

凯地之光

Katy Light

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本期简介

盛夏将逝,凉秋徐来。很荣幸编辑新的一期凯地之光。阅读弟兄姊妹分享他们的看见和感受,犹如在烦闷的居家生活中享受吹来的一阵阵清风。

人力招聘专家 Simon Lin 弟兄在五、六月间给教会弟兄姊妹开的职场培训系列讲座,给参加者较全面的求职技能、经验培训,本以为他的这篇文章会是他讲座的总结或提纲,但读到的是一篇给人深刻启发的属灵教导。章优德长老的这篇讲道,是我们大家熟悉的风格,道理浅显但寓意深刻,循循善诱似大哥谈心,简单平易却贵在执行,感谢他愿意分享他的讲稿。

Stephen Teng 弟兄研究生毕业刚刚开始新的工作,但随着年初疫情的爆发,面临失掉工作的危险和因工作性质而受感染的威胁。他回顾这一段时间的心路历程,真正体会和经历神每天的供应、带领和保守。王丽梅传道所写她刚信主三年的经历,如何急切地给家人分享喜乐,想让丈夫信主,但欲速而不达;是神慢慢让她培养耐心,一步步陪伴她成长,走到今天。

因疫情影响而宅在家中,这是今年大部分时间我们大部分人的"新常态"。Alicia 姊妹分享她及全家如何利用这种机会,从灵修,到关怀家人、关怀周围的人的点点滴滴。编委会大姐从颖姊妹贡献她宅家七十天的"流水账"日记,向我们见证了她这些天的丰富生活(未完待续)。

青少年传道 Randall 和他太太 Phuong 在近几年为教会青少年事工的付出,大家有目共睹。在他们即将踏上神给他们开出的传教之路时,Phuong 姊妹为教会及青少年祷告,也为他们的将来祷告。愿我们成为他们的祷告勇士,愿圣灵感动你到 resoundonline.org 为他们捐赠。关晓红姊妹与大家分享她刚刚完成的犹他之旅,感叹神的创造和大能是更新我们、扫除生活中阴霾的唯一源泉。

责任编辑 刘幼华

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Being Light & Salt in the Workplace Simon Lin

What does it mean when Jesus tells us to be light and salt of the world? When light shines, it brightens the surroundings and exposes darkness. When salt is used on food, it is kept from decay and rot and enhances its flavor. In both cases, light and salt set things apart - light vs. darkness, fresh and flavorful vs. spoiled and bland. That is what Jesus means when He calls us to be light and salt. We are called to be a distinct people set apart from the unbelieving world who are living in darkness, sin, and corruption.

A few months ago, I was invited by Pastor Tan to assist the church's job networking group. Several brothers and sisters had lost their jobs during the recent Covid-19 crisis. We held several workshops over a two-month period to help with their skill sets: networking, resume-writing, and interviewing. Several times during the sessions, I would say that we are called to be "light and salt" in the world for Jesus. Since we spend a good portion of our day at work, that is where our impact needs to be. We need to be a distinct people in the workplace.

So how does that look? Is there a model for us to be light and salt in the workplace? I believe that the best place to start on this subject is with the Bible, God's Word and instructions. In Luke 3, we find John the Baptist giving instructions to two recent converts – a tax collector and a soldier.

Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages." (Luke 3: 12-14)

Tax collectors during John the Baptist's time were hated and despised by everyone, especially their own Jewish countrymen. They were considered traitors for helping the Roman empire exact and collect taxes. Many were dishonest using their position to enrich themselves by bribes and extortion.

Roman soldiers were the empire's law enforcement agency. Since they were among the lowest paid, they often used their position to extort money by threats and extortion. They were like the mafia collecting their protection money.

Notice that in both instances. John did not tell the tax collectors and the soldiers to leave or abandon their posts or positions but to remain where they are at. You see, God has called us to be light and salt in the world wherever we are. We are not called to be isolated or secluded from the world. Instead, we are called to be God's ambassadors to reach the lost. Who better to reach the tax collectors than a tax collector? Who better to reach the soldiers than another soldier? It is no accident that you became a doctor, a nurse, an engineer, a researcher, a lawyer, a teacher, a businessman, a construction worker, a cashier, etc. As Christians, each of us is placed in a specific strategic position for God's mission on earth!

In addition, while staying in the positions, John calls the tax collectors and soldiers to be distinct and set apart from the norm. Don't act and behave like everyone else! Don't be corrupt!

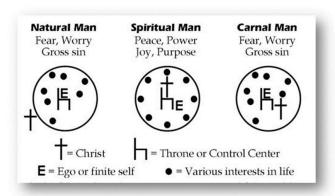
You see, when we become a believer of Christ, we are given a new nature. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, the Apostle Paul tells us this, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is

a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." This new nature in Christ replaces our old sinful nature. The Holy Spirit now indwells us and gives us assurance, guidance, and power to overcome sin and live righteously and victoriously. We begin exhibiting the fruit of the spirit, which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We are literally a "new" person!

Can you imagine the reaction of the people to the tax collector who suddenly became honest? Can you imagine their reaction to the soldier who is now content with his wages and does not use his position to extort money?

The same applies to us today. We are called to live a distinct life. We now live by God's Holy Spirit and we are changed by Him in our behavior, our attitude, our mindset, our values, and our priorities. **God becomes our boss!**

One of the best ways to understand this is to look at this illustration:



In the world, there are basically three types of individuals.

The first individual is the natural man or the **unbeliever**. This constitutes the bulk of humanity. They are in charge of themselves and Christ is outside of the circle. They are their **own boss**. They have no regard or need for God. They are lost and basically live for themselves. They often live in fear, worry, and gross sin.

The second individual is the spiritual man or the **believer**. They are living under the **authority of Christ, in submission to him. God is the boss**. Because the Holy Spirit indwells them, they often experience peace, power, joy, and purpose. Now, this does not mean that believers never experience fear, doubt, and anxieties or fall into temptation that leads to sin. That is not the case. Believers may still struggle, but they have learned to overcome and continue to do so.

The third individual is the carnal man or the **immature believer**. They accepted Christ. However, their life looks more **like the unbelievers** than the believers. Christ is in the picture but not on the throne. God is not the boss. **Self is still the boss**.

One of the main responsibilities of the church is to help believers grow from **immaturity to maturity** – just like parents raise children. This is called **discipleship**. We need to instruct younger Christians - how to grow, how to obey, how to listen to the Big Boss, and how to live life different than the world.

As we grow in our relationship with Christ, we see changes in our behavior and our life. We become less selfish, less selfcentered, and less self-absorbed. We become more generous, more othercentered, and more concerned about the lost condition of people around us. We literally become more Christ-like.

