. A Christian living in the interior of the country reflected that the erratic pandemic policy has filled many with confusion and uncertainty about the future. In both the real world and on the internet dissatisfaction is sounding out. It is undoubtedly, said the observer, a great challenge for Christian laypeople and preachers to overcome their own emotions and inner disquiet and continue to focus on teaching, writing, and translating theological works. And he concluded that, as a Christian, one must trust God. Although "How to run away from motherland" is a very popular discussion topic in current Chinese society, Christians must live to please God wherever they are. In some places, life may be easy and serving God straightforward while other places are more difficult. As a rational being, a person will naturally weigh up their

own interests and losses, but too much weighing will make it hard for that person to serve and to live. God has His unique guidance and His own will for every person and family. Therefore, in the face of the hustle and bustle and seeming chaos of the world, Christians need to listen to the voice of the Lord more and focus on their ministry.

The author believes the reason why Chinese Christianity has been able to continue to grow in the past three years is inseparable from the situation and practice of a large number of local Christians who share the above-mentioned observer's spiritual insight.

Now with shifts in national pandemic policy and the resulting social fluctuations, some Chinese Christians have begun to discuss how post-pandemic Chinese Christianity may develop in its characteristics and forms. Some Christian scholars point out that although the pandemic is still evolving and while it is far from time to draw final conclusions concerning lessons learned and the aftermath, nonetheless in the medium- and even longer-term, international politics, economy and relations in the so-called postpandemic world will be different than before. In general, the world's perceptions of China, the Chinese government, and even the Chinese people will change. Therefore, in order to hold to the Great Commission, it is necessary to plan ahead and persist without faltering even when the development of the current pandemic is not yet fully understood. That is, even before the "post covid-19 period" has taken shape, we must continue to seek God's leading for missions. God's love for the Chinese has never changed. As long as we continue to rely on Him Chinese Christianity will definitely lead on to completely new things. As Zechariah prophesied: "because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun

"because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace." (Luke 1:78-79 NIV)



Prayer Points

During the Chinese New Year season (January 22-February 5) please especially remember ordinary folk in places where the pandemic is still widespread and where there isn't enough medical care or medicines.

Ask for divine strength for Pastor X who is noticeably weaker due to having had several bouts of Covid. Besides caring for his own family, he must also continue in ministry.

Likewise, pray for a woman pastor who not only must care for herself while trying to comfort and reassure her congregation, but she also has to share with her husband the care of her sick and frail in-laws.

Pray for God's mercy for a self-supporting couple, Pastor and Mrs. S. They got Covid at different times and were thankful to able to care for each other, but their small business has been hurt and they have no livelihood.

Today is the Lantern Festival, marking the formal end of the Chinese New Year. Starting tomorrow, farmers all over the country will begin preparing for spring ploughing, and those rural migrant laborers who still have opportunity to move out and find work will start packing to leave. May God have mercy on the Chinese people who have suffered so much from Covid.

Due to Covid late last year, many export-orientated privately-owned factories took an early winter break. They are expecting to resume production by early spring. Pray that many rural migrant laborers will be able to get their jobs back in February and March.

In Zhejiang Province, small, export-orientated factories are everywhere. Covid led to repeated enforced factory closures, but late last year when Covid stoppages ceased, these factories discovered that many export orders had shifted to neighboring countries like Vietnam. Pray that post-Covid recovery may be steady and smooth in coastal provinces where once prosperous factory zones relied heavily on the export market.

Today marks one whole month since the Chinese government initially lifted border controls and enforced quarantines imposed during the past three years. Simplified entry restrictions will also facilitate human exchanges between China and the outside. Nevertheless, with the pandemic still in effect, people remain uncertain about how things will be after Covid. Pray that ordinary folk will be able to shake off the pandemic's impact and return relatively quickly to normality.

Last November the Foxconn plant in Zhengzhou experienced a mass exodus of workers due to tight pandemic control measures being suddenly imposed. After this, Foxconn began dismantling and moving factory equipment to Vietnam in order to maintain production. The impact of this move will be deep and long-lasting on migrant laborers and on college graduates from rural areas. Pray for God's mercy.

In recent years, China's automobile industry surged rapidly thanks to the impetus from European, American and other Asian manufacturers, and knowledge-based labor has been concentrated in this sector. However, the uncertainties resulting from Covid, and the breakdown of relations between China and the West have led to substantial drops in the proportion of auto parts purchased from China by each of the Western, Japanese and Korean car manufacturers. This has cast a dark shadow over the future of this knowledge-based job market in addition to job and wage losses across the sector. Pray for those middle-class families affected by these changes.

