

Katy Light 凯地之光，凯地中国教会季刊 第五十七期，2020 年 12 月



凯地之光

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病毒泛滥的七月下旬，我们搬家。收拾行装之际，在一个箱子里发现了一叠十几年前的《凯地之光》。泛黄的纸张，依旧清晰的字迹，记录了凯地中国教会十几年的建堂植堂历史。一张 2009 年的卡片，是上一次离开凯地北迁芝加哥时，《凯地之光》编委们的留言祝福。如今他们中的大多数已散落各处，但凯地教会和《凯地之光》依旧在凯地做盐做光。神既开了工，就不会停，神的国，一直在扩展。

2020 年，一个充满了死亡、恐慌和悲情的年份，更是充满了挑战、盼望和感恩的年份。正如陈牧师文中对教会的寄语：“感谢主的恩典，苦难让我谦卑地学习和更新，同时也感恩。新的一年就在眼前，我们当以坚定的信心来到主施恩的宝座前，一同面对前面的挑战，重新开始凯地教会迈向主大使命的异象及神国度的工作。”

Pastor Wai Lim 的深情回忆，让我们看到一个儿子对于父亲的追思和纪念，更重要的是一个基督徒对于永生的盼望和信心。

12 月份的第一个主日，凯地教会为庆祝建堂 14 周年举行了中英文联合崇拜。当我看到 Debra 姐妹站在台上翻译，不由自主地想起了林宗智弟兄。这么多年以来，早已习惯了他们夫唱妇随地领诗、翻译，在主里同工的美好见证。Debra 姐妹和他们的儿子 Jeremiah 弟兄在林弟兄感恩礼拜的分享，用真实的生命见证活出了“至于我和我家，我们必定事奉耶和华。”（约书亚记 24: 15）

视林弟兄亦兄亦友的许牧师，则用提摩太后书 4: 7，勉励林弟兄的家人和亲友：“那美好的仗，我已经打过了；该跑的路，我已经跑尽了；当守的道，我已经守住了。从此以后，有公义的冠冕为我存留。”祈愿我们每一个主的门徒，走到生命的尽头时，都可以坦然无惧地如此宣告。

张弟兄和从颖姐妹则从不同的视角，分享了与林弟兄多年同工的感人见证。

张清姐妹的文章以口罩作为切入点，也以口罩作为爱的链接。在疫情泛滥中，大洋两岸的基督徒弟兄姐妹以口罩作为彼此爱的传递和分享。疫情中，凯地中国教会走进社区，传递爱、宣扬爱，因为一切的灾难面前，唯有爱最具能力，可以消弭所有的隔阂与分歧。

神虽然一直没有挪走牟佩凌姐妹身上的刺，但她却相信神天天都在医治。李陟姐妹回忆了三十年的追寻、教牧同工的关怀、神最终的带领。唐钰洁姐妹分享失业后完全依靠仰望神，走出困境的经历。Lisa 姐妹在先生面对失业危机时，切切祷告，寻求神的旨意和带领。而作为一线医护人员的宋玉秀姐妹则感恩上帝一路的保守。点点滴滴、字字篇篇，都满溢着感恩和赞美！

黄宜洲弟兄的随想，则向我们提出挑战。火灾、疫情、纷争中，当依靠谁、仰望谁？又是谁来医治纷争撕裂后的创伤？谁才是这个世界的真正主宰？

与《凯地之光》同行十几年，感恩的事情枚不胜举。编辑部的团队合作总是能使一期又一期的杂志如期发行，而弟兄姐妹们的慷慨供稿更是对编辑部的极大鼓励。一切荣耀赞美归于神！

（责任编辑：杜秀香）

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夜半之聲

陳克迅

疲勞汗水中的感恩

想起 2017 年感恩節，在教會見證分享會中，我和師母都體會到弟兄姐妹剛剛經歷一場大苦難的感受。從洪水泛濫，房屋毀壞，到重建家園，其中有太多無奈的心聲和淚水。Harvey 颶風所帶來的影響，讓每個人身心疲乏、困惑無助，特別是房屋被淹的弟兄姐妹，他們在夜半流著眼淚向天父呼求憐憫與力量。回顧弟兄姐妹一起同心救災的畫面，讓我有了從神而來的感動：一家一家、守望關愛，堅定信心、共克時艱。

一家一家的守望關愛和一點一滴的共克時艱，一家一家的家園也就因此被堅固起來。從拆掉舊牆到重建新牆，把水泥、鋼筋、隔離板、保溫材料、大小木條等不同的材料放在一起，各就其位，各盡其職，建成了一個又一個完整穩固的新房間。在這個過程中，一個簡單的螺絲釘都在發揮極其重要的作用。這豈不是神在我們的家留下材料用來提醒我們：這是主恩典的記號，這是祂的工程，也是祂的工作！神的恩典讓我們在患難中被造就。我們原是祂的工作，是在基督耶穌裡造成的，是神所預備叫我們行善的。所以我們每一個人為了神的工作而竭盡全力、努力

工作不是應該的嗎？我們日夜的操心，我們無盡的長路又算得了什麼？那些漫長的日子漸漸地化為感恩，夜半的苦水也便成了感恩的歌聲。

無奈之下的感恩

2020 年的感恩節，我們在歷史中見證了新冠病毒帶給世界新的變化和挑戰。自二月開始，一波波的病例和突發事件真讓人擔憂。多月的居家隔離，無形的“疫暴”侵蝕家家戶戶。我們的家庭、朋友、工作和教會生活都受到影響。這又是一場大的苦難！這“無形的殺手”把每個人都推到曠野荒漠之地，人與人疏遠、生活單調、靈裡孤單。相信每個弟兄姐妹都深有感觸。我們在夜半帶著眼淚以說不出來的歎息向天父呼求，“要到幾時呢？我心裡籌算不安，內心終日愁苦，要到幾時呢？”（《詩篇》13：1-2）

六月第三個禮拜，我前往 Dallas 與父親過父親節。但因父親身體不適，我立馬把他送到醫院急診。這次經歷，使我感受到與家人隔離是多麼的痛苦！父親失去意識，身體非常不好，必須送到復建醫院接受調養。因疫情的緣故，醫院不允許家人或朋友探訪。在這一週的日子裏，我們

無法和他聯系。想起孤單的父親置身于陌生的環境，身邊沒有親人，我們也不知道他的狀況，這令我傷心欲絕。常為教會弟兄姐妹及朋友代禱的我，第一次面對年老失憶的父親，不知所措，無可奈何，不曉得如何做決定，多日在深夜裏呼求天父憐憫。想起希伯來書 4:14-16：“我們既然有一位偉大的、經過了眾天的大祭司，就是神的兒子耶穌，就應該堅持所宣認的信仰。因為我們的大祭司並不是不能同情我們的軟弱，他像我們一樣，也曾各方面受過試探，只是他沒有犯罪。所以，我們只管坦然無懼地來到施恩的寶座前，為的是要領受憐憫，得到恩惠，作為及時的幫助。”

我們的大祭司耶穌體恤我們的軟弱。

相信在疫情災難中，更顯現出肢體的軟弱和無能為力。這段日子許多家庭或多或少都有種種重擔壓在心頭。也許您失去工作、身體不適、家人過世、家庭或孩子問題等等，甚至疲乏無奈。請不要忘記，我們的大祭司耶穌體恤我們的軟弱！來吧，來到主施恩的寶座前向我們的大祭司耶穌傾心吐意，因祂體恤我們的軟弱。深信帶著眼淚的暗夜，在主裡變成了夜半的歌聲。

八月，牧師團隊拜訪了數百家庭，關心關愛每一家，給我自己和弟兄姐妹很大的鼓勵。“一家一家、守望關愛，堅定信心、共克時艱”的確是屬神大家庭的信念，活出基督明確的見證，願神的愛充滿

我們屬靈的家。在疫情期間，求主加添牧師團隊和小牧人恩典、智慧和能力來牧養主的教會。無論是成人、青少年或兒童，教會都能關愛和堅固每一位的信心。經過多月的居家隔離，相信弟兄姐妹渴望在神的家相聚，有神的愛擁抱著我們，神的靈充滿這家。讓我們的讚美再一次從神的家響起，帶著平平安安及歡歡喜喜的心，讓稱謝進入祂的門，讓讚美進入祂的院，用敬拜讚美的聲音向神敞開我們的心！

感謝主的恩典，苦難讓我謙卑地學習和更新，同時也感恩。新的一年就在眼前，我們當以堅定的信心來到主施恩的寶座前，一同面對前面的挑戰，重新開始凱地教會邁向主大使命的異象及神國度的工作。基督的身體就是那麼的寶貴，不僅同心共克時艱，也同心在未來的路上奔跑。此時此刻，為所有的弟兄姐妹的委身、忠心擺上感謝主。耶和華以勒是全能的神，主有豐富的預備，主讓每一位蒙恩典的凱地弟兄姐妹一同經歷苦難，同時主也預備了機會，讓更多人接受福音並認識主耶穌基督。無論環境如何，我們今天依然立下心誌，要繼續竭力完成主所託付的使命。在此，讓我們互相鼓勵，以「神國度的異象」作為凱地教會共同的使命，使凱地的事工以及福音工作逐步邁向全面和成熟的目標，以便在未來的日子，主的名可以得更得榮耀！

We Will Sup Again

Eulogy For My Dad, Wai William Lim, Sr. (10/22/1929 – 9/21/2020)

Pastor Wai Lim

My dad was more than just a father figure to me, which he was. My dad was also my friend, one of my best friends.