In the workplace (and anywhere), that's exactly what people need to see in us: Christ likeness with this blessed hope: "Christ in us, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). As that happens, people will notice. People will inquire. This leads to the opening of doors that allows us to share God's message of salvation to others. We share the story that we were once the natural man / unbeliever where self was on the throne. We lived under constant fear and worry and were engaged in gross sin. However, Christ came into our lives and changed that. We now live under the power and direction of the Holy Spirit. We now

have peace, power, joy, and purpose. We were once lost, but now we are found!

It is also important that we try our very best and excel at what we do. Joseph, Daniel, and Nehemiah are three prime examples in the Bible who were very successful. They were known for their godliness, knowledge, wisdom, acumen, and work ethic. And because of that, they set themselves apart and distinguished themselves. Their diligence and excellent work became their testimony to the world, bringing glory to God. We are called to do the same.

As I shared in our job networking sessions, I have held many positions with several different companies over 32 years in my career. In almost every situation, God has used me to be His ambassador. It could have been simply speaking a kind word to a co-worker or a subordinate. It could have been helping someone in financial need. It could have been serving as a peacemaker

between two quarreling employees. It could have been praying for someone or someone's family member. It could have been sharing the gospel to a lost soul. All in all, I tried to exemplify Christ through my words, attitude, behavior, and actions. By no means do I claim to be a perfect Christian – far from it. However, my goal is to always strive to be excellent at my job, to be more like Christ each day, and to demonstrate His love in all my relationships.

So, as God call us to serve in our assigned positions in the various fields like medicine, law, business, school, government, etc., we need to be His ambassador and representative by exemplifying Christ (be like Him), striving for excellence in our field, and sharing the good news of His salvation through our words and actions.

May God bless us and make us the light and salt of this city! \fill

理财有道——筹划

章优德

理财有道是用圣经经文教导我们理财的原则,应用在我们日常生活中,让我们能在财务上得自由,使人更亲近神、更自由地事奉神。

让我们从两处经文一起来学习通过筹 划来理财。

- (1) 殷勤筹划的,足致丰裕。行事急躁的,都必缺乏。(箴言 21:5)
- (2) 人心筹算自己的道路。惟耶和华指引他的脚步。(箴言 16:9)

我将从三个方面来一起学习。

(一) 筹划

圣经箴言 21:5 说: "殷勤筹划的,足致丰裕。行事急躁的,都必缺乏。"这是一句相对平行对句。经文的前半部发表一个声明: "殷勤筹划的足致丰裕",而下半部分发表相对的声明: "行事急躁的,都必缺乏。"

这里有三个对比,筹划与行事的对比,殷勤与急躁的对比,丰裕与缺乏的对比。

丰裕的前提是殷勤筹划,所以我们需要筹划。神在祂所创造的世界中设下了这样一个原则:有了殷勤的筹划,我们就能够充分利用神所供应给我们的机会。

行事急躁的人在重要的事情上没有筹 划就做决定,匆忙地做决定,他很快就会 经历失败、缺乏。

神吩咐我们筹划,也祝福筹划的人。 所以如果我们盼望所做的蒙神赐福,我们 就必须筹划。

在理财方面,我们要采取积极的态度 来筹划。我们不能认为说金钱是属世的东 西,贪财是万恶之根,所以我们就不用理 财、不用筹划。或者认为反正神知道我一 切的需要,他会供应,我就不用筹划。

路加福音 14:28-30: "你们哪一个要盖一座楼,不先坐下算计花费,能盖成不能呢?恐怕安了地基,不能成功,看见的人都笑话他,说:这个人开了工,却不能完工。"

我年青的时候有盖房子的经验。那时候楚莉和我在纽西兰读完大学,工作了三年多决定回国在马来西亚沙捞越的美里成家立业。我们在考虑买房子,还是买一块地自己盖房子。我们经过讨论和咨询亲戚朋友之后,决定买一块地自己盖房子。



首先要做的事,就是计算一下一共储蓄了多少钱,要贷款多少钱。我们一起坐下来做预算,计算要花多少钱买多大的地、花多少钱盖多大的房子。做完了预算,觉得还行,我们才开始物色在哪个学区买地。

买下了地,就请工人清理杂草。那时自己年青,很有精力,自己画图请建筑师盖章。然后去地方议会申请盖房子的准证。

有了盖房子的准证,就要去找土木承 包商、水电承包商来估价、投标。有了这 些价格,才去银行申请贷款。

有了贷款、准证和承包商,便可以施工了。填泥土、打地基、混凝土工程、土木工程、壁板、第一层主梁、第二层主梁、屋顶、水电、空调等工程。经过了八个月的施工工程,我们的房子建好了。

从买地到盖房子,完成整个工程需要 一年半的时间。在我们家庭理财方面,从 成家立业到财务自由,很可能是二十到三 十年的时间。所以我们要筹划。

在理财方面,我们要筹划什么呢?我 们必须筹划三方面。

(1)目标

人活在世界上,一定要有目标。有目标就有了方向。有了方向就知道要怎样走向目标。射箭不可能没有目标,必须以箭靶为目标。纵然射不准却有一个方向、一个目标。我们每一年都可以在这七个重要的价值观定下目标:①信仰②健康③家庭④工作⑤财富⑥朋友⑦品格。

我个人的见证是,因为我定下了目标,所以才能帮助我修完了神学硕士课程,也能够持续五年每年参加 MS 150 骑自行车从 Houston 到 Austin 一百五十英里的路程,能够投资多样化。在理财方面,我们一定要有目标,从开始起步、刚

成家立业的年轻夫妻,到老夫老妻都需要 有目标。

(2) 财务报表

我们大家都知道健康检查(Medical Check up)是管理身体健康的重要工具。50 岁之后,要定期做直肠、胃镜检查,知道你的健康数据(know your health number)。同样的,我们在财务方面也要有健康检查,知道你的财务报表。

(3) 家庭预算估计表

要做一个好管家,我们应该要有家庭 预算。不但有预算,而且有行动,要照着 预算去行。

预算有很多功能,让你能够量入为 出,安排家庭钱的收支、先后顺序,提供 全面计划,帮助你发现问题所在。

当然编制家庭预算的时候,夫妻要有好的沟通,彼此有商量,有讨论。年尾结账的时候,可以一家人一起分享,有没有达到预算的目标,这样你也鼓励你的子女们,在财务上要有目标,有财务报表,有预算估计表。

我们都听说过,"Fail to plan, plan to fail."("没做好规划的人,注定要失败。")中文也有说法,"人无远虑,必有近忧。"这些成语都强调了筹划的重要性。

