

“Prayer is warfare. Just getting to prayer is half the battle; staying there is the other half.” Anonymous

“On the basis of the record of the whole Bible, I would say that prayer and fasting combined constitute the strongest single weapon that has been committed to God’s believing people.” Derek Prince

“The greatest impact any of us can have on Christ’s global cause is to be involved in consistent prayer for the whole world and to teach other Christians how to pray this way.” David Bryant

The Strategic Prayer Initiative –Biographies for ChinaAid Prayer Requests: August/September 2019

This guide accompanies the one-page *ChinaAid Prayer Requests Guide* by giving more background on the requests listed.

***ChinaAid** is an international non-profit Christian human rights organization committed to promoting religious freedom and the rule of law in China.

The Pastors and Elders:

1, 2, and 9. Pastor Wang Yi Elder Li Yingqiang, Early Rain Covenant Church in Chengdu

Since December 9, 2018, the local police detained over 160 Christians in Early Rain Covenant Church, including pastor, elder, coordinator, and Christians. The church was forced closed by government seal. The students in the church college and the adopted orphans were forced to go back. Pastor Wang Yi and his wife Jiang Rong were charged with “subversion of state power.” The charge was changed to “picking quarrels and provoking troubles.” Elder Li Yingqiang was charged with “inciting subversion of state power.” Other Christians were charged with the crime of “picking quarrels and provoking troubles”. One young lady had a miscarriage because of the long-term questioning in police station. Persecution is continuing by detaining other Christians even causing Christians to worshiping outside. Pastor Wang Yi and his wife are still being detained by the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). His 74 year old mother, who is caring for Wang Yi’s son, was hurt by a cop when he failed to steal her bank passcode. The cop cursed at her furiously and maliciously, pulling her hair, and hitting her. The family’s bank account was frozen by the Chengdu Police Station before Chinese New Year. On January 13, Brother Qiu, couple Jianqing and Zhixue, and Sister Haiyan returned back home after fifteen days in administrative detention. Preacher Cheng Zhangchun was paroled and forced back to his hometown. On January 25, Li Bing, wife of Deacon Ge Yingfeng; Zhang Xinyue, the wife of Elder Li Yingqiang; and Xiao Hongliu, the wife of Qin Defu, all found their bank accounts frozen and they knew it had been done by the Qingyang Public Security Station of Chendu Public Security Bureau. On February 15, the wives of Elder Qin Defu, Elder Su Bingsen, Brother Dai Zhichao, and Brother Shen Bing were detained by the police after they took their kids to play outside. On February 22, the wife of Elder Su Bingsen and four children were evicted from their rental apartment by the local police. The Chendu Detention Center did not allow Pastor Wang Yi to meet with his lawyer. The police responsible for Wang Yi’s case said the meeting with the lawyer will be arranged before the end of the seven-month anniversary of his arrest. Elder Su Bingsen was released on parole on April 18. After the worship on Easter Day in the park, four Christians and three children were questioned and made a record at the Longtansi Police Station in Chengdu for 12 hours on April, 21. Praise the Lord that Yi’s wife Jiang Rong was released on June 10 on bail and under surveillance, living at her brother’s house and reunited with her son Shuya. Nobody else can visit her. Twenty-three members have been released on bail pending trial, and 5 are still in detention in July. These five detention persons are Pastor Wang Yi (charged with “inciting to subvert state power, in secret detention”), Elder Li Yingqiang (charged with “picking quarrels and provoking trouble”), Elder Qin Defu (charged with “illegal business operations”), Deacon Ge Yingfeng (charged with “illegal business operations”) and Brother Gou Zhongcan (secretly detained at his hometown in Bazhong, Sichuan Province). Additionally, other ERCC members are being tortured to getting false confession so they can then charge Pastor Wang Yi and punish him more severely.

3. Pastor John Cao

John Cao is a Chinese pastor and a resident of the U.S. who focused his efforts on educational endeavors among Myanmar’s minority groups. On March 5, 2017, he was seized while crossing the border between Myanmar and China, which he has done many times before without consequence. This time, however, he was seized by public security officials in Yunnan and charged with “organizing illegal border crossing.” He has since been sentenced to seven years in prison on the charge of “organizing illegal border crossings.” His wife, Jamie Powell, and two sons, Amos and Ben, are American citizens residing in North Carolina. Cao decided to appeal the hearing and will be set up in August. However, the court continues to move the appeal hearing which is a cruel method of torture.