One of my earliest memories of my dad was him giving me a sip of some kind of alcoholic drink. I think I was about five years old, and boy did that burn my throat! I believe I had asked what it was, and that I wanted to drink it. Being the non-restrictive father he was, he accommodated my request and thereafter rushed me to the sink, laughing, as I was trying to spit it out!

Fast forward to the 10th grade when I was about 15 years old. My dad, because of the oil crisis back in the 1980's in Houston, retired from the restaurant business. It was one of the happiest times of my life, because up until then, we didn't spend much time together, as he would be at the restaurant from 11 in the morning until 11 at night. I was so happy when he retired because now I could spend more time with him. One of the traditions we started was going to Luby's Cafeteria after school. We would go out and have a meal together. We always celebrated special holidays and events together, but those meals at Luby's would forge a tradition of eating together, often one-on-one, for many occasions for the rest of our lives.

My dad was a very supportive, open-minded, and affirming father. I remember Dad watching me play basketball on the 2nd floor of the Walnut Bend Recreation Center. He was smiling, laughing, proud of how I was playing. He showed the same enthusiasm when he watched me play racquetball in the championship game of the 14 year-olds tournament: smiling,

laughing, cheering. He was my only fan at the racquetball tournament. My open-minded, supportive, affirming dad was put to the test when I was in college. He always wanted me to be a doctor. But God was working in my heart, and by the time I graduated, my dad could see that I was heading in a different direction than medicine. I still remember when I showed him the benefits package to join the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ. I will never forget his words. He said, "This doesn't look too bad." I think he was surprised that we could earn some money for retirement. And then he told me, "Son, I think you'll be successful in whatever you do in life. Why don't you give it a try? If you don't like it, you just do something else." And that would begin another tradition, a tradition of a proud father affirming his son. A father proud of his son – who would walk around Chinatown speaking Cantonese which I wouldn't understand, and he would announce to people who I was and what I was doing, and he would say "Muslims," because I had a ministry to Muslims, and I could tell he wasn't ashamed. He was proud. And when I served as a pastor. He just told all his friends "–Mooksie, Mooksie," (which is the Cantonese word, 牧师, for pastor). And to his American friends, he would tell everyone he met, "Preacher, my son's a preacher. He's a preacher in Katy." Just the other day, I met his friends at the Clarewood House. "Oh you're the minister. Your dad was so proud of you all. And your sister's a lawyer." He was so proud of you, Allison. He was so proud of you, Angie. He was one of our biggest cheerleaders, and now he's gone, but his words, his support, his affirmation are

etched into my mind, our minds, and it will never leave me. It will never leave us.

But back to eating together.

When I was in college at Rice, Dad and Mom would sometimes meet me near Rice for a meal. When I was at Dallas Theological Seminary, they would both drive up once in a while and spend time with me, and of course, we would eat together.

It was hard when I got married and went off to Asia, but they visited us in Asia twice, and we sure enjoyed our times when we were back. And these last six years here in Houston/Katy have been some of the best times of spending time with my dad. Altogether, in these last six years, I have counted that I have eaten with my dad in over fifty-three different restaurants, multiple times in many restaurants.

Up to the very last meal, my dad was generous. My dad would always pay for our meals, and even in our last meal together, just a week before he passed, he paid, and when the waitress walked by, he gave her a tip. He was always pulling out his debit card or credit card. He was always pulling out his cash. The security guard at the Clarewood House where he lived the last 1 ½ years of his life told me the week before he passed, “You know, your dad he tried to give me some fruit one time, and I said, ‘No I’ve already had my lunch,’ but he wouldn’t take no for an answer and insisted that I take some fruit, so what could I do?” My

last birthday, just a month before he passed, my dad called me up, a few weeks in advance. He said, “Hey, Son, your birthday is coming up, we have to go out for a nice meal.” He would treat, of course, and it would be his last meal with my family.

My last meal with my dad ended where it all started, at Luby’s, just Dad and me. It was exactly one week before he passed. We talked. I ate Fish Almondine. He had the regular fried fish. And it ended where it began – my dad spending quality time over a meal with family or friends. And before the meal, I prayed with my dad, and we thanked Jesus for the promise of eternal life, for dying for our sins, and resurrecting again. And my hope is that during that prayer, my dad also believed what we were praying. In the past, when we talked about eternal life, there were times he didn’t want to talk, but there were times my dad had indicated trusting in Jesus as the One who had died for his sins, and risen again to give him eternal life. And if so, then that wasn’t the last meal I had with my dad. And if you too would believe on Jesus as the Bread of Life, as the one who died and rose again for your sins, who gives eternal life, then you too can have another meal with my dad at the wedding feast of the Lamb of God, Jesus, and His Bride, the Church.

I thank God for my generous, affirming dad, who loved to eat with his friends and family. And Dad, I’m looking forward to going to lunch with you in Heaven. I love you, Dad.



Thanksgiving Sharing

Pastor John Chen

Other than doctors' office visits and to the poll to vote, I think this is the first time I'd ventured out since the start of the pandemic. Praise God!

I stand before you tonight to testify to the goodness of God and to offer my thanksgiving to Him for His mercy, grace and faithfulness. Many of you might know or have heard that I fell and broke my right hip. The accident happened about seven and a half months ago on April, the 15th.

I thank God for His mercy because I **only** broke a hip! Thank God it was **not** my back or my neck!! Thank God I did not fall and land on my head and crack my skull. **God is truly merciful to me.**

I thank God for His grace because surgery with a pin and screws holding my femur together **was not** needed. The surgeons recommended not to repair my initial fracture (Avulsion of the Lesser Trochanter) because it is a very invasive procedure; and in most cases, the bones will heal naturally and reattach themselves.

But here's the amazing thing: God was so gracious that a second fracture was not seen until five weeks later after an MRI scan. You see if this "Intertrochanteric Fracture" was detected in the beginning, surgery would be the necessary procedure. But because of the uniqueness of the break and five weeks of bone regeneration (I believe God protected it), surgery was optional. So it was a matter of self-care: rest, prevent re-injury and letting the bones heal naturally.

God was also gracious in His timing because my hip fractures happened during the pandemic. I cannot imagine all this happening to me during a "normal," non-

pandemic time. ***I thank God for He is truly gracious.***

Lastly, I thank God for His faithfulness in these three ways:

1. I saw God's faithfulness at home in my wife, Catherine and our kids. Every one of them had to take up extra workloads and responsibilities that once were mine—from pulling me out of bed, taking out the garbage, to preparing meals. The kids became literally my hands and feet, getting and putting things back for me. They took on so much. ***I am thankful to God.***

2. I saw God's faithfulness in our church families. So many brothers and sisters showered us with love by providing meals and giving various large and small essential gifts. We even got to know who specializes in certain types of dishes and styles of cooking! And I know many of them gave sacrificially out of Christ-like love especially during this time of the pandemic. We are truly, unimaginably blessed by you, our dear church families. ***We are thankful and grateful to God!***

3. I saw God's faithfulness in our church staff. They continued to serve diligently while I was out of commission. They were patient with me and also picked up the slack where I was needed, but could not serve. ***I am thankful to God.***

Over the past seven months, I know that many church families were in fervent prayers for me and my family. We thank God for your prayers! I was finally freed

from crutches about four weeks ago. I stand, and walk before you to testify that God hears and answers prayers, and this time, His answer is “yes!”

Our God is good. I am ever thankful for His love, mercy, grace and faithfulness. I'd like to remind and encourage all of us with these words of God from 1 Thessalonians 5:18:

*“Give **thanks** in **all** circumstances, for this is **God's will** for you in Christ Jesus”.*

Let us continue to trust, to stand, to walk and follow God especially in the most difficult of times. AMEN.



FROM BROKEN BONES TO BOUNTIFULNESS

Eliana, Agape, John, Nehemiah Chens

God Knows Everything

In March 2020, due to the COVID-19 lockdown, we had more time to spend with our family. Our brother, Nehemiah just had his training wheels removed and learned to ride a two-wheel bike. On April 15 in the late afternoon, our dad took four of us to ride our bikes around the neighborhood. He was videotaping with his camcorder while excitedly riding on his skateboard. Losing his balance in a split second, he flew off his skateboard! His hip slammed onto a cement curb as hard as a cannonball. The pain was excruciating. He managed to crawl himself out of the road cautiously and onto the grass. Desperately, Agape ran back home and exclaimed, “Mom, Dad can’t move!” Nehemiah was crying hysterically. Our mom hurried out and carried Dad to the minivan. Dad was brought into the Urgent Care in a wheelchair as we waited and prayed in the car. After taking an x-ray, followed by a checkup, he was sent home by a nurse with his newly bought crutches. His report showed that the lesser trochanter was broken off completely. Dad had a broken hip.