(二) 殷勤筹划

我们要殷勤筹划。殷勤就是要做勤奋 的人、努力的人、用功的人,不做懒惰的 人。

箴言 6:6-8 说:"懒惰人哪,你去察看蚂蚁的动作,就可得智慧。蚂蚁没有元帅,没有官长,没有君王,尚且在夏天豫备食物,在收割时聚敛粮食。"我们可以从察看蚂蚁的动作得到智慧,因为蚂蚁在夏天储蓄食物以备冬天。同样的,我们也应该有居安思危的原则,不但不可以在丰

富的时候随意花钱、没有储蓄,而且应该 是有殷勤筹划,预备迎接未来,在财务上 能有自由。

我们从蚂蚁身上可以学到什么智慧呢?有人用心考察蚂蚁的动作,总结出蚂蚁有十个智慧:①勤奋劳作②从不放弃③善用机会④关心同伴⑤目标单一⑥彼此合作⑦未雨绸缪⑧忍耐坚持⑨共同参与⑩自我督促。

在我们的理财过程中,都会经历四个阶段,所以我们要殷勤筹划,一步一个脚印地走向财务自由。这四个方面是:①控制支出②免于负债③慷慨奉献④储蓄投资。

(三) 靠主殷勤筹划

箴言 16:9 说: "人心筹算自己的道路。惟耶和华指引他的脚步。"这又是一个相对平行对句。经文的前半部发表一个声明,说人都是自己计划前程,而下半部发表相对的声明,只有耶和华能够引导他的方向。这里有三个对比,人与耶和华的对比,筹算与指引的对比,道路与脚步的对比。

表面看来,也许你可以说既然耶和华指引我们的脚步,那么我就不用筹划自己的道路了。其实不然。这节经文又告诉我们,我们应该有我们的筹划,但要知道实际事情的发生,情况是神完全设定的;那就是我们的筹划和神的指引是同时发生的。我们需要百分之百的筹划,神就百分之百地指引。

有句话说:谋事在人,成事在天;Man proposes,but God disposes.就是这个意思。我们中文是天,但英文是神,尽人事,听天命,有道出东方和西方有神与无神的关系。在神的主权之下,神给了我们自由意志,让我们可以筹划。我们殷勤筹划、做我们本分内的事,我们求神指引我们的脚步,让我们能够行在神的旨意中。

箴言 16:3 说: "你所作的,要交托耶和华,你所谋的,就必成立。"

当你读旧约圣经约瑟所走的人生路,你会看到他走过了富足之路,也走过了贫穷之路。他生于富有之家,后来被嫉妒他的兄弟们卖为奴隶。奴隶是贫穷、没有身份的。在做奴隶的时候,他的主人波提乏看重他,提升他作了管家。后来,他被主人的妻子引诱,但是他做出了正确的决定,没有被引诱,结果因此被诬陷而抓进监狱,关了几年。后来神安排的时间到了,他最终升为全埃及的宰相,救了他的全族。

同样的,我们走的人生路也会有高山低谷,有富足的时候和贫穷的时候。我们要靠主,求主指引我们前面要走的路。在理财方面,我们靠主殷勤筹划,不管我们的处境如何。我们可以向约瑟学习,无论富足还是贫穷都能做神忠心的好管家,活出在主里的丰盛生命。

保罗在腓 4:11-13 说: "我并不是因缺乏说这话,我无论在什么景况,都可以知足,这是我已经学会了。我知道怎样处卑贱,也知道怎样处丰富,或饱足,或饥饿,或有馀,或缺乏,随事随在,我都得了秘诀。我靠着那加给我力量的,凡事都能作。"

靠主殷勤筹划的一个见证

有人形容这次新冠肺炎疫情,中国打 上半场,美国打下半场。球赛打得如何, 大家心里都有数。我们海外华侨,尤其是 凯地中国教会,我们打上半场,也打下半 场,我们打全场的比赛。

记得今年二月份的时候,我们开始了新冠肺炎疫情的筹款。感谢神也感谢弟兄姊妹的参与,我们一共筹得三万三千多美元。二、三月份我们的重点是要怎样帮助武汉以及其周边地方的需要。我们成立了

慈善关怀小组。我们一起筹划,开了很多 会议,也讨论了很多问题。

记得那时候,有一两位弟兄建议说我们就把钱寄给福音机构或非盈利赈灾组织,让他们去做;很多教会都这么做,干嘛这么麻烦。真的那时候,我也想多一事不如少一事,就这样吧!

感谢神,我们没有放弃,我们知道万事起头难。我们当中有姐妹在中国有很好的联系;我去年在中国来来去去了一整年,也有那边教会的联系,跟他们经常用微信沟通、讨论。我们跟这边的银行也有好的关系。我们有私人客户的关系,可以免费咨询,不收费国际电汇寄钱去中国。

三月初,我们成功地第一次寄了钱给 北京一间教会,购买酒精转送到随州有需 要的地方。三月中,我们成功第二次寄钱 过去。

到了三月底,当我们美国疫情严重的时候,我们透过我们所建立的这些关系,彼岸的姐妹为我们在那边的工厂买了口罩寄过来,发放给我们教会小组里有需要的家庭。我们随后第二次寄钱过去买口罩。

接下去,我们社区有更多的需要,我们周边的教会也有需要。我们第四次寄钱过去买口罩。我们自己教会有更多的需要,我们第五次寄钱过去买口罩。我们一共买了七万四千个口罩。

感谢神,虽然我们只有三万三千多美元,但是我们这份爱、这份情,祝福了中国那边有需要的灾民、凯地中国教会,以 及我们周边的教会和社区。

也许当这场疫情过去的时候,留下给 我最深刻的回忆就是这个靠主殷勤筹划的 见证。我们所奉献的三万三千多美元的钱 不多,成为五饼二鱼触摸了多人的心。

我们没有浪费这次疫情的机会,我们在疫情中活出了主的爱,为主发光,有"疫"有情,成为社区中的光和盐。



Day by Day

Stephen Teng

It has been interesting, to say the least, having entered the workforce upon the time that the pandemic was just about to hit. In late February, by God's continual grace, faithfulness, and providence all throughout my journey, He allowed me to find a job locally in the Richmond area, giving me the opportunity to continue to be with my family and serve in KCCC with both worship and the youth. At this point, especially having just gone through the rigors of graduate school and then studied and passed that dreaded National PT Board exam, it certainly felt like I was on the mountaintop. There were various plans in the coming weeks of celebrating with my friends and family and all the things I thought I was going to do with my new freedom and income. That was until what we all know infected our country.

