



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN FARMERS
INTERNATIONAL

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Serving, Saving, Reaching for Christ Around the World

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PRAYER GUIDE - August 2016

- 01 - The 23rd Annual Conference of FCFI was this past weekend. This year it was held at the Radisson Hotel in Branson, Missouri. Let us pray that the Lord used it to be a celebration of the past, an energizing present, and a focus on the future so that our organization can successfully continue with its purpose to 'build, maintain, and strengthen faith in God for the farmer, the farm family, and the farming industry through presenting Jesus as Lord and Savior'. Thank you, Lord, for past successes and we pray that your hand will remain on FCFI and its members.

- 02 - Many of you have seen items in the Prayer Guide about our participation in the establishing of the Timothy Christian School in Mundari Bura Provence with our friends from South Sudan, Dr. Alex and Helen Abuk Bolek whom we met when all four of us were living in Romania. We praise God that the school is up and running with an enrollment of 735 students. This area has been without any school for over twenty years during times of war between the north and south in Sudan. However, conflict has broken out between different political factions in the capitol city of Juba and bullets are flying. Please pray for safety for Alex, Helen, and their family who live close to the fighting and that the school which is 90 miles away from Juba is safe and continues to flourish. God we are trusting you for a resolution of this problem and a longtime peace for South Sudan.

- 03 - Prayer requests have come to us for Jim Wish, FCFI Board Member who has had a benign cyst removed from his eye. Surgery was successful but he needs prayer for his sight to clear up. Richard Larabee is asking for prayer for salvation among family members and friends. No doubt each one of us has someone needing salvation as well. Jesus, for all we ask you to send someone to tell of Your gift of salvation to all those we put before you.
- 04 - August is often “fair month” for many in the US and Canada. FCF will have its tents up and people ready to share the story of the five colored beads and encouraging those who come to the tent to make Jesus Lord and Savior in their lives. Messiah, you tell us in Luke 10:2 that *“the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.”* We ask you to anoint the “few” workers at the FCF tents so that they may reap a bountiful harvest for your Kingdom.
- 05 - A large number of people in our country struggle with some form of addiction such as eating too much, watching too much TV, over using the internet, smoking, drinking, misusing prescription drugs and using illegal drugs. Even Christians can have a problem at times with any one of these. All of them detract from a relationship with God and, no doubt, with family and friends as well. High Priest, hear our prayer for release from any addiction be it ours or that of a beloved relative or friend.
- 06 - Our farms, factories, and other places of business have numerous employees many of whom have never made a decision to follow Christ as their Savior. We had the experience recently of talking with a young woman who had never heard the name “Jesus” before. Sad to say, there are plenty of Christians who have never made the effort to talk to their employees or in chatting with others to witness to them of God’s saving grace and promise of eternal life with Jesus. Precious Lord, use us to be the bearer of the Good News and let us not allow any opportunity to pass us by.
- 07 - *“Our citizenship is in heaven,”* Philippians 3:20. If you have asked Jesus to be your Savior and Lord, you now have dual citizenship, one on earth and the promise of an eternal one in heaven. What a privilege that eternal citizenship is! Thank you, Jesus, for preparing a place for me (John 14:2) because I want to “dwell in the house of the Lord forever.”
- 08 - *“Therefore, God gave them (men who suppress the truth) over to the*
- 28 - *“Let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others,”* Philippians 2:3,4. Someone has said, “Being a good Christian is like being a good tennis player; you have to learn to serve.” Jesus, You are our ultimate example of serving. You healed, You fed, You washed, You encouraged, You forgave, You died in our place. Thank you for leading us to a life of service.
- 29 - *“Now for the time of about forty years (God) put up with their ways in the wilderness,”* Acts 14:18. This refers to the Israelites as they wandered for forty years before entering the Promised Land. That is the nature of our God and He puts up with your ways and mine, too. Redeemer, thank you for ‘putting up with’ my ways and giving me two, three, five, ten, one hundred ‘second chances’. Please remind me to do the same for others.
- 30 - *“Indeed there are those who are last who will be first and the first will be last,”* Luke 15:6. Blessed Savior, humble me and take away my sinful pride. In myself I am sure to stumble. Please, help me to stay by your side.
- 31 - *“As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the Word, that you may grow ...,”* 1 Peter 2:2. Are you growing? If not, Peter has the answer, get back into God’s Word for we never outgrow our need for spiritual food. Word of God, hear our need. Lead us back into your Word so that we can grow strong spiritually and be better able to defend our faith and share it.