God is the Creator

The next day, we drove to see the orthopedist. We waited in the parking lot doing our homework. Our dad walked into the hospital with his crutches because his right hip was not able to bear any weight. To our surprise, the doctor recommended letting the bones heal by themselves instead of doing surgery, which could be dangerous. On the way home, we marveled at God’s creation of human bodies and how bones could repair themselves. Proverbs 3:7-8 tells us, “*Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. This will bring nourishment to your bones.*” For the next few weeks, we served our dad with nine different kinds of medicine pills everyday. Nehemiah was the cushion bearer; John was the chair puller and the pill server; Agape was the crutch holder; Eliana was the cupbearer. Our dad had a humongous bruise on his inner right thigh but he did not complain. Our mom patiently took care of our dad when he woke up several times during the nights.

God is the Healer

Five weeks later, Dad felt new pain developed in his femur. Our aunt and uncle, who was a retired ER doctor and a radiologist respectively, suggested that he should take an MRI scan. He did and the report indicated that his intertrochanter was 90% fractured, but thankfully, it was non-displaced. Immediately, a church lady referred a skillful sports medicine orthopedic surgeon for a second opinion. But there was one hurdle. This doctor only accept patients who are 50 years old and under. The lady kindly contacted her surgeon friend who referred Dad to this other orthopedist. He agreed to see Dad! In the early morning on April 22, we drove downtown for Dad's appointment. In the dark parking garage, we waited in the car and prayed for our dad. The surgeon concluded that the second fracture was found too late. Since bones should be healing, he suggested waiting instead of undergoing surgery. God does not delay. We searched the Bible and read Proverbs 15:30, which says, "*Light in a messenger's eyes brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones.*"

God is the Provider

Many families brought food to our house. More than 115 meals and care packages were sent to our home. We were overwhelmingly showered with love by our church family. Some families regularly dropped by. It was so good to see them even with social distancing, and our friendship grew. God even provided a second refrigerator from a loving Christian couple who we did not know. Our family, church, and friends near and far prayed for our dad unceasingly. Four months later, we drove our dad to the physical therapy center for the first time. It was a scorching afternoon, and we waited in the car. Suddenly, a red paramedic helicopter that was parked in front of us lifted and flew away. It was quite a sight! Almost every night, all of us exercised with our dad. Some of the exercises were lifting dumbbells,

doing squats, and walking left and right very slowly. We became very sweaty while doing these exercises with him, but it was very fun. In addition, family and friends with medical expertise and physical therapy knowledge graciously offered helps to our dad.

God is the Savior

"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." (Romans 8:28)

In the evening of August 21, Dad walked outside for the first time onto the driveway with crutches, while we were riding our bikes up and down the sidewalk. Our neighbor, Mr. E, had just come back from a funeral. He started to chat with our dad, and had questions about science and religion. Agape heard Dad talking about Constantine and Christian history. Then, we kids ran back home to eat dinner. After a few hours, Dad did not come back. We started to get worried and decided to pray for their conversation. That night Daddy said Mr. E prayed and received Jesus as his own personal Savior and Lord!

God is Ever-Present

Through our dad's accident, we learned that life is not in our control. We understood that even if a person could not walk by feet, a Christian can walk in step with the Holy Spirit, walk in love, and walk by faith in God's Word. We experienced the power of prayers, the love of God's people, and the goodness of God. From broken bones to bountifulness, we are extremely grateful for what God has done!



庆祝美好的陞仗

許重一

感謝主今天能在這裡參加林宗智弟兄感恩禮拜分享。認識 Alfred 二十多年，他就像我的大哥一樣。我們無法否認心裡的難過，也不知道為何他這麼早走。Alfred 和我们都经历了年幼喪父的痛苦，我們一起回忆年少往事，明白主使用這試煉來塑造我們，教導我們愛和家的重要，使我們更深信靠祂為我們的天父。雖然這不容易，但我倆都仍經歷了神的美善。

而主的美善也包括了我們之間的友誼。我們兩家的孩子年齡相近，一起在教會長大。一起參加父子營，一起與孩子參加 MS150 單車之旅，今年二月兩夫婦還一起參加達拉斯的敬拜特會。真的很捨不得他。今天我想以提後 4:5-8 的經文來一起思想我們的生命和神的美善。



保羅在這段經文裡說，我現在被澆奠、我離世的時候到了。這裡的澆奠講的是古時澆在祭壇上的奠祭，奠祭把酒澆在祭壇上，代表著敬拜者完全的付出，為要討主的喜悅。

我最後一次與 Alfred 單獨吃飯是 1 月 16 日。那次主要談他退休後服事的計劃。在考量多種可能性之後，尤其是考慮了哈維風災的影響，他決定投入光鹽社一起幫助華人教會來做好下一場風災的災前準備。還記得他對我說：我不是講員，但是我是很好的項目管理經理，這個我能做。那時他已經退休，但仍然在為教會忙，教主日學，也在網上上神學課程，他是個閒不下來的人

依旧記得剛認識 Alfred 的時候，我就很佩服他。他有很清楚的生命目標：家庭、教會，和主自己。他告訴我他很早就做了決定不要讓工作掌控他的生活。他每

天非常早就去上班, 不因為塞車而浪費時間。這樣就可以早下班早回家跟家人在一起。他的人生是為他的家和神的教會被澆奠。

有時我們彼此分享服事中所面臨的困難。但是他從不會半途而退。他從不會說他不幹了。認識他的人知道他的決心, 他是一位堅決不退、有始有終的鬥士。他答應的事他必完成。我覺得 Alfred 也能如使徒保羅所說: 那美好的仗我已經打過了。

每個人都有自己的仗要打, 但沒有人能單靠自己得勝。我們在這世界上的奮鬥都不是單槍匹馬的戰鬥。尤其是我們生命中最重要的一場戰役, 就是我們自己靈魂的爭奪戰, 更不是只靠自己就能打勝仗。我們今日誇獎了 Alfred 的許多美德, 但他跟我們一樣都是破碎的罪人。

聖經裡稱呼這破碎為罪。你不需要有宗教信仰才明白罪的問題。你只要觀察一下為什麼我們最愛的人也是最容易傷害我們和被我們傷害的人, 你就可以發現我們都有問題, 而我們的世界大有問題。聖經告訴我們這問題來自罪, 而死亡就是罪的後果。創造宇宙的神沒有造人類為機器, 而是賜予了我們自由的選擇。但我們卻選擇了偏行己路而不把神當為神, 因此世人都犯了罪。但神沒有放棄我們, 祂反而為我們而戰, 差遣祂的獨生子為我們死在十字架上, 勝過罪與死的權勢, 叫一切信祂

的不致滅亡, 反而因著基督的得勝而得著永生。

我知道今天有 Alfred 的朋友與親人或在這裡或在網上, 依然還在探索永生生命。我要在此邀請你來認識耶穌。因為我深信 Alfred 會希望你們都能認識這位改變他生命, 助他打美好勝仗的神。

這位 Alfred 所相信又跟隨的耶穌, 已經應許了每一位相信祂的人全新的生命和榮耀的冠冕。耶穌告訴我們生命絕不只是我們今生忙碌的生活。我們雖然暫時與 Alfred 分離, 但我們為他的一生感恩, 因為我們相信他現在與愛他的神同在。我知道這也是 Debra, Josh 和 Jeremiah 的期盼, 我們期盼這裡每一位愛 Alfred 的親朋好友也都能得著 Alfred 所擁有的基督裡的喜樂與盼望。

有一天我們每個人都要與我們的造物主面對面。願 Alfred 的生命鼓勵我們更愛家人, 更加把握時間, 因為沒人知道自己還有多少日子。並且更進一步的尋求神的帶領, 因為生命的意義就是要為神澆奠。我們都需要回應生命之戰的呼召, 而有榮耀的冠冕在人生的終點線等候所有信耶穌的人。願主的應許安慰我們的心, 使我們都能有美好的人生結局, 並且能與使徒保羅和我們的弟兄 Alfred 一起說:

“那美好的仗我已經打過了, 當跑的路我已經跑盡了, 所信的道我已經守住了。從此以後, 有公義的冠冕為我存留。”

“Celebration of Life” Memorial Service

Debra Ling

Thank you all for taking part in celebrating the life of my husband, Alfred, with us today. Even though it has been over six months, there are still times I cannot believe that he is no longer with me.

Alfred lost his dad at a young age, his mom raised him along with five other siblings, although she had very little means, she made sure the kids go to church every Sunday and stay involved with the church. It was his mother's determination that Alfred's faith began to grow.

Alfred loved the church, his life was marked with service. But I believe it was through serving, he learned to trust God, and experienced God's faithfulness and provisions. Alfred used to work on the other side of town that required a long commute every day. When he was involved with church building, God provided a job that was only 15 minutes away from church, this allowed him to be more available and accessible during the construction phase of the project.