In response to the changing global environment and the need to revive the national economy, China is once more revisiting the policy of going down to the rural areas to settle and to work. This policy is aimed at university graduates, people of ability, rural laborers and entrepreneurs. In recent years new urban churches, including migrant worker churches, have been the dynamos of church growth. These groups have also provided the main manpower for the Chinese missions movement. Pray that this policy change will be a catalyst for missions activities within the borders of the country.

College and high school boarding students have already returned to campuses all over the country to resume classes. In theory we're already in a post-Covid time, but students and teachers alike are exhausted from the preceding three years of anti-Covid measures. Pray for them all, and for Christian students to have a good testimony so that their classmates may come to know Christ.

A Christian teacher was required by her school to continue teaching online, despite being Covid -positive; the same school had the same requirement for students to attend online even when infected. This turned out to be a timely opportunity for the teacher to share the Gospel. Pray for students who have heard the Gospel during Covid, that the Holy Spirit may work in their hearts so that they truly move toward faith and salvation.

Valentine's today – the only Western holiday allowed to be celebrated openly, and a favorite of urban Chinese youth. Pray especially for young people who may have become unemployed, or become bankrupt or lost loved ones due to the pandemic.

- One factory owner in a southern coastal area shared this: he had had no orders since November and so by December laid off most of his workers (as it was "annual leave" time anyway). He didn't know when his factory would be able to resume normal production. He saw that some factories moved to Vietnam and were re-employing their former laborers, but he himself, being unfamiliar with Vietnam, did not want to make any rash moves. Some Chinese churches are beginning to consider sending workers to Vietnam to focus on gospel work among Chinese laborers there.
- Reports from Zhejiang and other places say that since the relaxation of Covid-controls, factories and shops are still very quiet. By contrast, the labor pools are raring to go in the midst of a shortage of businesses and factories that are hiring. This means that many laborers are willing to sign contracts in exchange for just food and shelter. Pray for God's mercies on those seeking work after the Chinese New Year.
- As Covid continues to spread, many people have been infected at least once, but most of them don't know how to take care of themselves afterwards. In the countryside, rates of sudden death are rising due to physical over-exertion. In the lead-up to the spring ploughing season, please especially remember countryside preachers. They have to care for their flock and at the same time carry a full load of farm work, working much harder than ordinary folk; may God grant them grace.
- Please pray for those former migrant laborers now stranded in their villages because they can no longer find suitable employment elsewhere. May God grant special grace to the believers among them, that they may make a relatively smooth transition back to rural life and be a testimony and good influence on other former migrant workers so that the latter can get this transition into proper perspective.
- Pray for the work of sharing the Gospel and caring for the elderly in villages. In recent years, Gospel ministry has been increasingly attacked, but the urgent need for elder care has kept open opportunities for churches to share the Gospel in the countryside. Through the involvement of more Christians, may God cause more elderly to hear the Good News and experience its blessings in their declining years.
- As overseas travel opens again for Chinese citizens, some churches which have sent cross-cultural workers abroad finally have a chance to visit their missionaries on the field. Pray for such visits arranged for the first half of this year. May these field

- visits spur missionaries to trust the Lord more and attain the goals of the Great Commission.
- Cross-cultural and pastoral training programs that had been set to run outside China were interrupted by the pandemic; pray for their resumption.
- Now that pandemic control measures have been relaxed, it's possible for Christians to gather in-person again. However, the "zero tolerance" policy toward folk religious activities (aimed at Christianity) hasn't been lifted. Pray for those house churches wanting to resume in-person meetings, that God would grant divine wisdom to their leaders and that in this complicated situation they may clearly see God's leading.
- Pray for Christian education that's being impacted by the "double zero-Covid" policy; especially remember homeschool ministries around the country. Our prayer is that in the post-Covid period there will be a more relaxed educational environment for families who want to teach their children based on the Bible and faith principles.
- Now that international travel between China and the outside has resumed, pray for Chinese missionaries serving cross-culturally overseas to be able to return home to visit ageing parents and their sending churches.
- Pray for Christians who have committed themselves to serve in missions but who have been stranded at home because of Covid. Pray they will be able to go to their fields now that controls have been lifted.
- Pray for Chinese society as a whole. Three years of pandemic have moved it further than ever from being a "harmonious society"; contradictions and tensions within society have hit unprecedented levels. May God's Spirit, working through the lives of His people, shed His love abroad into different segments of society so that it may be moved back to a relatively harmonious place.
- Pray for the "hidden Christians" existing everywhere in China. Although they are not given public permission to express their faith, they have not renounced their faith either, despite immense pressures. Pray that they may live in beautiful fellowship in the Lord.
- Pray for the progress of Christianity in China, that in this post-Covid era churches may revive and move into a new phase of growth.