Share Your Prayer Items with Others

Continue to send in specific prayer requests either to the FCFI office or to Clark Phillips (email: CSPcows@aol.com) by the 13th or 14th of the month so they can be included in the Prayer Guide for the following month.

Urgent Prayer Requests

Can be placed on the website prayer list page at any time, forward urgent, immediate attention prayer needs to Dennis Schlagel (email: fellowship@fcfi.org) at the FCFI office.
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- 23 - *"The days are evil. Therefore, do not be unwise,"* Ephesians 5:16,17. We have been delivered from condemnation but we still risk harm and loss because of our sinful tendencies. Messiah, help us to avoid those places and situations that tempt our sinful nature so that we can remain clean and not be a temptation to others.
- 24 - *"When you do a charitable deed do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,"* Matthew 6:3. What I believe this verse conveys is that our giving be as anonymous as possible and/or that we give without any expectation of recognition or reward. Author of Our Faith, help us 'clean up' our motives for giving. May we give only to honor You.
- 25 - *"They shall bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing,"* Psalm 92:14. The psalmist here is talking about the righteous person as compared to the unrighteous. For those of us who are way 'over the hill', that is encouraging news. True Vine, a concern of many of us older folk is that we are no longer fruit bearers. Your Word can be a comfort to us. "Here I am, send me."
- 26 - From yesterday's item I guess I took my lead from the psalmist. A few days ago I returned home from a three week trip to Romania with two other FCFI members, Roy and Cathy Upson. I had a request from the leader of Action Felix orphanage and farm to help with some equipment repairs. Some of you may recall that my wife and I lived in Romania from 1997 to 2004 developing, building, and getting up and running a modern dairy farm to provide milk, meat, dairy products, and income for the Caminul Felix children (most of them had been abandoned by their families after the communist dictator's regime fell in 1989). Please join us in thanking the Lord for a safe trip and for the work accomplished.
- 27 - *"While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us,"* Romans 5:8. It is hard to believe that He doesn't wait for us to "shape up" before He accepts our plea for His saving grace and salvation. This is a reminder to us that we are to love those around us regardless of their actions. Lord it is not easy to love and accept the behaviors of those who need your promise of grace and salvation. But, with your help, Jesus, we can do just that. Please help us.

sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another," Romans 1:24. *"Although they know God's righteous decree ... they not only continue to do these very things, but also approve of those who practice them"* Romans 1:32. Think of some of the recent laws that have been passed regarding the behavior of some of our citizens. Father, we need a new awakening to the morals and ethics that are synonymous with your Word. Please set all of society on the right path once again.

- 09 - *"Behold an angel of the Lord stood before them and the glory of the Lord shone around them,"* Luke 2:9. The message wasn't to a high priest, Paul ministering in the temple, or Jesus addressing a large crowd. It was to lowly shepherds tending their flocks on the hills of Judea. That is the way He often gets our attention. It is through the ordinary, mundane, common ordinary events of everyday life. Jesus, I want to hear you and serve you.
- 10 - During his career as a shortstop and captain of the New York Yankees, Derek Jeter had over 3000 hits (his 3000th was even a home run). For a pro baseball player this is a milestone that few players have reached during their careers. Such a great accomplishment for Derek but it doesn't begin to compare to the act of acknowledging Jesus Christ as Savior. Counselor, help us to try harder to reach out to the lost of this world so that they may attain this great milestone in their lives.
- 11 - *"Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the Living God."* 1 Timothy 6:17 Seems like Paul is scolding those who are rich (almost all of us in the US and Canada) having most all of our needs met because we do "trust in uncertain riches." We need a strong reminder not to put more trust in our earthly bank account than in our heavenly account. Father God, change our focus so that we are *"rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share ...,"* 1 Timothy 6:18.
- 12 - The Book of James has lots of advice and deserves reading over and over. James 3:16 tells us, *"... where you have envy and selfish ambition there you will find disorder and every evil practice."* So be it your home, the office or any place of work, a board meeting or even on the ball field, envy and selfish ambition will bring disaster. Thank you, Lord, for this warning and lead us to be peace makers not trouble makers.