Alfred loved his family, and passed on his faith to us. Alfred introduced me to church and Christianity and through his faith and his

mother's faith, led me to trust Jesus Christ as my Savior. Together, we have passed this faith to our children. The legacy he left behind for us to carry on are worship and service. When the boys were young, we held regular family worship. Serving at church has always been a family affair. As husband and wife, we served together, not necessarily in the same ministry, but we supported and covered each other no matter what ministry we were privileged to serve.

Because Alfred has been such important person in our lives, it has been and will be very hard to live without him by our sides, but I know that God gives and God takes away, we never have the right to own anyone, we are all on loan to one another from God. Therefore, I am thankful to God for the almost 40 years of life together with Alfred as the love of my heart, my partner in life, and my best friend. Even now in the valley, I will lift my eyes to the God who sees me, and I know that I am not alone! Whether we are on the hills or in the valleys, I know that Our God is sovereign and present over all, and God is good, He is good, all the times.

Eulogy For My Dad, Alfred Ling

Jeremiah Ling

My dad grew up thousands of miles away from where we are gathered today, on the island of Borneo deep in the jungles. In many ways his childhood often reminded me of the beginning of a Disney movie, and I imagined my dad growing up like Tarzan, free and wild, with no worries at all.

I remember him describing how he jumped from vine to vine with my Uncle

Sonny, or rode log to roll down the hills together. He described wading into the streams and rivers, grabbing fish with his bare hands for delicious dinner. These fanciful stories were a backdrop for my imagination growing up, as I fantasized about the wonders of Malaysia that my dad grew up in.

However, as I grew up, my dad began to add details to these stories — he talked about the long days where he would work on a rubber tree plantation in the morning then walk barefoot to school, rain or shine, and come back after school to work in the farm.

He talked about days when they had very little to eat, and always talked about how skinny he and his siblings were. He also told me about what happened to my grandfather — a man that my dad never got to know, because he died when my dad was four years old. It was my grandfather's death that placed an incredible toll on my dad, his brothers and sister, and my grandma.

However, as bleak and terrible as my dad's childhood seemed on the outside, it never showed when he told me those stories. Every time my dad told me about his life there was always an expression of gratitude in his voice, to me it was a sense of wisdom gleaned and great lessons learned through these struggles.

Growing up I always thought of my dad as a superhero, someone who worked hard his entire life, overcoming incredible odds and avoiding terrible dangers in Malaysia. To name a few of the terrors that he had to face, I'll start with the tribe of headhunters, the Iban people that would kill and behead their victims as part of their own rituals, or the communist activists that patrolled the jungles, armed with machine guns, or the fact that everyday food was not guaranteed and that my grandma was forced to find a way to feed her children, a widow fending for herself in the jungle of Borneo. Despite all these crazy obstacles and dangers somehow my dad made it to America, started a family with my mom, and had a long successful career as an engineer and providing my brother and I with everything we needed and wanted.

Yet, as much as I wanted to idolize my dad, as I look back on his story and his life, I realize that truly it is not about what my

dad was able to achieve but more-so a story of his great faith in Christ, and his trust in our Father's provision. In what is perhaps my favorite story of my dad's but also the most frightening — in his own words, my dad described this event: "When I was around seven or eight years old, one evening after dinner, around 8 pm, we heard loud chanting not too far away from our lone primitive wooden house on stilts. As we peeked through the holes or gaps along the walls of our house, we saw about 15 to 20 head-hunters chanting with torches and machetes in their hands, gazing maliciously toward our house. They were about fifty yards away from our house. During that period, all my older siblings had gone into the neighboring town for school and/or work and it was just my mother, my youngest brother and me at home. My brother and I were very frightened but we didn't dare to cry or make a sound. Defenseless, my mom turned to her Defender, calmly, she held us closely and started praying, while all the time the chanting of the head-hunters grew louder and louder. We knew we would be burned alive or killed if these head-hunters decided to approach the house, but my mother kept praying to our God; and this went on for about half an hour though it felt like eternity to us. Suddenly the chanting stopped. As we peeped through the gaps again, to our great relief, we saw the head-hunters had turned and walked away!"

God was watching over my dad every moment of his life, from his upbringing in Malaysia to his time in the U.S. and as a father to my brother and I, and a husband to my mom. My dad was always a source of inspiration for me, particularly in my decision to pursue medicine. I will never forget the medical mission I went in 2014 to Honduras. On the first day of our trip, I remember pulling up to the village we were to serve for the week and seeing hundreds of poor Hondurans waiting for our team to bring basic supplies like clean water and antibiotics. I remember coming home from

that trip, totally psyched and humbled by that experience and telling my dad of that first day. He matter-of-factly responded that he and his brothers had done the same before, just like the Hondurans I saw, waiting in line desperate for basic medical supplies. I don't believe in coincidences and I know that God let me have that experience in Honduras and that conversation with my dad, and it served to jumpstart my passion to be a doctor.

Despite how incredulously sudden his passing was, I know that God has a divine

purpose and reason for everything. I miss my dad so, so much, but I am incredibly grateful for the lesson his life has taught me — to trust in God alone, and not in my own strength. My dad was a man of great faith, and I think it is fitting to end this speech with a verse, *"But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me"* (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Remembrance

Peter Zhang

I was saddened when the news of Alfred's passing reached me in May. Alfred and I belong to the same generation, only a few years apart. I saw him at W last year when he and Debra attended a mission preparation meeting. He told me he retired the year before and planned to devote more time for kingdom business, and was involved in the local community outreach via Light & Salt ministry and short-term missions. The news of his passing hit me hard and my mind was filled with memories of Alfred.

I have known Alfred since 1995 when I first attended W. Alfred was the key coworker in the worship ministry of a young church. Alfred welcomed me with open arms. For the next six years I worked under his leadership. I later served with him in council until he was sent out for Katy church-planting.

When I think of Alfred, an image of a man with deep love and care for his wife and sons emerged. Family was the top priority in Alfred's life. In the 90s, Alfred

worked at an oil company in the eastern part of town. He chose to rise early and leave before dawn to avoid traffic so that he can come home early to be with the family. He appreciated that Debra sacrificed her career in order to raise their sons and to lessen her workload, he took on the cooking part which is uncommon for a Chinese man. And he was a really good cook! On Fridays when Alfred was off from work, he would take Debra out to lunch date. This is something we are taught to do nowadays, but Alfred had already done that so naturally as the outflow of his love towards Debra.

His love and care for his children were also impressive. In early 2000s there were groups of men over 40s playing basketball at church after Sunday service. Josh was at that time a skinny young boy. During one scrimmage either I or another person accidentally knocked Josh down. As I was trying to reach out, Alfred rushed from nowhere, picked Josh up, drew him close and gently asked if he was hurting. The tender love of a father was on full display.

Alfred devoted himself to raising his sons to love God by serving together with them. When I came to KCCC for the ground-breaking ceremony, I saw Alfred and Josh leading the worship service together. What a loving father he was!

Alfred was a servant leader who led by example. I have been privileged to serve under his leadership. We conducted our Sunday service at the family center in those days. Every Sunday morning Alfred was the first one to arrive, he would set up the equipment ready for service, ensure the choir practice on time, and singspiration team fully prepared. He would enlist Debra's help to create PowerPoint slides for Sunday service. Those were the early days when creating PowerPoint was no small task. He set the precedence of "Buy One, Get One Free" culture at W!

His servant leadership inspired others to serve the Lord with passion and purpose. Under his leadership our worship ministry thrived, singspiration teams took shape and our choir presentation was one of W's claims to fame in the Chinese church community. Alfred had a beautiful voice and a passion for singing and praising the Lord. When he sang, it relieved people of stress. His gift of worship was an anointing from God and he made full use of it in worship ministry whether in W or KCCC.

Alfred was a generous man. Alfred and Debra loved to host choir's year-end gathering at their house and they did it every year. Those were the "potluck" years, yet he insisted we won't need to bring food. He would order delicious food from Jade Village, a famous Chinese restaurant. There was so much joy during those gatherings as we feasted and sang praises to the Lord.

Alfred was a man of vision, he was not satisfied with the choir only serving in W, he

wanted to use the resources and talents that God bestowed on us to the full. He organized a mission visit to Port Lavaca to encourage the local church during one Christmas season.

Alfred's professional work equipped him to become an effective leader in the council while serving as vice chairman. He was a man who wanted to see things get done. When the Katy church-planting was preparing to launch, Alfred was appointed the chairman of the KCCC steering committee. Alfred was an integral part of W's growth and KCCC would attest to the same.

When W started the "Be The Neighbor" program, Alfred was an active team member serving poor people in the park on weekends as a singer, in addition to the multiple responsibilities he had at KCCC.

Alfred has been my inspiration on how to live a fulfilling life with eternal impact. I have been richly blessed to have known him and served with him. All of us wish Alfred could live to a long life. However the true meaning of life is not measured solely by the length of our life. There is this book, "The Dash: Making A Difference With Your Life" - it says when you stand in front of the tomb of the deceased, you see inscribed on the tombstone his year of birth and his year of death connected by a dash. The DASH represents the content of one's life. Alfred's dash is RICH. His deep love for his Savior Jesus Christ, for his wife and sons, and the broad and deep reach of his friendship with many made his life so admired by others. His life speaks volume.