I had only just begun working for a couple of weeks before it seemed like news

about Coronavirus outbreak was on every media as it rapidly spread to the various communities and soon turned into a global pandemic. Decisions about what the government officials were going to do with our economy and health safety protocol seemed to change by the minute. I definitely felt the rise of anxiety everywhere around, but I especially felt the personal impact when I saw patient visits dropping one after another at our clinic and at the same time thinking about the potential risk each day as I was still in close contact with my patients.

As each day progressed with uncertainties shrouding over the nature of the virus, rising cases in all areas, people scrambling to stock on essentials and toilet paper, and businesses closing, I immediately felt the weight of the coming crisis. At the same time, I became acutely aware of how many of us including myself have taken so much for granted: our

finances, our resources, our possessions, and the plans we make year in and year out without much disruption. I know that for most of my life, I've said that my ultimate true reliance is on God Himself to get me through each day. Yet it is also true that I may have felt that I had some sense of control on how my life is going to turn out if I take enough good care of myself - making good health choices, sound financial decisions and staying focused on my career goals. In other words, my head knew the truth that God is our sole provider, but practically, I've probably acted more like my own Master and at most, God's co-pilot. COVID-19 pandemic really put that faith to the test of what I truly believed in.

Anxiety at varying levels set in each day of going to work. "Had I already been exposed?", "Does my mask give me enough protection?", "What if our company starts laying people off?". These are all questions that ran through my head at varying degrees. God reminded me then that He had been the sole provider all along, and especially now, when we do not have the false sense of security from the resources we have to save us. It hit me one weekend when I was attending a Facebook Live Bible Study, listening to one of my former D-Camp speakers expounding on Psalm 91. The passage talks about how if we dwell in the House of the Lord, He will be our refuge, He will cover us under his wings, He will save us from the deadly pestilence. Resources can only go so far and you can only sanitize so much. God taught me then that true protection day in and day out comes from Him alone. Another important lesson I learned from this passage is that it does NOT mean that we will never experience trouble, disease, or hardship. But it does mean that that if we continue to dwell in Him. draw near to Him. He will either deliver us from OR deliver us through trouble. After being reminded of this, there was a greater sense of peace in me -I do

not need to worry. I can have concern for what's going on around us, but I do not need to be paralyzed by fear. Each day that I feel healthy and able is another day I see God allowing me to continue to live and serve in such a capacity, being made possible by His grace alone.

In a short time, at the end of March/beginning of April, I, along with a couple of co-workers were forced to take vacation leave. I honestly did not know how I felt at that point when my boss first delivered the news to me. I knew that the status was temporary but how long was the furlough going to last? What if the situation continues to worsen that eventually it does turn into a layoff? This was another point where I felt that I had to continue to cling onto God and trust that for as long as I live, He still has a plan and purpose for my life. This truth is what honestly kept me at peace throughout the uncertainty that loomed through each day. Thankfully, by God's gracious gift, our company was approved for the Paycheck Protection Program loans a month later, bringing everyone in our staff back to full time. Steadily since then, we have built back up our caseload and I found a rekindled joy in having the blessing and privilege to be in a position where I could serve people and hear their stories every single day in my work.

In challenging times such as these, I've experienced a heightened sense of awareness of just how fragile life is, not a single day is guaranteed. I have learned so much about what it means to rest in His day by day provision. Every single day I say the same prayer before I go to work that God will protect us by His Spirit and that He will guide me and grant me wisdom with all the decisions I make. I can continue to say that God is truly faithful. He is the same today as He was yesterday, and He always will be.

那三年

王麗梅

第一年

那一年是她很開心的一年, 因為她成 了基督徒。這是一個新的開始,她的先生 也可以看到她自從去了教會以後好像變了 一個人, 她不再像以前那麼憂慮, 展開不 出笑容,整天皺著眉頭,動不動就不高 興。那是一個非常新奇的改變, 所以她先 生也一直鼓勵她去教會。那一年她也開始 帶著她的兩個小孩去教會,一個滿三歲 了,一個兩歲不到。小朋友在教會認識很 多朋友,他們非常地開心。當然她也邀請 先生和他們一起去教會。她先生並不是那 麼想去, 開始的時候因為不好回絕她所以 就跟著去了。幾次以後他終於對妻子說他 不想去了, 想要自己留在家裡, 給自己有 一個休息、安靜的時间。她不是很開心, 還是堅持一家人一起去教會, 他勉強地跟 著夫, 結果幾乎每一次都遲到或者是在出 門前就鬧得很不愉快。因為他並不想要 去,可是她總是那麼堅持全家人一起去。 她在教會裡認識了教會的一些資深的基督 徒、長老和牧師,她常常請他們去和先生 談一談,去向先生傳福音。她是那麼渴望 先生也能夠和她一樣認識耶穌基督,因為 耶穌基督改變了她的生命。可是她自己才 剛信主,什麼也不懂,更不知道要怎麼跟 她先生傳講福音, 所以她希望別人能夠來 向他的先生傳福音。幾個月後她放棄了, 因為先生變本加厲地不去教會, 他們兩個 人之間的關係也弄得越來越糟糕。後來她 很難過地獨自一個人帶著兩個小孩去教 會。她是那麼地孤獨,心裡總覺得少了什 麼東西。可是另一方面她卻是非常地開 心。除了對先生不願意跟她去教會這件事 以外,其他的事情她好像都感覺非常快 樂,她不知道原因,但是她就是感覺心情 非常地好。雖然她和兩個小孩星期天離開 家去教會的時候,他都還在床上睡覺,但 是他們之間因為去教會這件事而吵架的次 數慢慢地減少了。

將近一年的時候,她對神的認識多了一些。有一次她又去找長老到她家去跟她先生傳福音。这一次長老沒有說什麼話,只是安靜地看著她,問她说,我很願意再去,但你覺得這樣子有用嗎?那天她認真地想著這個問題。她知道沒有用。她很痛苦,因為她終於明白了為什麼她的先生不來教會。她雖然信了主以後心情變得很好,但是内在生命並沒有多大的改變,她還是常常對先生發脾氣,對小孩也沒有耐心,在日常的生活上也並沒有多大的改變。