(路1:78-79)

2020年1月30日, 世卫组织总干事宣布, 自中国武汉首先发现的新型冠状病毒疫情(2019nCoV)已经构成国际关注的突发公共卫生事件。同 日在世卫组织的《情况报告》中指出, 至此全球确 诊病例总数为7818例。

如今,三年时间过去了,这场举世瞩目的"新冠"海啸已经在世界大多数地区消停,各地的人也都在努力恢复往日的生活。中国也从实施"清零"政策,发展至今与世界其它地方的人们一样,学习与病毒"共存"。

这三年来,即使自身也深受疫情的影响,世界不同地区的基督徒从未中断为中国教会和基督徒祷告。三年多来,各地公开教堂都以疫情封控为名被悉数关闭,至今还在持续关闭之中,然而中国民间的基督教并没有因此销声匿迹,而是以不同以往的形式继续存在,甚至在某些领域取得以往所不曾见过的长进。

根据笔者的观察,这三四年来最大的变化就是:首先,看重自己与上帝关系的人更多了。这包括读经祷告的时间多了,甚至用各种方式手书抄写圣经的情形时有发生。与五十年前文革时期,基督徒秘密传抄圣经不同,今天中国基督徒手抄圣经讲究笔法和字体,并把抄写圣经当成是个人灵修的必

要组成部分。

其次,研究圣经的人开始多了,尤其是知识分子基督徒,越来越不满足于单纯听道的传统信仰方式,开始转向个人研经,阅读经典神学和释经学著作。

第三,传统主日崇拜聚会的形式开始不同的发展,其一是参加网上聚会的情形很普遍。虽然网管严厉,但基督徒们总能找到方法,继续透过网络观看各种大型教会和著名牧者们的证道,使得中国基督教群体与普世教会的连结更加密切。其二则是聚会小型化,如今从几个人到几个家庭的小聚会遍布中国各地。有许多基督徒并不满足每主日一次的聚会,许多人周间多次聚会。而且为了应对松紧不定的疫情防控措施,小型聚会也随时都会变成星罗棋布的网上小教会。

还有另一个值得关注的现象就是,过去三年疫情带来的挑战,无差别地来到所有中国人的面前,包括基督徒。但不论是长期在家封闭,还是进入方舱隔离,特别是近期染上疫情之后基督徒们的表现,尤其引人注目。根据笔者的了解,疫情并没有导致"退教"现象的出现,没有什么基督徒因疫情放弃信仰。相反地,基督徒借机向周边没有信仰者传福音的活动却更加频繁。面对疫情,基督徒们表现



" 因我们神怜悯的心肠, 叫清晨的日光从高天临到我们。 要照亮坐在黑暗中死荫里的人, 把我们的脚引到平安的路上。" (路1:78-79)

出来基于信心的内在平安, 对他人的主动关怀, 都 成为引导人走向信仰的极佳途径。可见在这三年的 疫情期间,有效地个人布道成为更多中国基督徒所 热衷的服事。

在注重个人灵修的前提下,基督徒与普世教会 和小组两个维度的联系加强, 以及对个人布道的热 衷, 都表明, 虽然今天的中国基督教开始离开过去 常见的以建立大教会为标志的发展高峰期,却正在 向更加成熟和富有更大活力的方向发展。这就意味 着, 自 2019 年以来民间基督教活动的"清零"政策, 并没有因为连续三年的疫情"清零"活动所造成的叠 加效应, 导致中国基督教式微, 反而让基督教转 型、更加成熟、让更多普通中国人得以认识这个信 仰。

但是, 上述这些变化并不意味着中国教会与社 会处在平行空间之中。一位身居内地的基督徒反省 到, 防疫政策的飘忽不定, 使得很多人对未来充满 了迷茫和未知。在现实和网络世界都充满着此起彼 伏的不满声中, 基督徒和传道人要努力克服自己的 情绪和内心的波澜,继续关注在教导和写作,翻译 神学著作,无疑是一项极大的挑战。而他从自己的 切身体会中得出结论, 作为基督徒, 一定要对上帝 有信心, 上帝既然把祂的儿女放在不同时代和不同 的处境中,祂就会用祂自己的方式来带领和保守祂 的儿女。虽然当前的中国社会十分流行"润学"。但 基督徒无论在哪里生活和服事, 都要追求讨上帝的 喜悦。有些地方可能生活容易、事奉单纯,另外一 些地方的艰难要多些, 作为一个理性的人, 自然会