4. Elder Hu Shigen

Hu Shigen, a pro-democracy activist and renowned church elder, currently waits out a seven-and-a-half year sentence on falsified charges of “subversion of state power.” Following his graduation from China’s elite Peking University, Hu took a professorial position within the capital. In the wake of the notorious Tiananmen Square crackdown, when the Communist Party massacred groups of pro-democracy students and advocates who had converged in front of an ancient royal palace to call for political reform, Hu joined a fledgling political movement. When China tried to stifle news of the violence, Hu helped plan to disseminate fliers on the tragedy’s third anniversary and served 16 years in prison for leading a so-called “counterrevolutionary ring.” Following his incarceration, he led several underground churches and served as an elder. Hu vanished during a nationwide crackdown on human rights defenders on July 9, 2015. On January 8, 2016, his family received an arrest notice stating that authorities suspected him of “subversion of state power.” Using a picture of his baptism as evidence of his supposed guilt, a court convicted him and sentenced him to seven-and-a-half years in prison on August 3, 2016. He suffered acute heart disease but was blocked from seeing the doctor outside the prison.

The Pastors and Elders—continued:

5. Pastor Guo Pingxi

Pastor Guo Pingxi, a stalwart defender of human rights and religious freedom in China, has worked effortlessly to ensure that Christians are prepared to legally defend their faith. When embarking on travel to the United States, officials detained and beat him, leaving his leg badly injured. He is currently residing in the U.S. with his daughter; his wife and child are looking to leave China soon to join them—recently having the interview with the U.S. embassy in China for their asylum applications. Pastor Guo Pingxi got a new job working for foundation of Chinese churches in the United States and is planting Chinese churches in Virginia.

6. Pastor Yang Hua

Yang Hua, another pastor of Huoshi Church, defended a church hard drive from confiscation during a raid on his congregation on December 9, 2015, and has been imprisoned since then for that one brave act. During the more than two years he has been behind bars, authorities changed his charge several times, and his supposed crime has been everything from “obstructing justice” to “divulging state secrets,” for which he was formally arrested in January 2016. As the defense and prosecution prepared to present his case to a Chinese tribunal, the prosecutors decided to try to force a confession from him using torture and threatening him and his family with death. Yang refused and recounted his experiences to his lawyers, who sent them to ChinaAid for publication, and submitted lawsuits that demanded the prosecutors be criminally penalized, since torture to extort a confession is illegal according to Chinese law. Instead of prosecuting them, however, China allowed them to preside over his case, which was tried in a court that had possible connections to a government headquarters specifically dedicated to persecuting Huoshi Church. Yang was sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison in January 2017 and developed painful ulcers on his legs that spread due to lack of adequate care. He could not walk because of the pain, and once the prison allowed him to visit the hospital, he was already in critical condition. His wife, Wang Hongwu, was permitted to speak with him for the first time in more than a year during his hospital stay and later reported that he was doing much better after the hospital discharged him. Yang was released from prison in June. He even began singing worship songs upon his release. In August, when he was travelling, he was taken and driven away and taken to the police station for detention. He suffers the disease of immune system. Yang Hua’s son just arrived in America in 2019. Pastor Yang Hua’s son, Enoch studies hard and is adjusting quickly to his new life. He is doing very well at his new school. Please pray for his son’s new life.

7. Pastor Zhang Shaojie

Pastor Zhang Shaojie of Nanle County Christian Church in China’s central Henan is currently serving a 12-year prison term for “gathering a crowd to disrupt the public order” and a fabricated fraud charge. Zhang served as the local head of the China Christian Council and Three-Self Patriotic Movement. He was initially detained on November 16, 2013, when authorities asked to meet with him at his church. Instead authorities bound Zhang and took him into custody. Authorities detained more than 20 church members, spanning from the day before Zhang’s detention to several days after his detention. The cause of the persecution is said to be a land dispute between the Nanle County government and the church. The church sent several groups to Beijing to petition higher authorities there after being unsatisfied with the outcome at the local level. Heavy persecution of the church continued well into the summer of 2014. On July 4, 2014, Zhang was sentenced to 12 years in prison for his charges, despite his lawyers’ arguments, which included the fact that police had essentially kidnapped the alleged victim of Zhang’s fraud case. On August 21, the Puyang Intermediate People’s Court rejected Zhang’s final appeal, leaving him with almost no chance of justice. His lawyers’ had repeatedly asked for a different court to hear the appeal due to the clear corruption of the Puyang Intermediate People’s Court, but to no avail. Zhang’s daughter, Esther Zhang, fled China with her small child and husband and is now residing in the U.S. Enemies destroyed the spirits of Pastor Zhang’s daughter and son-in-law; they are separated now. Pastor Zhang preached in the prison and was taken care of by the prisoners in the cells.

