

PRAYER BULLETIN #83, 13Feb2021

WHOLESOME CONVERSATIONS & CONDUCT

"Be wise in the way you act towards outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."

Col. 4:5,6.

REFLECTION

The Chinese New Year is often a time for many of us to catch up with our families, relatives and friends. While we enjoy the conversations and feasting, we would also be mindful of how we are to conduct ourselves, especially with our words. Auspicious words and greetings would be well-received compared to 'Doom and Gloom' conversations. Some households would not do certain things also, such as not sweeping the floor believing that one may accidentally sweep away any good luck for the New Year.

As Christians, we need not subscribe to such belief and practices. But there is still a place for us to practice loving sensitivity and thoughtfulness in our interaction with others during our visitations. We can also show Christian hospitality as we receive family members to our homes. In our conversations, we can put into practice good listening skills to understand the hopes, dreams, wishes, concerns, disappointments, struggles, etc. that our hosts and guests carry closely to their hearts and minds. We can provide words that comfort, encourage, empathize, assure, lift up, etc. or even extend a hand to assist them in practical ways.

Yet, given the need to prevent potential spread of COVID-19 there are limitations to the manner in which we can visit or receive one another. Thus, it would be prudent to exercise loving care and consideration as we play the roles of being guests or hosts to others. Let it be guided by the love of Christ such that it is visible and tangible through our conduct and speech. Even though there are concerns and limitations God can still work in and through us to touch others with His love.

Blessed Chinese New Year to one and all!

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for the families and friends You have given us. They remind us that we are not alone in the world and that we are part of a bigger community, in faith and family. Help us to appreciate them and to share the love of Christ with them that they may come to know and receive Him as their Lord and Saviour. Amen

SUPPLICATION

- Thank God for the families and friends He has provided us with. Pray for your own family and those you know that beyond the feasting and celebrations, God would do works of joyful reunion, restoration of broken relationships, healing of lives and salvation of loved ones. As people meet may there be refreshment in their spirit, renewal of minds, and strengthening of one another.
- Pray for God's protection as people visit and host others in their homes. Pray that God would grant us all loving consideration and civil conduct towards each other. Pray that in the midst of home visitations there would not be any spread of the virus. Pray also for the elderly to be kept safe from any infection.
- Pray for all believers to be awakened to the various opportunities where we can show and share the love of Christ with those we come in contact with during this celebrative season. May God grant us wisdom and creativity to reach out to people with words of hope, joy and love in Christ.
- Pray for those who are alone and may not have anyone to celebrate Chinese New Year with, that God would bring to our minds and cause us to reach out to them also. Pray for those who are affected by the pandemic where they may not be able to celebrate it like they used to in the past. May they discover new meaning for themselves and their families during this season.

"Gracious words are a honeycomb,

Sweet to the soul and

healing to the bones."

Prov. 16:24

***If you need any prayer or pastoral care support,
kindly contact the pastoral care team via:***

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