去权衡自己的利益和得失,不过过多的衡量,反而 会使得自己很难去服事和生活。而上帝对每个人和 每个家庭,都有祂独特的带领,都有祂自己的旨意 在其中。因此,面对外部世界纷纷攘攘和看似混乱 的局面, 基督徒需要更多地倾听主的声音, 并更加 专注于自己的服事。

笔者以为,中国基督教之所以能在过去的三年 中继续的成长、是与一大批有这样心志和属灵洞见 的本土基督徒的处境和身体力行密不可分的。

如今. 随着国家防疫政策的转变和随之而来的 社会波动,一些中国基督徒已经开始在探讨疫情之 后中国基督教发展的主要特质和模式。有基督徒学 者就指出: 虽然目前疫情还在发展之中, 远未到最 后总结教训和善后的时候,但在未来一段时间,甚 至在更长时间, 所谓后疫情时期的国际政治、经济 和国际关系等都会不同以往了。普遍性地、人们对 于中国、中国政府, 甚至对中国人的看法都会因此 而改变。因此为了持守在主面前宣教的领受,有必 要在当前疫情发展还未十分明了的阶段,也就是在 "后冠时期"的世界尚未正式形成之前,就未雨绸 缪、毫不犹豫地为坚持宣教而寻求神的带领。因为 上帝爱中国人的心从未改变, 只要继续依靠主, 相 信中国基督教一定能够引来一个全新的发展局面。 正如祭司撒加利亚所说的那样:"因我们神怜悯的心 肠、叫清晨的日光从高天临到我们、要照亮坐在黑 暗中死荫里的人, 把我们的脚引到平安的路上。"

(路1:78-79)



代祷事项

- 请在新年春节期间特别记念依然处在疫情流行地区并缺医少药的普通百姓。
- **2** 请为 X 姓传道人祷告,他已几次感染,身体明显转弱,除了照顾家人,还坚持服事。求主加添力量。
- 请为另一 X 姓女传道人祷告,在疫情压力下,除了要照顾好自己,安抚教会肢体,还要协同丈夫—起照顾体弱多病的公婆。求主加添力量。
- 请为自养的传道人夫妇 S 祷告,虽然夫妻轮流被感染,感恩能彼此照顾,但自营的小生意却因疫情遭到打击,生活无着。求主怜悯。
- 今天是元宵节,意味着中国新年假期的正式结束。自明天起,各地农民都要着手准备"春耕";那些依然有机会外出打工的农民工则打点行装,奔赴工作地点。求主怜悯深受疫情困扰的中国人民。
- 自入冬以来,中国多数以出口订单为生的民办工厂都因疫情提前放假,并预估到开春才能重新开工。请为诸多农民工祷告,能够在二、三月份顺利回到工作岗位。
- 据了解,原本遍地都是从事出口业务的小工厂的浙江省,因为疫情封控被迫停工多时,可在去年底封控放开后,却发现海外订单已转移到越南等邻近国家。请为原本富庶、以出口加工为经济支柱的沿海省份在后疫情的恢复阶段能平稳度过祷告。
- 今天是中国政府三年来首次取消强制性的入境隔离措施一整个月,同时简化入境管制。 虽然这有利中外人员交流,但在疫情继续流行的情况下,人们依然对后疫情时代抱有不确定性。请为普通民众能尽快摆脱疫情的影响,回归正常生活而祷告。