第二年

她知道自己必須改變。她不再找人向 他傳福音,而開始禱告詢問神,自己要做 什麼樣的改變才可以讓先生願意跟她去教 會。首先神讓她認清了自己是一個以事業 為重的人, 家庭對她來說遠遠比不上自己 的事業重要。她喜歡加班, 很少下了班以 後回家做飯,去 day care 接小孩也經常 是最後幾分鐘才到, 甚至遲到被罰錢也無 所謂。和公婆的關係並沒有因為信了主而 改善多少。她經常想著自己信主以後心裡 面是多麼的喜樂,她也希望把這種喜樂帶 給她的先生,和她的公公婆婆。她決定花 更多的時間向神禱告, 求神幫助她能夠有 一個好的方法。她答應神為了讓先生可以 信主自己願意做任何事情, 只要她的先生 願意來教會。雖然先生沒有去教會, 但是 她也沒有歇著。禮拜三晚上參加禱告會, 禮拜五參加團契,也帶著兩個小孩去參加 AWANA。禮拜六如果教會有活動,她也一 定帶著小孩一起去。禮拜天早上主日學和 崇拜她是從來不缺席的。先生後來抱怨她 一個星期去教會的次數太多了, 希望她能 夠少一點去教會。她覺得自己應該多花點 時間在家裡,除了每天準點下班回家,她 還開始思想如何用最有效率的方法接到小 孩,以後還可以做新鮮的晚餐給一家人享 用。那時候她不太會做飯, 所以是一個很 大的挑戰,但是她願意去嘗試,因為她有 一個傳福音的使命。至於禮拜三晚上的禱 告會,她也決定不去參加了。那天她去參 加了禮拜三的禱告會, 結束的時候她很不 好意思地告訴老牧師,她的先生不希望她 一天到晚到教會來, 所以以後她不能夠來 參加禱告會了。她原本想牧師一定會不高 興,或者會勸她還是要來參加禱告會。可 是她沒有想到, 牧師居然跟她說要聽先生 的話, 等到以後先生信主了、也同意她回 來參加禱告會時再回來參加。牧師並沒有 為難她。那天晚上她含著眼淚回到家。她 更知道自己該做什麼事了。從那以後她每 天三菜一湯,從不間斷。為了讓全家人能 夠吃得很愉快,她也開始精心學習做飯, 將每一道菜都用滿滿的愛心包住。每天晚 上,她會在兩個小孩睡覺之前和他們說聖 經故事, 並且和他們有很快樂的互動。那 年感恩節的時候,她邀請了公婆的一些朋 友到家裡來一起過感恩節。她準備了豐盛 的食物招待他們,並且在吃完晚飯以後, 公開地向公婆表達了她的感恩, 感謝他們 撫養這麼好的兒子成為她的先生, 並且在 平日裡經常愛護並照顧自己的兩個小孩。 那天她給足了他們面子, 而她也開始留意 他們的需要。那年她的先生和她去了教會 的聖誕晚會, 那是那年上帝給她的聖誕禮 物。

第三年

她除了向神禱告讓先生可以跟她去教 會,也禱告讓她能夠更多地認識神。為了 要對孩子們說聖經故事,她也拼命地看聖 經。雖然不是很懂,但為了要繼續說聖經 故事,她還是堅持看下去。加上她在主日 學裡的學習,她漸漸地愛上了神的話語。 她不想錯過 9:30 的主日學, 所以星期六 晚上就把自己和小孩的東西準備好,早晨 起來也盡量避免和先生起衝突, 並且將先 生的早餐預備好才出門。下班後接小孩, 然後回家煮飯成了她的習慣。她不再要求 先生和她去教會, 只在特別的聚餐時邀請 他去,如果他不去她也不再給他臉色看。 晚上臨睡前她和孩子們從房間裡傳出來的 笑聲讓他非常地羨慕。他不知道她和小孩 一直在為他禱告。小孩開始激他一起去教 會, 偶爾他會去, 但大部份时间他寧願呆 在家裡。她開始與他分享一些自己在教會 認識的弟兄姊妹的故事和見證。

那年的 Memorial 周末團契裡的一些家 庭邀請他們一起去露營, 因為小孩都差不 多年紀所以他們就答應了。他們很開心地 去了,而這幾個家庭也在他面前做了很好 的見證,雖然沒有直接向他傳福音,但是 他們生活的見證打動了他的心。露營結束 前大夥一起邀請他來教會,她很緊張,而 他卻答應了禮拜天去教會。之後他們果真 每個禮拜天帶著兩個小孩一起去教會。 Labor Day 周末大夥又相邀去露營,他們 也去了。隨後大夥邀他來團契, 就這樣他 進了團契的福音組。他不太發問,但總在 腦海裡思索。從去年開始她已經不再用言 語來向他傳福音,她只求神改變她自己的 生命, 而將他交託給了神。那一年開始有 人找她服事,她向神禱告說:等他信了 神,她就開始服事。她常常問神什麼時候 她可以開始服事,然而神沒有回答。在福 音組幾個月後的一個中午, 他去教會和老 牧師談了一談,那天他決志信了主。下午 有一個傳道人打電話偷偷地告訴了她這個 好消息,她在公司裡喜極而泣。回家後她 沒有提這件事,晚上臨睡前他告訴她,老 牧師今天打電話給他說要去看他,因為不 好意思讓老人家來看他,所以他去了教會。老牧師說了一番話後問他願不願意接受耶穌基督為他個人的救主。他沒有說甚麼,只是點了點頭。那晚他說完,他們相擁而泣。那年他受了洗,她也開始服事。

"至於我和我家,我們必定侍奉耶和華。"(約書亞記 24:15)

4

The New Normal

Alicia Leung

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

What a great reminder of God's promises that we don't have to live in fear. God is with us. He is with us always. As I write this reflection, we are entering our sixth month of the pandemic. Like many Katy families, my family has tried to accept the new "normal" with masks, social distancing, and all the other additional stresses that have come with COVID-19. From a mental health standpoint, it can be exhausting thinking about health, job security, and keeping other fears from entering our fragile states of mind. In fact, I could conclude that it's been safer and easier to isolate ourselves because it is something within our control. My daily temptation has been to stay in our bubble out of fear, comfort, or, even laziness. It's been too easy for me to live this new, normal life without ever connecting to anyone.

Though COVID-19 has been extremely challenging, it took me awhile into the pandemic to appreciate some of the blessings that can come out of it. It's an opportunity like never before to love one another (John 15:12) and proclaim Christ's name (Matthew 28:16-20). Our usual family responsibilities and social calendars have disappeared these last few months – the kids' lessons, hanging out with friends, traveling, etc. Our family of four has been able to add more "free" time into our lives. At times we might not have made the best use

of it -we are definitely guilty of spending way too much time on Netflix! However, as the pandemic rages on, we've been convicted that God wants us to use this time for His glory. We've tried to be purposeful in discovering new, creative ways to connect with one another and with people in our community. Those blessings of connecting with our children, deepening existing friendships, and spending time with hurting friends have been something that we hope to continue even when the pandemic is over.

Here are some ways our family has explored to redeem this time for His glory over the last few months, and by the grace of God, we hope to continue doing in years to come.