- 13 - How grievous it is that men or women with evil in their hearts are targeting policemen and policewomen to kill just because they wear the uniform and are sworn to protect the lives of all citizens. There have been terror attacks in Europe, the Middle East, and in the United States by certain groups who are out to destroy others who do not share their beliefs religious or otherwise. Now, it would seem that this kind of terror is becoming commonplace in our country. We grieve for all those who have lost loved ones in this 'war' against those who are trying to keep all citizens safe and secure. Heavenly Father, we pray for the families of all those who wear 'blue' and ask you to uphold them in the difficult days that lie ahead. We pray, too, for reason to prevail and that respect for all officers of the law and what they do to protect us all will be restored.
- 14 - *"The Angel of the Lord ... said to him (Gideon) 'the Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor,'"* Judges 6:15. He was addressing the 'chicken hearted' Gideon who said, *"How can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh and I am least in my family,"* Judges 6:15. God was building up Gideon so he could accomplish with God's help what no man, weak or strong, could accomplish by himself. Holy God, we need that kind of encouragement, too. By ourselves we can do so little.
- 15 - *"Do not be overcome with evil but overcome evil with good,"* Romans 12:21. Many might say, 'yes, that is a great idea', but in reality, it seldom works'. However, the Bible tells us that the reason it doesn't work is because it is seldom tried. Lamb of God, You are our example. By going to the cross, you overcame the evil of hell with the promise of everlasting life. Thank you, for this indescribable gift.
- 16 - *"So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them,"* Genesis 1:27. The evolutionists don't buy this and public schools do not teach it. Who is right? I base my stand regarding evolution and creationism on Biblical truth. 2 Timothy 3:16 says, *"All scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."* Thank you, Lord, for your Word.
- 17 - *"Nor was there anyone among them who lacked,"* Acts 4:34. This is how Luke described the early Christian Church. Can we say the same about our church today? We probably and sadly say "no." We have lost the ability and sensitivity to help others especially those whose needs have not been known. Alpha and Omega, help us to recognize and fill the needs of those around us so that it can be said of us, "Nor was there anyone among them who lacked."
- 18 - Nathan said to David, *"You are the man!,"* 2 Samuel 12:17. Nathan was pointing out to King David his sins of adultery and murder. Do you and I try to hide our sins from ourselves and from public view? Yes, that sin is probably almost universal. Head of the Church, we cannot hide our sin and failures from you. Forgive our sins and restore us to right relationship with both you and our fellow man.
- 19 - *"After the earthquake a fire but the Lord was not in the fire and after the fire a still small voice,"* 1 Kings 19:12. When we people want to get our point across, we often increase the sound of our voices. But, God doesn't usually do that. He wants us to settle down and be quiet so that we can give Him our undivided attention. Word of God, come to us in our quiet time. Help us to tune out the world around us so that we can tune in to what you have to share with us.
- 20 - When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble comes wisdom. When we 'toot your own horn' as the saying goes we become spiritually deaf. Master, there is a touch of pride in all of us at times and we need your help to overcome it. Come, replace our pride with humility and instill the godly wisdom we need.
- 21 - *"Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier ...,"* Philippians 2:25. Here Paul is saying some great things about this man who worked alongside of him. What would others say about you? My Lord, I am not so concerned about what others say about me (good or bad) but what do YOU say about me? May I live up to your standards not man's.
- 22 - *"The thing I greatly fear has come upon me,"* Job 3:25. Apparently Job had been very successful and had a rewarding life. Yet, he feared that he would lose everything he had. Do you have things you fear? Redeemer, tough times are bound to come to all of us in life but, thanks to You and Job's story, we can be confident that the end will be greater than the beginning. Thank you, for the encouragement that comes from Job's story.