

Dear ministry partners and friends,

July 16, 2020

May this letter find you safe and healthy in the global virus pandemic! I would like to give you a quick update of the progress of my teaching material project. And then, give a special announcement.

PROGRESS OF MY TEACHING MATERIAL PROJECT

- ✦ Already finished the editing of accuracy in all the translation drafts of the entire teaching series. My new editor is editing the last article of over 13,000 words. She told me that my Chinese writing is kind of like speaking English in Chinese! (Ouch! But it is true.) May the Lord give her the strength and efficiency in editing my Chinese version. We plan to have it done by the end of this month so that I can round up the project next month.
- ✦ Until the end of August, I will continue to contact mission organizations globally and introduce them to this teaching material in equipping cross-cultural missionaries to thrive under cross-cultural stress. Please continue to pray that the Lord guide in which organizations will choose to use it.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: RETIREMENT STARTING ON SEPTEMBER 1ST, THIS YEAR

- ✦ ***I will start retiring on Sept. 1, this year.*** I am grateful for your infinite patience with me in the past few years when I worked on this project in producing this “Person-formation” teaching material, both in English and Chinese. Some of you even literally participated in helping me to overcome the obstacles that I myself could not manage. Your prayers, encouragement and financial supports enabled me to finally reach this point of completion. I am totally amazed in how God guided and provided help each time I encountered a difficulty. As I last shared, it clearly shows me that this is the Lord’s project. I am just His humble servant and only feel honored that He gives me this privilege to be in His project.
- ✦ ***Some of you asked, “What is your next project?”*** “Well, let me share a “secret” with you. :) The Lord obviously gives me joy as one of the prominent spiritual gifts in my life. As a result, I probably do not look like my age. I am officially a senior citizen in the government definition! People definitely cannot detect by my look how my stamina level and physical condition are. But my answer to the question is, ‘For a long time, I feel that I have been using beyond my last ounce of physical strength¹. Gradually, taking care of myself feels like a fulltime job. I started to drop my dreams for my retired life one by one. (I used to dream having a pet dog, mentoring seminary students in their lives and visiting inmates in jails.) It is time for retirement completely! And I am glad that the Lord gives me the peace in reaching this resolution.’”
- ✦ ***Frontier Ventures will not accept and process any donation*** made to my ministry account ***after August 16. Please take note this date for you August contribution.*** If you have set up an automatic bank transaction to my account, please arrange with your bank of its termination date.
- ✦ ***“Clara, do you have enough saving for your retirement?”*** “No. The Lord called me to fulltime ministry when I was in high school. I went for my first theological training

¹ In fact, whenever I am tired, my heart feels so stressed that it literally aches. Recently, it is verified that my heartbeats are irregular, but not harmful. At this moment, I am wearing a heart monitor (for 7 days) to record more data for further diagnosis. Recently, all my physicians are glad to learn that I will retire soon.

upon graduation of college. I spent my entire life in fulltime ministry (6 years: pastoring churches; 34 years in four mission fields, including taking two degrees in missions). I have never had any secular job and never have a chance to save enough for my retirement.”

- ✦ **“How are you going to sustain yourself?”** “I receive a meager amount of social security from the government. And Atherton Baptist Homes (the assisted living facility I am at) promises that they’ll never kick me out even if I am out of money. They say that I can turn over my finance (in what I have in hand currently) to them. After the deduction of the covering of the cost my services from them, they will give me some “pocket money” for other daily expenses. The amount of pocket money depends on if I receive any ongoing new money. If you would like to participate in sustaining this retired missionary, please give me a personal note and I will give you the detail in how you can start participating this “new ministry” for this retired missionary. :) My heart trusts the Father will not abandon me in my senior age, just like how He has supplied in my entire missionary life.
- ✦ After my retirement, I will not send prayer letters regularly anymore. If you would like to keep in touch, please keep the following e-mail address, which is **my personal e-mail address, in you address book: xculmnc4countries@gmail.com. My phone number remains the same as below.**

MY DREAMS

Although I said I gave up my dreams for my retirement, but yet, I still have some *treasured dreams*.



- ✦ Spend long hours with the Lord, soaking in His Presence and tasting his Goodness. Also, intercede for the expedition of Christ’s Kingdom on Earth as in Heaven.
- ✦ Regularly visit beautiful public gardens, relax in nature and revel in Him.
- ✦ When I see the Lord face to face, He will smile to me and say, “My faithful and good servant, you have run the good run. Now, come in and sit with me at my banquet.” (Before that, if ever my brain would not be clear-minded anymore as I age, my life will still shine with His Joy, Love, and Peace.)

In Christ’s Fellowship and Service,
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“For a verdant and flourishing world ripe with wholeness and peace for all peoples”