8. Pastor Bao Guohua and his wife Xing Wenxiang

Pastor Bao Guohua was a pastor of Zhejiang Chengguan Church. In the continued persecution of Christians, he was sentenced to 14 years in prison and his wife, Xing Wenxiang, was sentenced to 12 years on February 25, 2016. Another 10 people of the church were sentenced to probation ranging from 2 to 5 years—including a 3-year sentence for Bao Guohua’s son, Bao Chenxing. The authorities accused Bao Guohua and others of four counts of crimes including “occupational misappropriation”, “illegal business operations”, “disruption of social order” and “the hiding of financial certificates”. The so-called “illegal business operations” means that the church published a book and the authorities said it was illegal. In addition, the crime of “disturbing social order” was due to the protection of the church’s rights. Believers had petitioned and the government had resolved the situation. But now it referred to the crime of “disturbing social order.” In addition, once the religious bureau requested the presentation of financial vouchers, the authorities said that the church did not cooperate and refused it, so they were accused of “hiding financial documents.”

The Churches:

9. Early Rain Covenant Church in Chengdu, China

See number 1

10. Spring of Life Church in Chengdu, China

The police rushed in the Spring of Life Church and canceled the worship on January, 2019. The church is facing forced closure by the government. Please pray for peace for all the Christians in the church.

11. Shouwang Church in Beijing, China

Shouwang Church, established by Pastor Jin Tianming in Beijing in 1993, has been the target of government persecution since May 2008, when the government began to “rectify society” before the Olympic Games. The next year, the church’s landlord gave into official pressure and evicted Shouwang Church. In 2009, the church held two outdoor services in Haidian Park on November 1 and November 8, after which authorities allowed the church to resume indoor activities. However, the reprieve didn’t last. Following the church’s December 22 purchase of a 16,145-square foot floor of the Zhongguancun Daheng Technology Building in Beijing for 27 million Yuan (U.S. \$4.3 million), authorities pressured the space’s seller to keep the keys to the meeting place from Shouwang Church without explanation. The church was in and out of venues between May 2010 and March 2011. When their landlord at the time refused to renew their lease, the church resolved to hold outdoor worship services, beginning on April 10, 2011, in Beijing’s Haidian Park. Shouwang Church continued to meet in Haidian Park with hundreds of attendees—including government officers who routinely took a number of Christians into custody. Those who were detained during the church’s Sunday services were sometimes released after several hours but were more often placed under administrative detention for “disturbing public order,” with first-time detainees receiving a sentence of 5-7 days and repeat detainees receiving a 10-day sentence. Because of the constant pressure, Shouwang Church can no longer hold meetings in the park. In 2014 alone, approximately 100 church members were administratively detained, and more than 10 were beaten by police. Many of the church’s pastors have been under house arrest for years. The church applied for government permission to register as a [state-sanctioned] Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) church in 2006 under the condition that the church retain some authority, specifically the authority to choose to continue to have God as the center of the church rather than the Communist Party of China, but the government denied the request. Many church members have faced the loss of their homes and jobs due to official pressure towards the Christians’ landlords and employers. Despite the continuous persecution Shouwang Church has endured, church members said in a 2014 letter that they “solemnly declare here[in] that Shouwang Church will never flinch just because the government departments take severe administrative measures against us.” Beijing continued to suppress Shouwang Church, formally banning it and closing all of its branches in late March 2019. The officials alleged that they had carried out religious activities without registering with the government, even though the church had attempted to register in 2006 but was rejected on the grounds that Pastor Jin Tianming had not undergone government training as a clergy member.