INVESTING IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- Reading the Bible After a member of our small group shared her faithful Bible reading, I was inspired to read the Bible in a year. Using a Bible app, I was able to finish the Bible in August. It only took a commitment of 15-20 minutes a day.
- Prayer Journal/List One of our daughters started a prayer journal/list and has been keeping up with it. It's a good reminder to consistently pray for certain families on a daily basis.
- Worship Walks In the morning or evening, it's a perfect time to go for a short walk outdoor and listen to my favorite worship songs while admiring God's creation.

INVESTING IN FAMILY

- Family devotionals In the past, Ed and I always encouraged the girls to spend time reading the Bible, pray, and ask us questions. However, we were able to do our family devotions using "Jesus Calling" by Sarah Young during the pandemic. It's been good listening to the girls' interpretation of the Bible, discussing various topics, and seizing on teachable moments regarding theology.
- Family Fun Night We're all social distancing so why not plan an evening set aside to be with our family. We put away the phones and do something fun together, such as playing board games: family trivia, Pictionary, puzzles, cards or making crafts, or cooking dinner together, or baking.



- Exercising Together Whether it's riding bikes, walking, or swimming, we try to exercise together once a day.
- Zoom Calls There was a time when no one had even heard of Zoom! We've taken to meeting with our extended as well as immediate family members on various Zoom calls. It's been nice catching up and visiting with them. Everyone has been affected differently by the coronavirus pandemic, and it's beneficial to hear from our family members what they are going through.

INVESTING IN OTHERS

 Connection – I try to make it a goal to connect with at least one nonChristian co-worker, friend or relative via text, email, or phone call once a week. Using that time to encourage that person and expressing appreciation of what they mean to me.



- Serving Together Serving together as a family is a unique experience. You learn to work together and focus on others. Some examples of what our family has done include baking cookies and delivering to a friend, creating encouragement cards and/or preparing care packages and mailing them to relatives, sitting outside to fellowship with other families, specifically praying together for a person/family in need.
- Ministry Ed and I have been able to exercise our spiritual gifts and serve together through the years. Recently, we committed to meeting with an engaged couple and do pre-marital counseling with them. It was a blessing to serve together once a week for a few months. In addition, I've been able to meet and pray with a former KCCC youth once a week. We've been able to share our lives and encourage one were unexpected another. These ministry opportunities that came up during the pandemic.

While things may not look the same as before COVID-19, I'm thankful for the new opportunities to follow Christ's commands to love one another and proclaim His name while growing my faith during these times.

窝居七十天回顾(一)

从颖

三月二十二日,礼拜天的早晨,一觉醒来,习惯性地看一眼手机,却看到了医院发来的警告短信:要求所有科研实验室必须当天关闭。立即发短信给老板,她让我尽快、尽可能通知所有的人员去清理实验室。一直忙到下午三点左右才离开实验室回家。多年来,第一次在不出城的情况下礼拜天没上教堂敬拜上帝,还真有点不习惯。总觉得生活中缺少了什么。更没想到这一回家,就真的不能再回教堂聚会了,也与实验室阔别了整整七十天!直到六月三日才正式回到实验室上班。

在这七十天里,绝大部分时间是在家 里呆着。顶多也就是在屋前屋后的一亩三 分地里走走,去信箱取一下信件,偶尔去 一趟超市采购一些日常所需。除了网上每 个星期五晚上的小组查经和星期天上午的 主日崇拜及主日学课程外,还真的说不清 在这么长的一段时间里都做了些什么。但 总觉得这段窝居的日子在每个人的一生中 都是一段不寻常的日子,应该记录下来。 目前疫情又开始了第二波的爬坡,而且来 势比前一波更加凶猛, 说不定窝居的日子 又要开始了, 愿上帝保佑大家平安、健 康! 有上帝的同在,在这七十天的日子 里,我从未感到过孤单寂寞、无聊无趣, 或是失去平安喜乐。相反地, 我觉得很享 受! 因为也许是平时太忙了,有假都休不 了,这段时间"被休假"让我可以做一些 平时想做却没时间做的事。我为自己能有 这段宅在家里的日子而感恩! 我觉得自己 的身心灵都得享安息并重新得力 (retreated and restored)。在此愿与 大家分享窝居七十天的历程与体会,或许 对你将来可能若再需要过窝居的日子会有些许的帮助。可惜俺没有制作美篇的水平,只能记一下流水帐,以存储些许零碎的记忆。但愿不要写成"裹脚布",浪费大家的宝贵时间。为了比较完整地记录实况进展,免得给读者留有太多的悬念,有些信息(主要是照片)可能会超过(6/3/2020)七十天的期限。

一. 追剧

看了电视剧《猎狐》。总的来说还行。但感觉剧中所揭露的"坏人"的地位(级别)与现实中的相比不够高(当然,太高了咱平民百姓就看不到了,可以理解)。演员的演技倒是相当的不错。剧情导演得还算是比较接地气。

二. 网上听音乐会

看完了《当打歌手》全集。完全翻转了我对歌手这档节目的看法。原来以为只是象"American Idol"之类的,所以一直没有关注。看了之后才发现有天壤之别。学到一个功课:凡事切忌先入为主,尤其是对实况不了解之前。一定要存谦卑、开放的心态去了解真相,不要急于下结论。看完了"当打"之后,不由得继续往前追。陆陆续续从 2013 年的《我是歌手》追起,一直追到 2019 年,还缺几集(因为不是 VIP,看不了),只能等日后再补上了。大饱了耳福,聊补多年没机会去音乐厅听音乐会的遗憾。非常的开心和满足!

三. 在四月份翻译了 BSF 研经释义讲义(创世记第二十二课)

自 2011 年起,蒙主呼召和拣选,开始 参与 BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) 的 中文翻译事工。可是自去年七月换了新工 作以来,因工作过于忙碌,已经有一个学 期没有接受整课的翻译任务了。感谢窝居 的日子,让我有机会继续做研经释义的翻 译工作。也从中得到灵粮喂养。

四. 两次制作枇杷膏

四月二日:收拾了被松鼠和小鸟吃剩的枇杷,大部分用于制作枇杷膏,与好友们分享。病毒将人禁足家中,往年的枇杷都是与朋友、同事、教会里的家人分享,今年只能"出口转内销"了。正愁该如何消受这么多的枇杷(吃不完烂掉就太浪费了),这时却看到星云姐妹转发了制作枇杷膏的视频到查经小组群里,立马有样学样并稍微改了样地制作了此生第一罐枇杷膏。

有了第一次的经验,两周之后,又扩大规模再做了一次。做枇杷膏实乃被疫情所逼,不想浪费资源,将就而行。不过经药学专业同学鉴定,并且自己以身试药,表明确有止咳平喘之功效。感谢造物主丰富供应,也感谢星云姐妹及时提供的信息,才不枉费上主之恩泽!