Alfred showed us a life dedicated to serving the Lord and His church, his was a life truly lived. I will miss you, Alfred. See you on the other side.

凯地之光回顾(二)-怀想篇

从颖

十一. 林宗智弟兄安息主怀

五月十六日：传来了教会亲爱的林弟兄安息主怀的消息。感情上实在很难接受这样的事实。尽管从理性上讲，我们都明确知道我们是有盼望的人，同是永生神的儿女，我们迟早都会在天家相会的。第一次切身体会到“心与脑之间的距离是最远的距离”。

从西区教会的 AWANA 及儿童主日学到凯地教会的儿童和青少年主日学，与他们夫妇整整做了二十年的同工、好友。他俩一直是我效法的榜样。有机会在主里与他们同工，是上帝赐给我的一个极大的福分！昨晚才得知他生病的消息，跪下来为他得医治而祷告，今天就这样离我们而去，实在太突然了！生命的主权的确不在我们手中。一息尚存，就当感恩！此时，我不知道当如何安慰亲爱的黛瑜姐妹。人的语言在这种艰难时刻总是显得那样的苍白无力！唯愿主与她和孩子同在！亲自安慰他们，赐他们力量能够站立得住，并赐他们那世界所不能夺去的平安！

教会的季刊《凯地之光》第五十三期刊登了林弟兄用英文写的一篇文章，回忆他童年在马来西亚丛林的艰苦生活和他母亲的祷告对他一生信仰的影响与帮助。有幸蒙编辑们的抬爱，我这经常因粗心而犯错的人，竟然当了十几年的季刊校对，总是有机会在发刊之前先睹为快。这次读到林弟兄的文章真是爱不释手，这样的文章实在太难得了！派发季刊的那个主日，在教会里远远地看见他，立即兴奋地奔过去告诉他：你这文章写得实在太棒了！好美

的故事！很期待你出续集哦！然后给了他一个大大的拥抱！他很自谦地说：“我中文写不来的。”我说：“没关系，写英文就好，我们有人可以帮你翻译成中文。只要你继续写就行了！”……没想到，这竟然成了我与他在地上的最后告别！再见了，亲爱的大哥！在天堂相见时，再给你一个大大的拥抱！

前不久偶然在脸上看到了 2014 年 5 月我们两家一起参加儿女们高中毕业典礼的合影，当时觉得照片拍得不错，就截屏存了下来。现在它却成了我们在地上结伴与主同行的岁月与情谊的最后定格。感谢主！这两个孩子在高中毕业后都在我们教会做暑期青少年实习生，得到教牧团队的精心栽培和照顾，让他们在上大学之前得到更好的属灵装备，打下更稳固的信仰根基。他们上大学后都立即加入教会，并用神给他们的恩赐参与各种服事。有这样爱主的孩子，相信林弟兄在回天家的路上会走得很安心的，虽然在人看来他离去的脚步过于匆促。在此也特别感谢我们教会的教牧同工们对孩子们的栽培与关爱！



2020年末感恩

张清

2020 年是不平凡的一年。席卷全球的新冠病毒疫灾，让每个人的生活都发生了重大的改变。但我们要为凯地教会感谢神，教会没有停止过敬拜祷告和服事，神在疫情风暴中始终带领、保护着每一个家庭。我自己因着在教会的关怀/慈惠委员会服事，又一次有机会经历了神的信实带领和奇妙作为。

2020 年 1 月，当新冠疫情在武汉严重爆发的时候，我们在海外的华人无不牵挂着祖国的亲人，为在水深火热之中的祖国同胞焦虑担忧。教会的长执会决定发起为武汉灾区捐款的活动，在短短一个月时间里，我们的慈惠基金就收到了武汉赈灾爱心奉献款\$33551，超出了原来的筹款目标 3 万元。同工们在感动于弟兄姐妹们的信心和爱心的同时，也同时感到身上的责任，怎样代表大家把这笔爱心捐款用在神的心意中，尽快送到需要的地方呢？长执会组织了一个联合慈惠关爱团队，把关怀慈惠、社区关怀、家庭关怀、小组事工和敬拜事工的执事们联合在一起，大家群策群力，一起寻求神的心意和带领，希望通过一个安全的渠道，把捐款在最快的时间直接送到灾区的教会。

这是一个很大的挑战，感谢神听了我们的祷告，孟蓉姐妹推荐了认识多年的好友，北京一家兄弟教会的崔牧师帮助我们。因着崔牧师的介绍，我们联系上了湖北省随州市家庭教会的邓牧师。随州位于武汉的郊区，这里有很多病人得不到及时的救治，急需大量的防护用品。感谢神！

在教会长执会的支持和帮助下，我们把教会的第一笔捐款\$5000 及时汇到了北京的兄弟教会，又通过他们的协助买了 2600 桶医用酒精，连夜用卡车运到了湖北随州市。在短短 4 天时间里，酒精就送到了随州的家庭教会。这看来千重万难的事，放在神的手里，却顺利得超乎想象。之后，我们又把第二笔爱心救灾款\$5000 送去随州，做灾后的的心灵安抚，为 152 位环卫工人提供防护用品，为 40 个贫困家庭儿童提供助学金，为 120 个贫困家庭提供了大米、油和生活用品等等，虽然我们远隔万水千山，但在基督里我们是一家人，主的爱无处不在。神亲自为我们打开一条绿色通道，让我们看到神奇妙的引领和作为，凯地教会弟兄姐妹们的点滴爱心，使几百位祖国的灾区人民因此认识到神是爱。

在圣经《路加福音》中，主耶稣说“你们要给人，就必有给你们，并且用十足的升斗，连摇带按，上尖下流地倒在你们怀里”。主的话一字一句都是那么真实。因着弟兄姐妹们出于信心和爱心的奉献，神也大大眷顾，赐给我们所需用的，并且大大超出我们所祈求的。今年 3 月开始，美国新冠病毒大爆发，美国市场的口罩也开始脱销，连一线的医护人员都急缺口罩。这个时候，神纪念我们的爱心，也顾念我们的需要。当孟蓉姐妹联系到北京的崔牧师，他们也同时想到我们的需要。崔牧师帮助我们联系到一位主内姐妹开办的口罩工厂。当这位姐妹得知是教会有需要，就很痛快地给了我们最优惠的价格，同时又用最快捷的方式将第一批三万只口

罩运到我们的教会。在美国市场口罩严重短缺的情况下，我们教会通过神为我们开设的这条“绿色通道”从中国先后进口了 72000 只口罩，不仅满足了我们的教会 230 多个家庭的需要，而且还把我们多余的口罩分享给其他 4 个姐妹教会、号角杂志社、老人院、警察局、医生诊所、市政府等 11 个社区单位。4 月下旬的一天，一位在凯地行医的基督徒医生在脸书上做见证说，因为医疗物资不足，医用口罩被优先供给医院使用，导致她的诊所到处都购买不到口罩。星期一，凯地中国教会的一位义工与她的办公室联络，表示愿意捐献口罩。星期三，口罩被送到了诊所。次日，办公室的主管告诉她，当口罩被送到的那一刻，正好是诊所里只剩下最后一个口罩的时候。她写道：“上帝知道我们的需要，在最合适的时间供应了我们！”感谢神！使用凯地教会在疫情风暴中成为凯地社区的光和盐，把神的爱和温暖及时地送到凯地社区当中。

弟兄姐妹们芥菜种一样的信心和爱心，放在神的手里被神使用，成就了这么多美好的大事。我自己也又一次经历了神的真实和带领。撒加利亚书 4: 6 “万军之耶和华说，不是靠势力，不是靠能力，乃是靠神的灵方能成事。”感谢神让我在服事中经历祂，祂是全能的主，在祂没有难成的事！

今年第二件要向神献上感恩的事是我们教会的失业关怀事工。年初的时候，我们同工预见到今年石油行业会不景气，在职的弟兄姐妹们需要有一些预备。没想到疫情的爆发给石油行业带来重创，短短 2 个月内，教会里就有 12 位弟兄姐妹先后失去了工作。面对这样的危机，教会关怀部很快启动了 Job Connection Group，希望弟兄姐妹们携起手来，互相帮助共渡难关。我们希望找到一位专业人士，给弟兄姐妹们进行一些找工作方面的培训。在一个偶然的的机会，仇彬弟兄提到一位以前曾