The renowned human rights lawyers who live in the jails or detention centers:

12. Wang Quanzhang

Wang vanished into police custody on August 3, 2015, during a nationwide crackdown on human rights lawyers known as the 709 Crackdown. Even though many of the lawyers seized in the 709 case went missing, Wang is the only one whose whereabouts are still unknown. In China, it is illegal to hold someone for six months without a charge, so the officials are both grossly violating Wang’s rights and their own law by keeping him behind bars. He has not been permitted to see lawyers. His wife, Li Wenzu, has advocated for him relentlessly. She recently became a Christian due to the persistent love and support of the Christian wives of other human rights lawyers caught up in the 709 case, and she is single-handedly raising the couple’s young son. Please pray that she will grow in her faith and be encouraged by those around her and that her husband and son will become Christians. There was information that he was alive in July. His case was tried on December 26, 2018 and the verdict is pending. There hasn’t been any information about him from the detention center in over 3 ½ years. Pray that his doggedly persistent wife Li Wenzu and 5-year-old son Quanquan feel God’s love and protection. Pray for his faith in Jesus, peace of God and his health after being tortured in the detention center. There was no case in the computer system of Tianjin Higher People’s Court when his wife, Li Wenzu, tried to ask for the trial archive. Later, his sister, Wang Quanxiu, was informed that Lawyer Wang Quanzhang was in Linyi Prison in Shandong Province. His wife, Li Wenzu, was not allowed to meet with him, and the official excuse was that the meeting room was being updated and was not fit for holding meetings. However, Wang Quanzhang’s wife Li Wenzu finally met him on June 28 in prison. Wang physical and psychological condition has changed a lot since he entered prison, likely due to torture.

12. Yu Wensheng

Yu was a human rights lawyer focused on the Falun Gong practitioners and farmers who lost their land. Yu was the lawyer for Lawyer Wang Quanzhang in the 709 Crackdown. He bravely fought the illegal detention of Lawyer Wang Quanzhang. But later, in early 2018, he was disbarred and lost his law firm. His wife Xu Yan searched for international help from many embassies in Beijing. She is bravely facing illegal government actions. As of May 1, 2019, Lawyer Yu Wensheng has been detained 495 days and has not been permitted to meet with his lawyer, his wife, or his son.

The renowned human rights lawyers who live in the jails or detention centers—continued:

13. Li Yuhan

Li was a human rights lawyer and the lawyer for Lawyer Wang Yu in 709 Crackdown. She gave great support for the wives of lawyers involved in the 709 Crackdown. She has been detained since 2017. In the detention center, she was seriously tortured physically and mentally, even though she has high blood pressure and has had a heart attack and other cardiovascular diseases. She was not allowed to go outside detention center to see a doctor. She is still being held without charge.

13. Zhang Kai

Serving under a Beijing law firm, Zhang Kai has long been a stalwart defender of human rights, famously relocating to Wenzhou, Zhejiang, to take on the cases of more than 100 churches affected by a province-wide cross demolition campaign. On the evening of August 25, 2015, government agents broke into the church compound where Zhang and his two assistants were living and took them into police custody. For six months, Zhang went missing, languishing in an unofficial prison known as a “black jail.” On February 25, he resurfaced on a television broadcast, where authorities forced him to confess to disturbing public order and endangering state secrets. A day later, he was criminally detained but released on bail soon afterward. His case has been transferred to the Wenzhou procuratorate for prosecution, and he is currently under house arrest. He has been summoned to the police station several times for questioning since being put under house arrest. Continue to pray for him to be filled with encouragement and hope. His WeChat account was closed after he published an article “All on a Boat” about the fake vaccine cases. The proceeds from the article were supposed to fund legal help for the victims of the vaccine problem.