五. 在医院物资供应部门上班一天

四月三日有机会被安排去医院的物资供应部工作了一天,了解到口罩的紧缺(尤其是 N95)。亲见一位年轻的医生为了拿到一个 N95 口罩与他的上司及物质供应部门经理之间沟通长达 30 分钟。也见证了作为一个物资供应部门的经理如何从整个医院的全局出发,为了患者和医务人员的安全,合理又铁面无私地调配各个部门的需要,每个 N95 口罩的去处都需登记在案。在这里,贿赂是行不通的。从另一个角度也反映出疫情之严重。求主怜悯这地的百姓!但愿在第二波疫情中不要再有这么严重的物资短缺!

六. 四月十二日: 在家中庆祝复活节

信主三十年来,第一次独自在家中庆 祝复活节。想到复活是新生命的开始,应 该庆生。可是又不会做生日蛋糕,故用年 糕取代。平生第一次为自己一个人烤年 糕,顺便也烤了香蕉面包。当然,虽说是 "为自己"烤的,若有不怕病毒者,倒是 随时欢迎光临寒舍一起分享。果然,我刚 把信息及照片发送到朋友圈不久, 就有不 怕病毒的姐妹打来电话要求分享。不远几 十里, 驱车前来, 她把车停靠在我家门口 路边, 按一下按钮打开后备箱, 我把东西 往里一扔, 关上门。她摇下车窗, 戴着口 罩对我说:"谢谢!注意安全!"然后就 赶紧发动引擎开路了。过后我想,要是警 察调看我家的监控录相,假如我俩都戴上 黑色口罩, 这段录像跟结帮入室打劫还蛮 难辨别真伪的呢!

祈愿恩主施慈爱怜悯医治这地,让疫情早日停息,百姓生活回归正常!明年的复活节咱们可以在一起享用新鲜的枇杷,分享上帝在我们各自的生命中所行的事,再泡点家乡的铁观音,配上烤年糕作为下午茶!





七. 同学来访及云聚会成功举办

四月十八日:住在本城的大学同学夫妇来访,并开了网上同学聚会的筹备会议。因着疫情日趋严重,同学之间都很关心彼此的情况,又因所学专业相关,大家也想交流一下彼此的经验,所以决定在网上开个会。



四月二十五日:大学同班同学首届云聚会成功举办。有三十多位中外同学参加。大家交流了彼此的近况,各地对疫情的举措。其中有几位是自毕业之后就从未谋面的同学。阔别 37 年了,激动之情难以言表。感谢高科技使我们咫尺天涯重相见!

八. 飞行表演"前奏曲"

五月六日:在居家小区外面观看飞行表演的"前奏"。这是政府为了感谢、慰问战斗在抗疫第一线的医护人员而举行的航空表演。据说演出的"主战场"是在德州医学中心和 Galveston,我们站在 Katy居家小区的边上观看飞机飞过就已经很激动了,可以想见在主战场的正规表演一定非常精彩。非常感谢医护人员在疫情中所做的一切!敬佩他们的无私奉献精神!他们的确配得这样高级别的慰问!





九. 别开生面的毕业典礼

五月八日:因受疫情影响,今年的学校毕业典礼都没能正正规规地在大型体育馆内隆重举行了。但各个学校的老师和学生家长们还是想方设法为孩子们举行了别具风情的毕业庆祝仪式。本社区小学的师生们开车按喇叭环绕社区,引出宅家的居民,站在家门口为他们庆贺、欢呼、致意。孩子们人生中的一页,就以这样的形式翻篇了。





十. 探访癌症患者

五月十四日:探访了两位癌症患者。 他们两家相距不远,各自的配偶都在国 内,不能前来陪伴,实在不容易。一位是 我八杆子才打得着的学生,是由上海水产

大学的学生、主内姐妹从国内介绍认识而 联系上的(巧的是,他的太太是我们教会 邹秀林弟兄的研究生师妹);另一位是我 多年的同事和主内的好姐妹。她前一天刚 做了手术,正好把老黄弟兄钓的鲈鱼收拾 干净送去给她,并给她炖了一只鸡。把自 产的红薯叶,还有自己烘烤的年糕、香蕉 面包、核桃拿去与二位分享。

 俩的见证都很感人。受浸后牧师和长老们还分别为他们按手祷告。在他们更衣的时候众弟兄姐妹都凭着圣灵的感动为他们祷告,求主继续保守弟兄在这里的治疗,也保守他两个孩子七月底回国的脚步、看顾他们回国后生活、学习的适应。祷告声此起彼伏,那场面是我之前从未见过的。足以看出这是一个充满爱与关怀的教会。

祈求主继续赐这两位弟兄姊妹智慧和 力量,战胜病魔!得主完全医治!阿们!



(未完待续)

#

We Call on Our Prayer Warriors

Phuong Engleman

I am writing this article at the time our seniors in our youth group are graduating. COVID-19 pandemic stopped us from celebrating with them in person, but still, we have found unique ways to celebrate their amazing accomplishment! I can't help but wonder what God has in store for them in the coming days and years. My greatest desire is to see all of them become sold out for God, living every moment of their days building up God's kingdom.

As I pray for them (six of them this year), the Lord just sparked a thought in me: These youth, they are the ones God will use



Youth during Thanksgiving baptism

to advance His kingdom! They are the ones God will use to speak His truth and share His good news with the world. They will "...

set an example for believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Tim. 4:12). When I ponder this I wonder, are they strong enough? Do they have enough faith? Are they imitating Jesus or the world? I know God will use them and He will empower them, but I also know all of us need to pray for them earnestly. They are in a fierce battle, and God has called us to lift them up in prayer and empower them for what comes next. God gives us, His people, this treasure of prayer so we can invoke His power, His love, His wisdom, His protection, His joy, and His truth into our lives. This precious means of access is given so we can carry out His mission for us to reach the nations. I know both my husband and I pray for them often. I hope their parents, friends, mentors, and others pray for them as well. Because they definitely need much more than just themselves to fight this battle.

Our family has also been praying like crazy for our mission to Vietnam, and God has been preparing us for this ministry. This last year, God helped me grow deeper spiritually - my quiet time with Him is sweeter, and I feel closer to Him than ever before. My relationship with the Lord is full of love, renewal, and a great desire for more. These last few months God has pressed upon my heart on the importance of prayer and how much my family needs it. We need to pray for ourselves but we need also your prayers for what lies ahead of us. It is both a sweet and scary thing for me to say. Because I have fully realized that I am not enough and that I can't do this on my own. And God desires more than just my prayer for this ministry. I need you to lift my family up in prayer in order that we might do what God has called us to do. We ask that you pray for us mightily these next few months. The Scriptures tell us, "The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, He will give life to your mortal bodies by the same spirit living in you." (Roman 6:10-11). We believe your prayers have power, and God will use them

to do great things in our lives. Please be our prayer warriors!