- 去年十一月郑州富士康工厂因疫情管控而爆 发员工大规模出走潮之后,富士康就开始拆 迁并搬运工厂设备至越南继续生产,这一搬迁对农 民工和农村背景大学生的影响将十分深远。求主怜 悯。
- 得益于欧美亚汽车厂商的推动,近年来中国的汽车行业突飞猛进,成为知识型劳动力新的聚集点。但由于疫情带来的不稳定性,以及中国与西方世界的关系破裂,西方和日韩汽车行业各自从中国采购汽车零部件的比例大幅度的下降。使得这一知识型就业市场的发展前景蒙上了阴影,并出现了大规模减薪和失业的现象。请为受影响的家庭祷告。
- 国应国际大环境的变化和后疫情期间复苏国内经济的需要,中国开始重新提出知识青年下乡的政策(鼓励大学毕业生、能人、农民工和企业家下乡)。近年来城市新兴教会和农民工教会曾是中国基督教发展的主力,也是现代中国宣教运动的主要力量;祷告如今的政策变化也能促成中国境内的宣教活动。
- 请为已经返校上课的各地大学生和住校高中生祷告,虽然现在理论上已处在后疫情时期,但过去几年的防疫措施使得学生和老师都身心疲惫,求主怜悯其中的基督徒学生,盼望能成为美好的见证,让更多的同学有机会认识主。
- 一位基督徒老师在得新冠高烧期间,学校依然要求所有老师必须每天准时上网课,并鼓励患病学生也坚持上课。这成为她为主作见证的极佳时机。请为在患病期间听过福音的学生祷告。愿圣灵动工,引导这些学生能真正走向信仰,蒙恩得救。
- 今天是唯一可以公开庆祝的西方节日—情人节,也是中国城市青年十分热衷的节日。请特别记念因为疫情而失业、破产,以及失去亲人的中国青年们。
- 据一位南方沿海地区的工厂主分享,自从去年"双十一"以来,就没有接到过任何订

- 单,工人也都以"放年假"的形式在十二月份就遣散了,不知道何时才能正常复工复产。虽然看到有工厂搬迁到越南后又继续招募原工人接单开工,自己却因为人地生疏不敢轻举妄动。据了解,国内教会已开始考虑差派同工前往越南专注中国劳工的福音工作。请代祷。
- 据来自浙江等地的报告,自放开疫情管 控以来,各地工厂、商店依然萧条,但 各地劳工市场却已极为火爆。由于前来招工的工厂 主和店主极其稀罕,几乎只要厂方管吃管住,劳工 就同意签约。请特别为中国新年之后外出寻找工作 机会的人祷告,求主怜悯。
- 由于新冠流行,众多民众都被至少感染一次,但对后新冠的自我保护意识不足,农村地区因过度体力活动导致猝死的案例增多。随着农村地区进入春耕的预备期,请特别为农村教会的传道人祷告,他们除了照顾弟兄姊妹还要全职务农,求主施恩。
- 请为近年,由于无法找到合适工作而滞留在农村老家的原农民工祷告。求主特别施恩其中的基督徒,能有一个较为顺利的职业转型,成为影响其他民工正确看待由工返农的美好见证。
- 请特别为农村老人的赡养和福音事工祷告。虽然近年来农村福音工作不断遭到破坏,但老人赡养工作的紧迫性却使得农村教会的福音事工事实上一直存在。求主藉着更多基督徒的投入,使得更多老人能在暮年听闻福音并经历在基督里的美好。
- 2 随着中国公民海外旅行的逐步开放,一些差派跨文化同工的教会终于有机会差派同工作工场探访。请为已经计划在今年上半年探访差派同工的教会和差会祷告,愿这样的探访活动能更加坚固在外同工信靠主、达成大使命的心志。

- 请为因疫情中断的原本固定在海外举办的 跨文化和教牧训练的重启工作祷告。
- 由于疫情管制措施的放宽,使得基督徒实体聚会成为了可能,但针对"民间(基督教)信仰活动"的清零政策并没有放宽。请为有意恢复实体聚会的家庭教会祷告。求主给牧者和同工属天的智慧,在这复杂的社会环境中清楚看到神的带领。
- **2** 请为受到"双清零"政策影响的民间基督教教育,尤其是各地"在家教育"事工祷告。希望后疫情时期,能让仍然坚持用圣经和信仰原则教导孩童的家庭有一个比较宽松的教学环境。
- 在中外交通恢复以后,请为一些身在海外从事跨文化工作的中国基督徒祷告,希望他们能有机会回家探望年长的父母和教会的弟兄姊妹们。
- **1** 请为那些原本已经献身宣教却因为疫情被滞留的中国基督徒祷告,希望因疫情管制的放开,使得他们能早日进入各自宣教的工场。
- 26 请为宏观的中国社会祷告。三年疫情使得中国在偏离"和谐社会"的道路上越走越远,社会矛盾和张力也达到了前所未有的程度。愿圣灵动工,让上帝的爱能藉着基督徒的生活渗透入不同的社会群体,影响社会重新回到相对和谐的状况。
- **2** 请为中国广泛存在的"隐藏基督徒"祷告,虽然公权力不允许他们公开表达自己的信仰,但他们面对巨大的压力并没有放弃信仰。请为他们能有美好的主内团契生活而祷告。
- 28 为中国基督教的发展祷告,愿中国教会能在这后疫情时期,逐步复苏和进入新的发展阶段。