

Thank you for praying for Hong Kong, a place in troubled waters, even in the midst of dealing with the pandemic. The world has been watching Hong Kong again -- with the past 16 months of social movements.

We recall what happened twenty-five years ago. We had just transferred here from Singapore. Major events were happening to Hong Kong. At the time, many international evangelists visited Hong Kong to encourage God's people. We participated in more large-scale prayer meetings in the first two years of our arrival than in previous years up to that time. We saw God's favor as local Christians prayed, 2 Chronicles 7:14. God allowed 1997 to be a peaceful transition, large stadium evangelistic meetings could still be held, and more missionaries were sent.

This year, the landscape is unique again. A new set of challenges. Revival meetings and prayer meetings have been held online by local people. Hong Kong Christians are gradually adapting to pray together online. Believers inside China, already accustomed to restrictions, are making good use of the internet to shepherd and lead many people to believe in the Lord. Once again, our God has already planned things out ahead of disasters.

A Christian scholar uses Lazarus as a metaphor for Hong Kong: He was ill, died, and then resurrected. He urged Hong Kong people to accept that the old Hong Kong is gone. Hong Kong people have done what they could (including speaking up for justice). It's time for people to calm down, examine the past and dream constructively for the future. In the past, Hong Kong was sick (for example, the previous generation chased money and didn't really love Hong Kong). But now, young people really love Hong Kong very much. They should take advantage of the present to consider their ways, to let go of the past, and prepare for the future. Others say that the most precious thing in Hong Kong is the people, who are resilient, positive, indomitable, and blend the Chinese and the British cultural advantages. Hong Kong people are unique and irreplaceable.

Please pray for the young people who have left Hong Kong. In a prayer meeting a pastor prayed: Lord, Hong Kong is like five loaves and two fishes. Please accept it and make it a blessing to nations. May the Lord revive Hong Kong churches, especially young people. May it be like the eighth chapter of Acts. May the ones who leave, have faith and be cross-cultural mission minded; may the ones who stay, live out Christ, and serve the community.

We are grateful for being able to stay in Hong Kong with brothers and sisters during this tough time. We thank God, and have been married for 50 years, two months ago. Our older granddaughter started her college life at BIOLA this month. Although she can only take classes online, she is very excited. Our younger granddaughter raises birds, loves to draw, and has been successfully cultivating orchids.

Take care and may God bless you everyday.