Students praying for the church and ministry

We want God to be our everything. We want to be one with Jesus, just as He was one with God the Father. The world tries to lure us away with its temptations, pressures and distractions. It is easy for us to lose our focus on God. So, we need your prayers to help us restore it daily. Please pray His light will shine on us. If we have any sins or anything that block us from a deep connection with Him, pray He will reveal this to us so we can ask for His forgiveness and mercy through the blood of Christ. We need your prayers to remove all the obstacles that prevent us from bringing the gospel to Vietnam. We need your prayers for God to build up a strong wall of protection for our family against all evil, harms and corrupted hearts in the next few months, but especially when we get to Vietnam.

We need prayers to move people to partner with us financially. As of May, we have raised 40 percent of the funds we need to go to Vietnam. To all of those who have partnered with us, thank you so much for your generosity and your desire to see the kingdom of God built up in Vietnam. We still need to raise the remaining 60 percent by September, and we can't do this on our own. So, we humbly ask for your fervent prayers. We trust God will use the power of your prayers to help us reach our financial goals so that we may fulfill what He has called us to do.



诸天述说神的荣耀

关晓红

进入 2020 年, Covid-19 肆虐横行, 在家里宅了小半年了,心里多少被忧愁郁 闷所困。出来透透气吧!就这样我们来到 了 Utah 州的山石公园。

第一站——Arches National Park

这是我首次云游这里,第一天就被这里的自然景观震呆了。这里有数不清的巨石大山,经过天地运化、风雨雕琢,所滋生的无不千奇百怪、妙不可言,如大拱门、平衡巨石、Double Arch…不得不让人惊叹发呆!感谢神,神手所造的真是变化无穷!随着观赏的深入,发现这里的一切都在述说着神的荣耀:

- 强大的肩膀石雕好像说,上帝耶和 华"大能的手,和伸出来的臂膀" (申 11:2) 使人安息。
- 像女王皇冠的石冠好像在说神的恩赐"你以恩典为年岁的冠冕,你的路径都滴下脂油。"(诗篇 65:11)"他救赎你的命脱离死亡,以仁爱和慈悲为你的冠冕。"(诗篇 103:4)作为神的子民,我们多美呀!
- 酷似眼睛的石头仿佛在说:神爱世人,主耶稣把我们看作他眼中的瞳人。作为神的儿女,我们是一群多么蒙福的人哪,神的臂膀替我们遮风挡雨,神仁爱、慈悲的恩典常常临到我们。天父啊,感谢赞美您!
- 一周下来,这里的石头中间就像流淌着一股股清泉,洗去了世间的污晦,净化了我的身心灵。慢慢地我竟然淡忘了来之前的担忧,什么病毒呀,中美之战呀,股

市美刀呀,仿佛一切不省心的事都被挡在 大拱门之外了。

<u>第二站——Canyonlands National</u> park 和 Dead Horse State Park (Utah)

这两个公园联在一起,幅员辽阔,共 享一个大峡谷,谷底 Colorado 河和 Green 河汇聚一处。这里本是红土高原上 的平原,或许因着地壳运动以及两条大河 的波涛汹涌, 形成了奔腾峭丽的大峽谷。 Dead Horse 是看大峡谷日落的绝佳地 方, 我偏爱这里。站在高高的悬崖上俯视 峡谷,静静等候太阳慢慢落下,红彤彤的 色彩让天地、峡谷、渺小的身影、都泛起 美丽的夕阳红,让人心旷神怡!此时此 景, 让我无限感慨这大自然背后的力量是 多么伟大!心中油然生起对神的敬拜和赞 美! 我们的天父, 祂欣赏变化, 祂喜爱美 丽, 祂井井有条, 满有创意和智慧。"耶 和华我们的主啊, 祢的名在全地何其 美!"。

<u>第三站——Goblin Valley State</u> Park

这是大自然给孩子们的礼物!经过千万年的雕琢,这里的红沙岩已修成了精灵。首先踏入的是蘑菇谷,成千上万、又肥又大的蘑菇,让你担心不小心会迷路。穿过这蘑菇群,来到精灵谷,这里就像一个动漫世界,石头们生动活泼、蹦蹦跳,好似迷宫,是孩子们捉迷藏的好地方。到了晚上,这里或者国家公园的任何一个空旷处,都是看星星的好地方。在8月的中旬,我们还有幸看到英仙座的流星雨,明亮绚丽,就像天父为祂的孩子们撒下的烟花。我对星空很着迷,仰望夜空,

星光闪烁,银河清清凉凉地在天空流淌,它浩瀚无边、井然有序,各星系之间靠引力维持得天衣无缝。虽然我们不能完全明白这其中的一切奥秘,但在冥冥之中,我们心灵里或许能体会、感悟到这实体背后有一位宇宙的设计、创造者。这让我想起诗篇 19:1-4 "诸天述说神的荣耀,穹苍传扬祂的手段,这日到那日发出言语,这夜到那夜传出知识,无言无语,也无声音可听,它的量带通遍天下,它的言语传到地极"。我们的神真是伟大! "你将你的荣耀彰显于天",感谢赞美我们的神!

2020 年庚子鼠年, 苦难一个接着一个, 瘟疫还没有结束, 中美之战、种族仇恨又开始了, 真是一波未平一波又起, 真

是雪上加霜啊!作为基督徒,我们难免对眼下的困境忧虑烦恼。在路加福音 12 章 25-26 节,主耶稣这样对我们说:"你们哪一个能用忧虑使寿数多加一刻呢?这最小的事你们尚且不能做,为什么还忧虑其余的事呢?"是啊,忧愁对我一点好处也没有,反而会加重我的负担,使我更加烦恼,更加软弱。彼得前书五章七节也告诉我们说:"你们要将一切的忧虑卸给神,因为祂顾念你们。"雨后会有彩虹,云上会有太阳,黑夜过后必有黎明的曙光。让我们靠着我们的主耶稣,靠着神的恩典,在这风雨飘摇的世间过平安喜乐的生活。加油! 计









征稿启事: 本刊的宗旨是启发人们对生活的思考,围绕圣经,以神的话语为中心,以日常生活为题材,鼓励信徒活出真实而有意义的生命。欢迎教会弟兄姊妹赐稿,请将稿件电邮给曹泓波姊妹(hollycao@yahoo.com)。若您需要电子版,请上凯地中国教会网站(http://chinese.katyccc.org/katy-light/)阅读或下载。

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