是我们教会的弟兄 Simon Lin，建议我跟他联络。当我就此咨询陈牧师时，他马上去联系了 Simon。感谢神，好消息很快传来，Simon 弟兄欣然同意来给我们的弟兄姐妹们做一些求职的培训。当我进一步跟 Simon 弟兄通话交流时，我发现神所预备的这位弟兄真是最适合我们教会弟兄姐妹们需要的人。他不仅有着丰富的管理和招聘经验，更是一位非常有信心和爱心的基督徒。在过去 20 年的职场生涯中，他曾 5 次失去工作，今天，他是一家 500 强公司的高管。他非常感恩，也深深知道神在他身上的使命。在他的职场培训中，他和他的伙伴 Garry Hammit 一起用他们的切身经历来分享，不仅使弟兄姐妹们在职场应聘技能上得到装备，而且也从他们信心的见证中得到鼓励。真是感谢神！祂拣选自己忠心的仆人，用经过祂自己陶造的美好见证，使这些失业的弟兄姐妹们在黑暗中看见光，在软弱中被扶持，在风浪中信心被坚固，在试炼中靠主得胜。我在服事中也深深为教会弟兄姐妹们的友爱所感动。每一位失业的弟兄姐妹们都能平静勇敢地面对挑战，没有抱怨，没有陷入低谷。有一位自己也失去了工作的弟兄还经常关心着其他几位曾一起工作的弟兄们，给大家送去关心和鼓励。有两位找到工作的弟兄姐妹也及时回来分享感恩见证，给大家鼓气。在 KCCC Job Connection 群里，很多在职的弟兄姐妹们会及时地把公司新的工作机会告知大家，点滴爱心让我们在苦难中真实体会到教会大家庭的爱，弟兄姐妹手牵手一起往前走的美好画面。我们蒙神拣选的人真是有福！

感谢神赐给我们凯地教会大家庭，在这个大家庭里充满了弟兄姐妹们的爱。一年路程主爱相伴，主的恩典数算不尽。愿神继续祝福凯地教会，在新的一年里大家一起更多经历主。神没有应许我们生命中没有风暴，却应许我们祂是宇宙万有的主宰，是平息风暴的主，是在沙漠中开江河，在旷野中开道路的神。祂的应许永远

不落空，祂就在我們中間做奇妙的善工。
讓我們的生命變得更堅強、勇敢、成熟，

預備承接神給我們生命更大的祝福

醫治的愛

牟佩凌

羅馬書五章 1-5 節：1 我們既因信稱義，就藉著我們的主耶穌基督，得與神相和。2 我們又藉著祂，因信得進入現在所站的這恩典中，並且歡歡喜喜盼望神的榮耀。3 不但如此，就是在患難中，也是歡歡喜喜的，因為知道 患難生忍耐；4. 忍耐生老練，老練生盼望 5 盼望不至於羞恥；因為所賜給我們的聖靈，將神的愛澆灌在我們心裏。

這幾節經文是我 2009 年受洗當天，所領受的感言。

真的，從 2009 到 2020 共 11 年了，阿爸天父醫治的愛，從未離開過....

我生於台灣眷村，父親是位船員，長年不在家。母親帶著我們四個孩子長大，生為長女的我，外表堅強活潑好學，但沒有「父親」陪伴成長的童年，心理卻充滿恐懼。17 歲考上好的高中，却無法承受學習、生活環境各種的精神壓力，因而在憂鬱、高亢的起起伏伏情緒激動中，我的腦神經無法平衡，而患了「雙重性格精神分裂」症狀...

三年的高中，我用五年讀完，多出的二年是生病。最後，只記得國文課本上的那句「明日隔山岳、世事兩茫茫」。好強的我，就憑著這句詩，告訴自己，離開台北到美國，換個空間重新出發....

到美國後，在餐廳打工，朋友介紹認識先生結婚。生小孩時又患了產後憂鬱症，因幻聽幻覺而誤服藥自殺。之後幾年因為「憂鬱症」進出醫院多次。那來自陰間權勢、撒旦魔鬼的捆綁從未離開。直

到 2009 年，憑信心成為基督徒，耶穌基督死裡復活的大能，翻轉我的生命。藉著讀經、禱告和祂的愛，使我從軟弱變為剛強。雖然我這「病」如保羅的「刺」神不挪開，但神的愛藉著聖靈，天天澆灌我、醫治我，充充足足成就我一切所求所想。

尤其是今年 2020，因為新冠疫情，必須居家，重新讀經、禱告，體會神的愛。真知道什麼是「得救在乎歸回安息，得力在乎平靜安穩」。（《以賽亞書》30:15）什麼是「葡萄樹與枝子，住在祂裡面」和「凡結果子的，就要修剪，才能結出更多果子」的重要性。

2020，雖然大環境是動盪的，我的心仍因我的神而歡呼、盼望，努力準備這「恩典」臨到我的全家族！

羅馬書 9:15 神對摩西說：“我要憐憫誰，就憐憫誰；要恩待誰，就恩待誰。” 佩凌，感恩啊！我就是那被憐憫恩待之人，祂從死陰幽谷裡救我出來，又為我生命道路上，提供豐豐富富的供應，更有餘力服事需要幫助的人！活著，就要讚美耶和華！

最後，以詩篇 100 篇，獻上感恩！

- 1 普天下當向耶和華歡呼。
- 2 你們當樂意事奉耶和華，當來向祂歌唱
- 3 你們當曉得耶和華是神；我們是祂造的，也是屬祂的；我們是祂的民，也是祂草場的羊。
- 4 當稱謝進入祂的門，當讚美進入祂的院；當感謝祂，稱頌祂的名。
- 5 因為耶和華本為善，祂的慈愛存到永遠；祂的信實直到萬代。

三十年的追寻与带领

李陟

我从小在北方城市长大，17 岁时认识一个阿姨，很善良，家中和谐温暖。听说她是信基督的，饭前一定要祷告，慢慢的知道了教堂和圣诞节。后来那个阿姨家搬家了，我对基督的了解仅限于此。由于向往美好的节日也好奇圣诞节怎么过，于是在 18 岁那年的圣诞日冒雪骑车一个多小时去了我们城市的一间教堂，可是教堂不开门，很疑惑的离开。路上还和同学们猜测是不是圣诞节也是前一天的夜晚才有庆祝仪式，就像我们传统的年夜。可是身边再没有信神的人给我解惑，这就成为我青春时期的一个美好的怀念。大雪纷飞的圣诞夜晚，几个年轻女孩子骑着自行车为了心中的梦追寻着神。

上大学时我最好的同学成为了虔诚的佛教徒。她给我讲经，带我去寺院，送我很多佛教书籍，孜孜不倦地影响我十几年。虽然我懂得了很多佛学知识，但依然没有下定决心皈依佛门。总是不能迈出门一脚。再后来到了美国，有耶和华的信徒上门劝说，也参加过身边接触的巴哈伊教教徒聚会。但无论怎样，就是坚定的不想继续深入。

但那时有一个清晰的目标就是我想让孩子接触基督，认识耶稣。因为孩子有一个姐姐是从小在教会中成长起来的。她跟我认识的女孩子都不一样，各种美好的品格都显现在她的身上。那种美好不是家庭的影响，也不是世间的任何词汇能够形容的，就是很有吸引力，让人很向往，我希望我的儿子也成为那样的孩子。于是在休斯顿安家后我就四处寻找合适的教会，去过几个本地人教会，去了几次后就有一种愿望想要与人进行深层次的交流，关于心灵的沟通，但是语言能力有限不能畅所欲言的交流。他们推荐我来中国教会，我才知道凯地就有中国人的教会。

到了教会后真的像是回了家。佳音组每周五晚上的小组活动都让我欣喜无比，每次学习几段圣经诗篇，进而深入的探讨。小组里的兄弟姐妹都很关心地问我有什么需要要向神祷告的。我说，我想让孩子交到朋友，不再孤单，想让他快乐一些，开朗一些。大家就为我向神祷告，神真的听到了我们的声音，孩子慢慢的有了自己的朋友圈，也越来越开朗自信。这些点点滴滴的改变和欣喜，坚定了我要加入基督大家庭。但是我从没跟任何人说过，只是在心里坚定了信念。神奇的是不久后启秀姐邀请我去她家里午餐，我和杏菊一同前往，我们去了后见到了英兰，她询问我们是否认识了神，是否相信神，是否愿意信靠神。我当时扭扭捏捏地说我认识了神，也信神，但是还没做好准备把自己交给神。因为有一个阻碍源于我十多年对佛教的接触，每当遇到大事的时候我祷告，可是脱口而出的总是佛号，这个习惯很难改变，已经成为惯性，我担心会对耶稣不敬。英兰很郑重地问我：“你知道你脱口而出的佛号是向哪个神祷告吗？你见过她的样子吗？你脑海里出来的那个‘神’其实你也不知道是谁，对不对？”我就认真回想，确实是，我不知道。每次佛号出口后，就会在佳音组群里发求助信息，很快就有兄弟姐妹回应，帮我想办法解决难题，这可不是一次呀。对呀，兄弟姐妹们不就是神派来的吗？我们的神不就只有一位吗？那就是我的真神啊！想到这里开心地对英兰说：“我明白了，我很清楚了，我要把我自己交给神。”那天就是我的决志日，英兰和启秀姐为我们做了决志祷告。现在想想，启秀姐和英兰也是奉了神的旨意来邀请我坚定信念。我从未跟人说过我要成为神的儿女，她们怎么就会适时地邀请我，并且解决了我的疑惑，这都是神的引领呀！而且从我第一次在青春时追