14. Gao Zhisheng

Gao Zhisheng is a Christian human rights lawyer who has been imprisoned multiple times since officials revoked his legal license in 2005. He has been kidnapped and tortured repeatedly and lost many of his teeth due to poor dental care. Officials released Gao in 2014 but kept him under close government surveillance at his home. Under the watchful eyes of his government minders, he penned a book titled *Unwavering Convictions*, in which he chronicles his torture and forecasts the hopes he has for China’s future. After successfully sneaking the book out of the country, ChinaAid partnered with the Taiwan Association for China Human Rights to make it available in Taiwan and Hong Kong and also secured a publication deal with The American Bar Association and the Carolina Academic Press for its English release. Some sympathizers snuck Gao out of his house earlier this year and hid him successfully for 23 days. A police operation later discovered their whereabouts, and Gao vanished into police custody. His rescuers, Shao Zhongguo and Li Fawang, were also detained. Li has since been released, and he recounted severe mistreatment at the hands of the authorities, such as not being given basic necessities or treatment for his diabetes. Gao is still missing. Originally, Beijing authorities claimed that he was under the control of their secret service agents, but he has yet to be seen. Gao did manage to get news to the outside world that this imprisonment is worse than his previous one. In 2009, Gao’s wife and two children relocated to the United States for their own safety, but Gao elected to remain in China, saying that there was still human rights work to be done. While he has not been found, his daughter Grace Geng was able to plead with German Chancellor Angela Merkel via a letter to help locate her father. He has not been heard from since he was kidnapped in August of last year and his location remains unknown. Human rights activities such as “Find Gao Zhisheng by Walking 10,000 Miles” have been occurring since September. As of May 1, 2019, Lawyer Gao Zhisheng has been missing for 625 days.

14. Tang Jingling

Tang Jingling is a human rights lawyer whose clients have included villagers fighting government corruption and victims of illegal land appropriation. In 2006, Tang’s license to practice law in China was suspended, after which he became involved in a non-violent civil disobedience movement in China. Over the years, Tang experienced frequent police harassment and interrogation. In 2012, he was detained for five days following his work investigating the death of human rights defender Mr. Li Wangyang. Tang was arrested on suspicion of “inciting subversion of state power” in the weeks leading up to the 25th anniversary of the Chinese government’s crackdown on the 1989 student protests in Tiananmen Square. Tang’s joint trial with two other prominent political advocates was held in July 2015, after the three had been detained for more than a year; however, no verdict was reached when the trial concluded. Tang’s wife, Wang Yanfang, has traveled to Washington, D.C., with ChinaAid delegations to advocate for her husband’s freedom. She is waiting for the immigration interview for her asylum. Lawyer Tang Jingling has been out of prison since April 29, 2019. Please pray for his physical and psychological healing.

The Chinese human rights lawyers disbarred by the government:

15. Human rights lawyers are facing disbarment or are already disbarred

In the year of 2018, the human rights lawyers suffered the second wave of persecution after the “709 Crackdown”. This persecution is a continuation of the “709”. Lawyers might be revoked, canceled, or suspended from practicing, or being investigated, or being “understated”, or illegally obstructed by the judicial administrative agency, and might not be employed by a law firm. From the arrest of Lawyer Yu Wensheng at the beginning of 2018 to the hearing of Lawyer Liu Zhengqing at the end of 2018, the list of human rights lawyers who were suppressed and persecuted in 2018 include Liu Zhengqing, Lin Qilei, Sui Muqing, Wen Donghai, Ma Lianshun, Qin Yongpei, Xie Yanyi, Chen Keyun, Li Heping, Wang Yu, Liu Xiaoyuan, Zhou Lixin, Cheng Hai, Hu Linzheng, Zeng Wu, Chang Weiping, He Wei, Chen Jiahong, Li Jinxing, Yu Pingjian, and Yang Jinzhu. Please pray for their job retentions as most are losing their attorney licenses.

16, 17, 18 Human Rights Activists Being Persecuted By The Chinese Government:

16. Qin Yongmin

Qin Yongmin (1953 -), is a Chinese social activist, human rights activist, politician, dissident, one of the founders of the Chinese Democracy Party, and the leader of the Chinese civil opposition. Qin Yongmin was one of the "old political prisoners" in mainland China since the late 1970s. In order to uphold his own ideas, in order to exercise his speech, publication, association, and basic human rights, including the formation of the party, he has been "legally summoned, monitored and residency, administrative detention, containment review, reeducation through labor, criminal detention, arrest and sentence, imprisonment, etc." "[These are] ...all illegal arrests and detentions." In 43 years, from 1970 to 2012, he was arrested, detained 39 times and indicted for 23 years. He has become one of the longest political prisoners in China since the Deng Xiaoping era. In 1998, he publicly initiated the establishment of the Hubei Provincial Preparatory Committee of the Chinese Democratic Party. He was subsequently arrested by the police and sentenced to 12 years in prison for "subversion of state power." He was released in November 2010. In January 2015, he was administratively detained at the Wuhan Second Detention Center for "accepting foreign media interviews and writing too many articles." His wife, Zhao Suli, was also detained and still missing. In June 2016, he was prosecuted by the People's Procuratorate of Wuhan Municipality because he was "suspected of inciting subversion of state power." The indictment stated that "Qin Yongmin wrote articles and published books on the one hand to realize his 'diversified democratic politics'. The political objectives of 'national reconciliation, human rights supremacy, benign interaction, peaceful transformation', determine basic policies, processes and strategic considerations, strategies and methods, and organize and implement a series of activities aimed at subverting state power." On the morning of July 11, 2018, the Hubei Qin Yongmin case, which lasted for three and a half years, was publicly pronounced in the third instance of the Wuhan Intermediate Court. Qin Yongmin was sentenced to 13 years in prison for subversion of state power and deprived of political rights for 3 years. The details of the case and the reasons for the judgment were not explained.

16. Huang Qi

Huang Qi (1963 -), together with his wife Zeng Li, founded of the "June 4 Skynet" website, and was imprisoned for online speech. He established the "Tianwang Tracing Office" in 1998 and the "June 4 Skynet" website in 1999. As the website also published various articles criticizing politics, it aroused the attention of the Chinese authorities. On April 15, 2000, with the help of a U.S. network service provider, Skynet website reopened. Due to the increasingly sharp voices of Skynet in current political and public comments, Huang Qi was arrested by the police on June 3, 2000, the day before the eleventh anniversary of the June 4th incident. Nearly three years after his arrest, on May 9, 2003, the Chengdu Intermediate People's Court sentenced Huang Qi to five years in prison for "inciting subversion of state power." On December 31, 2006, Huang Qi reorganized the June 4th Network as the China Skynet Human Rights Center and founded the first comprehensive human rights organization in mainland China. On November 28, 2016, Huang Qi was taken away from his home by the police. On December 7, Huang Qi was detained in criminal detention at the Mianyang Detention Center, claiming that Huang Qi was formally arrested for allegedly "unlawfully providing state secrets for overseas." Huang Qi's 85-year-old mother, Pu Wenqing, publicly accused the detainees of beating Huang Qi in prison. During the trial, Huang Qi was not allowed to go to the bathroom. It was also said that Huang Qi was terminally ill. Recently, his physical condition deteriorated and his life was awkward. He called on various human rights organizations and international organizations. The society participated in the rescue. On the evening of December 7, 2018, Huangmu took the train to Beijing West Railway Station. When she was preparing to petition, she was surrounded by Sichuan Weiwei personnel. It was suspected that she was being taken away by the Sichuan Neijiing government personnel. On January 14, 2019, in the Mianyang Intermediate Court of Sichuan, Huang Qi's case of committing the crime of illegally providing secrets abroad and the crime of leaking state secrets was held in a secret court.

16. Wang Bingzhang

Wang Bingzhang (1947-), Christian, permanent resident of the United States, politician of the Chinese democracy movement, is now in prison. In 1979, he received his Ph.D. in medical philosophy from the McGill University School of Medicine in Canada. He was the first person to receive a doctorate in North America after the founding of the People's Republic of China. In the same year, the overseas Chinese democracy publication "China Spring" was founded. In 1983, Wang Bingzhang founded the "China Democratic Solidarity Alliance", the first democratic movement organization overseas, to serve as the first and second presidents. In 1989, he participated in the creation of the China Liberal Democratic Party and served as the second president. In January, 1998, he sneaked into mainland of China to promote the organization of democratic activities. Two weeks later, he was arrested and deported by the CCP. In February, 1998, he participated in the creation of the China Democratic Justice Party, serving as a spokesperson and advisor to the Council of the China Democracy Movement Cadre School. In June, he served as an advisory member of the China Democracy Party Overseas Preparatory Committee and Working Committee. In February 2000, he served as an advisor to the Overseas Headquarters of the China Democracy Party. In June 2002, Wang Bingzhang was kidnapped to a ship in China near the Vietnamese border and was arrested by the police on Chinese territory. In February 2003, the Shenzhen Intermediate People's Court of Guangdong Province sentenced Wang Bingzhang to life imprisonment for Taiwan's espionage activities and organization of leading terrorist organizations. He is currently serving his sentence at Beijiang Prison in Shaoguan. He has been held incommunicado by the prison authorities for a long time, and no one is allowed to communicate with him. He has suffered strokes many times. The prison guards of the prison are also changed every six months. His book is "The Road to China's Democratic Revolution - Questions and Answers on China's Democratization Movement", published in 1998, in the form of questions and answers to questions about democracy, strategy, reform or revolution. There are two major characteristics: First, the use of popular examples, the profound theory of democracy is expressed in a simple way, people with junior high school can understand. Second, it has a detailed introduction to the actual operation of the democratization movement and has strong practicality. On January 9, 2019, Wang Tianan, the daughter of Wang Bingzhang, and a Canadian citizen, flew to China from Canada with a valid visa to visit her father. She had not seen him for ten years. However, Wang Tianan was arrested immediately after she disembarked at Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport and was deported.