随神的步伐，一直到后来各种宗教的影响都没让我离开神，整整 30 年，这都是神的保守，感谢主！

决志之后，我就不断地跟父母分享我所了解的基督、圣经和耶稣。我们计划父母再来探亲时一定要领他们去教会，去感受大家庭的温暖。可是不幸的是，我父亲在 2019 年底诊断出了癌细胞，这时我身上的担子就更重了，有一个声音一直在心里喊，他们一定要尽快认识神信靠神，这种艰难时刻只有神能帮助我们勇敢面对即将到来的未知前程。父母很顺利地在疫情大爆发前的中美最后一趟航班到达休斯顿，也在佳音组姐妹 Maggie 的指导下顺利就医。感谢神，一切的一切都很顺利的进行。

父亲治疗期间，佳音组的几位同工常常来看望父亲，因为疫情原因就在院子里坐会儿跟父亲聊聊天，给我们传福音。这段时间是父亲很快乐的时光，在美国除了女儿一家还有这么多人关心他，他每次都很开心。七月份父亲的癌细胞全身扩散，我在得知医生无法挽救他生命时大哭一场。第二天一早给台妹姐打电话，只说了一句，台妹姐，我父亲很糟糕了，我需要帮助。台妹姐问我们是否愿意受洗成为神的儿女。我征询了父母意见。我希望在这艰难时刻有神的保守，让我父亲能得到永生，也愿意把自己和母亲交给神，倚靠神，我很担心母亲不能承受父亲离开的打击。台妹姐放下电话马上联系陈牧师，中午时陈牧师就赶来为我们受洗，小组的弟兄姐妹也一起赶来见证。我永远记得我们受洗时刻，我父亲已经昏迷几天了，可是很奇妙的是受洗那天他很清醒，状态也好，当陈牧师问我们是否承认自己是无力自救的罪人？是否相信耶稣被钉在十字架上替我们死去，免去我们的罪？是否相信耶稣复活？是否相信耶稣能够洗去我们的罪，带给我们永生的盼望？父亲已经不能说话但是很清醒地、坚定地举着手并且点头同意。这真的是神的恩典。主曾说过：凡祈求的，就得着；寻找的，就寻见；叩门的，就给他开门。（《马太福音》7：8）这是主的应许，也是主给我们的承诺。

我相信主的话语带着能力和权柄，祂所说的每一句话永远坚立。

一周后，父亲的气息越来越微弱，我给英兰和文忠打了电话，他们马上和 John 一起赶来。有他们在我心里安定很多，John 让我打开音乐大声的放着诗歌，同时嘱咐我在父亲耳边说：“耶稣与我同在。”不久，腾牧师也赶来了，他一直握着父亲的手为父亲祷告。音乐响起，那个场景是欢乐祥和的，像是迎接一个新生儿一样的有着喜乐与期盼。我们相信父亲很快就要去天国，可是有太多的不舍。John 看到了我们的不舍，告诉我们说天使已经来了。我真的好像看到了天使们手拉手在我们头顶微笑的看着我们，他们是那么的美好，那么的让人信任，我很安心地把父亲交给他们。父亲咽下了最后一口气，没有痛苦，祥和平静。我还在说：“爸爸，记得耶稣与我同在。”John 微笑着告诉我，李伯伯已经在天堂了，已经跟阿爸天父在一起了。我还问：“这么快吗？”John 告诉我最后一口气咽下后就到了天国了。我太高兴了，我知道黄泉路不好走，很容易迷路，很难走到正确的路上去天堂。而父亲太有福气了，有了天使的接引这么快就回到了天父身边。我很庆幸父亲在有生之年认识神并且成为神的儿女，我真为他高兴。感谢主，荣耀归于神。

最后在父亲的追思会时间，天气预报那天有飓风。我很担心风雨可能导致网络和交通的中断。前一晚在台妹姐给我电话商量具体事宜时，我把我的忧虑告诉她。台妹姐说不要担心，交给主。主会为你安排一切的，你要做的就是祷告。果真，追思会顺利进行，而且在父亲出棺去火化房时，天气晴朗，殡仪馆的人说刚才下了一场大雨，然后就雨过天晴了。雨刚停了几分钟，就在我们追思会最后仪式进行时天晴了。处处都有神的美意。圣经告诉我们：“应当一无挂虑，只要凡事借着祷告、祈求和感谢，将你们所要的告诉神。神所赐出人意外的平安，必在基督耶稣保守你们的心怀意念。”（《腓立比书》4：6）

完全依靠

唐钰洁

因为疫情的缘故公司决定裁员，我的名字在裁员名单上。我于六月初接到公司电话，当天生效。挂了老板电话的那刻，确实是有点不知所措。不知道明天会怎样？这是我人生第一次经历 laid-off，以前都是别人的故事。当我把裁员消息告诉孩子的时候，我看到孩子眼中也闪过一丝恐惧。我们的生活会有怎样的改变？我想这也是孩子们心里所忧虑的。不过这种不安的感觉一晃而过，所有的情绪被一种对明天的期待所代替。我也深信神的恩典够我们用，我想这正是我们常说的“有平安、有盼望”吧。

当天晚上就着手开始发送简历。一晚上申请了近 50 份工作。当时美国经济正遭受疫情打击，感谢神仍赐下很多工作机会。第二天早上一起床就陆续接到多家公司电话，各种面试不断而来。每天的面试都让我充满了期待和盼望，也让我和我们全家倍感神的恩典。每次面试前，我都会请小组的弟兄姐妹们和教会的姐妹们为我祷告。每次我去应试，我知道我不是一个人，而是大家用祷告托着我共同走这段路。有一次我在祷告的时候，我听到一个声音说：“你有一个很好的祷告团队。”那时我是非常的感动，我知道教会的弟兄姐妹们一定每天都在为我迫切祷告。真是很感谢每一位主内肢体满怀爱心的鼓励和祷告，帮助我走过这段特别的日子，感恩有这么好的属灵大家庭。

教会及时组织的系列求职培训班，对我的帮助也很大。教会请来的 Simon Lin 弟兄是一个非常爱主、非常有爱心并且有

着丰富经验的 recruiter 专家。他非常详细地告诉我们如何写简历，如何应对面试。更重要的是不断提醒我们如何在困境中依靠神，仰望神，让我收获很多。他的特邀嘉宾 Gary 弟兄也是一个非常爱主、非常有爱心的弟兄，Gary 一直不断地用各种方式来鼓励我，在那段日子里让我一直有盼望。

感谢神，他让万事互相效力，叫爱神的人得益处。大约二个星期后，我得到第一个 offer。很神奇，我一直说那个 hiring manager 是神派来的天使。他给我来过 email，简单介绍了他的公司情况，想要与我约个时间，setup 一个电话面试。因为这是个外州公司，我当时就没太在意，没有回复他。几天后，他直接给我电话，简短的几个问题后就直接下 offer 了。我当时一直觉得他是个骗子，因为没有我每天重复经历的那些面试程序，第一面试、第二面试，甚至第三面试…。现在想来，我真是明白了圣经的话，撒迦利亚书 4:6：万军之耶和华说，不是依靠势力，不是依靠才能，乃是依靠我的灵，方能成事。

这份工作是在外州，疫情期间可以在家上班，可最终还是要回去上班的。我真是很舍不得 Katy 教会的弟兄姐妹，所以我一直也没放弃寻找一份在休斯敦的工作。因为疫情，休斯敦的经济受石油的影响是非常低迷，工作机会微乎其微。好不容易一个工作机会，听说一般以前都是 20-30 人申请，现在竟然有 200-300 人去申请。但在神没有难成的事，在洪水泛滥的时

候，他坐依然着为王。一个月后，我顺利拿到 Harris County Public Health 的 job offer。

Harris County Public health 在 Galleria 附近，我在美国的第一份工作就在 Galleria 附近。当时孩子还小，弟弟 5 岁，哥哥也就 8 岁，当年神赐给我一份在 Katy 离家近的工作，一干就是 10 年。使我有时间照顾孩子，照顾家，陪着孩子们长大。现在孩子们长大了，神又把我带到当年起步的地方。时过境迁，当年的公司早就没了踪影……。想想 20 年前我从国内防疫站辞职的时候，可真没想到 20 年后我

可以重回卫生系统，现在每天坐在一堆流行病专家之间听着他们说着我听不懂的话……。

每每回想起来自己走过的路，正如歌中唱到：你是我的主，引我走正义路。高山或低谷，都是你在保护。一步一步，这是恩典之路，你爱、你手，牵引我走这人生路。感谢神，在我跟随主的道路上，让我常常经历祂的奇妙恩典。

弟兄姐妹们，也许你现在正在面对一些很大的困难，前面看不到光，但是我们知道只要跟随主，全然交托，主的恩典够用！愿神祝福大家！

风暴中的平安

宋玉秀

今年是非同寻常的一年，这一年我有两件事要感恩。一是感恩在病毒的工作环境中，自己依然安全无恙。二是感恩神在我生命中平定风浪，成为我路上的良伴。

今年是新冠病毒泛滥的一年，人们以前的生活秩序彻底被打乱。飞机停飞，孩子在家上学，大量人群病毒感染。作为医护人员的我们物资短缺，在照顾病人的同时，也担心自己是否会被感染。我自己曾在 4 月份和 10 月份有两次身体不适。一次是虚汗和乏力，另一次是喉咙痛。感谢神，这些症状没有持续很久，病毒检查结果是阴性。但与我一起工作的同事就没有这么幸运。白班有 4 个，晚班有 3 个同事相继感染新冠病毒，不得不在家休息治疗。其中一个护士的丈夫因新冠病毒去世。网络上也有很多信息分享感染并与病

毒抗争的详细记载。现在疫情感染人数又有增加趋势，我工作的医院也从今天开始禁止病人探访和陪护。虽然有报导疫苗即将上市，但人们要恢复以往的生活秩序，似乎还是路漫漫。

除了疫情，令人困惑的另一件事就是总统大选。有人选这个，有人选那个，这本来也无可非议。因为我们每个人读不同的书，收听不同的新闻媒体报导与评论，然后我们作出自己以为最正确的判断。自己也深深感叹，自己头脑和思想的不断变化。当时在国内生活时，就认为共产党好。到了国外，才能全面审视自己当时生活的国家。我们都希望国家各方面都好，自己也能像池塘的鱼一样自由自在的安然生活。但是现在所发生的事情却是矛盾越来越激化，感觉一个政党上台，另一个政

党里就有很多人要进监狱。咱们教会的弟兄姐妹也对选举和政治参与存在困惑与不解。有的去街上抗议，有的在室内祷告。网上的牧者也对此有很多不同的反应。总之，今年是人心困惑的一年，但我觉得这也是神搅动人心的一年，要唤醒人沉睡心灵的一年。每个人都要思考，这世界为什么会有病毒，大选的结果是否公正透明？我在这信息的海洋中，有自己的处理方式，就是从圣经中找答案。我儿子说我的信是“Blind Faith”，瞎眼的信，但我认为是经过十年深入思考后的信。我的信让我在风暴中有安定，我能坦然面对每一天。

除了疫情与大选，我也审视我们作为人类的个体。我们都有一个身体，这个身体会思想，也会生病离开这个世界。看到现在的孩子，我会想到他们的长大和老去；现在的老人也能让我想到他们当年的

青春年少。时光永不停息，会一直向前。我虽然今天分享见证，但再过一些年日，我就不再在这世上了。生命中我们有很多的事需要忙碌，但我觉得最不可少的一件事就是认识真神。真神在哪里？看看我们周围的天地万物，再思考圣经所启示的话语。神就在这里。愿我们都有主在我里面，我在主里面的真实感受。

作为医护人员，我每天都接触各种病人。疾病的治疗无非就是药物和手术。但这些治疗都是暂时的，只有主耶稣里的医治是永久的。愿我们的心眼都有这看见。以前的我不是很明白祷告，但今年我要切切的祷告，我是软弱无能的，但我所信靠的主却是凡事都能的。我也坚信，主能保守我所信托祂的，都能全备直到我见主的那一日。

这就是我的信息，我的诗歌，赞美我救主，昼夜唱和。

祷告的功效

Lisa Shi

今年是非常特殊的一年，由于疫情蔓延到美国，三月中政府发出居家令，很多公司开始裁员。我先生的单位也不例外。

三月底的一天，我先生 Bob 下班就告诉我单位开会了，Senior Vice President 说要分两批裁员，五月份和七月份各一批。特别是接近退休年龄和已经到了退休年龄的员工，自己要主动提出退休，如果不主动提出，就会被裁员。我先生当时说

这话的时候，我深深感受到了他身上的压力和焦虑。我对他说：“我很理解你现在的心情，我知道你的压力非常大，但不要担心，因为我们有神可以依靠。我们把这件事情完全地交托给神，让神来带领，因为我们的神是慈爱、公义的神。我相信我们的神会让你风风光光地退休而不是被退休。我们从今天开始迫切为这件事情祷告。如果下次 Senior Vice President 再提这事的时候，你不要紧张，而是马上安

静默祷：神阿，我退休的事情不是他们说了算的，我已经把这事交给您的手中，如果您安排我退休，我就开开心心地退休，因为您是一切执政撑权者的元首。”

我天天为这事向神祷告，并劝导我先生用正面积极的态度去面对这件事情，相信神的带领。大概过了十天左右，我感觉到我先生的情绪已恢复了正常。五月份时，与我先生年龄差不多的同事都被裁了，而我先生凭着对神的信心，坦然地干着手上的工作。又过了几天，我先生很开心的告诉我：“今天 Senior Vice President 叫我去上六门课程而且是公司付学费。”我当时就说哈利路亚感谢神，你不会被裁了。八年前 Senior Vice President 就要求我先生去上那六门课，学费需要自己付。今年经济不景气，反而公司付学费让他去上课。因为 Vice President 岗位要求必须 Master 文凭，如果没有 Master 文凭必须要有六门课的证书，这样我先生才有资格晋升到 Vice

President 岗位。神赐给我们的超过我们的所求所想！

另外一件感恩的事是关于我女婿。在居家两个月后，五月的一个周六我与女儿通电话。我女婿的老板要求他一星期后第一批去办公室上班。我女儿说“我要一个人照顾孩子还要上班会忙不过来”。我告诉女儿不用担心，我们还有一个星期的祷告，神会改变他老板的心意叫他继续在家上班的。我们交给神，今天开始就为这事祷告。一星期后，周六打电话问我女儿，我女儿说昨天女婿的老板打电话通知继续在家上班，让年长的去单位上班。而且更奇妙的是女婿被晋升了，老板说会加薪给他。神奇妙的恩典再一次在我女婿身上彰显。哈利路亚感谢赞美神！

所以当坏事临到时候不要害怕和担心，要用正面的态度仰望神，完全的交托给神。祂是守约赐慈爱的神。祂能做新事、做奇事、做大事，祂的意念总是美善的。让我们一生一世住在耶和华的殿中瞻仰他的荣美。

随想二篇

黄宜洲

随想之一：如今常存为何物？

一起接一起的延绵山火，一波逐一波的新冠疫情，一场又一场的选战争论，令人感到有点应接不暇，身心疲惫，无处可藏。人们失去了心爱的家园，失去了宝贵的生命，甚至失去了应有的理性和长久建立的感情。我们到底还剩下什么呢？

中秋节刚刚过去，记得小时候听长辈说过一句话：冬（冬至）不饱，年（新年）不饱，

八月十五咬芋头。那时由于物质极度缺乏，过节难得的可口食物似乎就是心里最大的渴求，团圆反倒不是那么在意的。因为当年还没有所谓的改革开放，一家人大多数时候还是能常伴左右的。如今我们的家里装满了各种各样的美食，但想见彼此一面却变得不是那么容易了，心平气和畅所欲言的交流也更弥足珍贵。

《希伯来书》10：25：“你们不可停止聚会，好像那些停止惯了的人，倒要彼此

劝勉：既知道那日子临近，就更当如此。”终于，教会在上个星期开始也逐步重新开放了，让弟兄姐妹有机会再次面对面，彼此鼓励，互相连接。《哥林多前书》13:13：“如今常存的有信、有望、有爱这三样，其中最大的是爱。”祈求上帝的爱更多地浇灌在每一个人的心田，这样即使冬天来临，我们仍能看到希望，彼此温暖，继续前行。

随想之二：所遇万事向谁求？

凶猛的山火不久将会熄灭，肆虐的疫情逐渐也会过去，炙热的选情很快就会结束。到时候人们要面对的是什么呢？被无情的大火吞噬过的残垣败瓦，满目疮痍；被狡诈的病毒侵害透的柔弱身体，破碎家庭；被狂热的选举灼伤过的人际交往，社会关系。

十月的一个主日，樊弟兄在教会的讲道中提到了一首诗歌《耶稣恩友》，当中的歌词颇耐人寻味，发人深省：“耶稣是

我亲爱的朋友，背负我罪担我忧，何等权利能将万事，带到主恩座前求！多少平安屡屡失去，多少痛苦白白受，皆因我们未将万事，带到主恩座前求...”

亲爱的天父，求你赦免我们的罪，我们得罪了神，得罪了弟兄姐妹，也得罪了朋友亲人，因为我们的骄傲自大、固执偏见。求你大能的手医治每一个受伤的身体，安慰每一个孤独的灵魂。求你那无条件、无止境的大爱再次滋润我们干涸的心田，撕裂的嘴唇。求主赐我们属天的眼光和智慧去理解和分辨哪些是合你心意的举止言行。求主赐我们勇气去面对和修复破损的关系，我们愿意和你同负一轭，并肩而行。因为你应许说：“凡劳苦担重担的人，可以到我这里来，我就使你们得安息。我心里柔和谦卑，你们当负我的轭，学我的样式，这样，你们心里就必得享安息。因为我的轭是容易的，我的担子是轻省的。”（马太福音 11 章 28-30 节）阿门！

征稿启事：

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