16, 17, 18 The Human Rights Activists Being Persecuted By The Chinese Government—continued:

17. Zhu Yufu

Zhu Yufu, a veteran political activist and a Christian, served a seven-year prison term for “inciting subversion of state power.” Previously, Zhu has been twice imprisoned for a total of nine years. Zhu’s activism dates back to the first pro-democracy movement in Communist China: Democracy Wall which started in Beijing in 1978. Zhu was one of the founders of the Democracy Wall movement in his native Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang province. In 1979, he founded April 5 Monthly, a major pro-democracy publication. In 1998, he was one of the founders of China Democracy Party and served as general secretary of Standing Working Group of Zhejiang Preparatory Committee of China Democracy Party and a member of the Preparatory Committee of National Preparatory Committee. Zhu’s political activities led to his conviction on November 2, 1999, of trying to “subvert state power”, for which he was sentenced to seven years in prison. Following his 2006 release, Zhu was arrested again in 2007 and was sentenced to two years on a contrived charge of obstructing government business. On March 5, 2011, Zhu was arrested once more, this time for a poem he wrote and distributed online around the time of the Arab Spring protests called “It’s Time,” that called on people to take to the streets. Zhu Yufu has been released from prison. Pray for healing and the continuation of his ministry. His daughter Zhu Li went to the United States last July as a refugee.

17. Liu Xianbin

Liu Xianbin, who uses the pen name Wan Xianming, is a human rights activist, China Democracy Party organizer, and writer and signer of Charter 08 (a manifesto calling for reform of China’s human rights). He is serving a 10-year prison term. Liu was first arrested on April 5, 1991, for his involvement in the June 4, 1989, Tiananmen Square protests. He was held in Beijing’s infamous Qingcheng prison, where he served 2 1/2 years for “counter-revolutionary propaganda and incitement.” Liu was detained again in July 1995 after he participated in a petition drive entitled “Drawing Lessons from Blood and Promoting Democracy and Rule of Law,” with Wang Dan and Liu Xiaobo. In March 1998, Liu wrote an open letter to the Ninth National People’s Congress, demanding the improvement of human rights. The same year, the China Democracy Party was founded and Liu set up the Sichuan branch in the southwestern Sichuan province’s capital, Chengdu. In early 1999, Liu was detained for a month in the Beijing Detention Center. He was sent home and put under house arrest. On July 7, he was criminally detained in Suining. He was convicted of “subversion of state power” on August 6, 1999, by the Suining Intermediate People’s Court, and sentenced to 13 years imprisonment and three years’ deprivation of political rights. He was released early on November 6, 2008 for good behavior. He was detained again on June 27, 2010, and sentenced to a 10-year prison term on March 25, 2011, for “inciting subversion of state power” because of articles criticizing Chinese communist authorities, which he submitted to overseas websites and magazines. He also received a two-year deprivation of political rights and four months of probation. Liu is currently imprisoned in Chuanzhong Prison in Sichuan province. In September 2011, Liu’s teenage daughter, Chen Fang, fled China alone and arrived in the United States. She is a university student now.

17. Guo Quan

Guo Quan is currently serving a 10-year prison term for “subversion of state power.” Guo was an associate professor at Nanjing Normal University until he was dismissed based on the criticism he published condemning the Chinese Communist government and an open letter to then-President Hu Jintao, calling for a “democratic government based on multi-party elections that serves the interests of the common folk.” Much of the criticism concerned the government’s handling of the 2008 Sichuan earthquake. Guo also participated in a campaign to protect the rights of demobilized military officers. On November 13, 2008, Guo was arrested and charged with “subversion of state power.” He was sentenced to 10 years in prison and is serving his sentence in Pukou Prison in Nanjing. His wife and son fled to the United States on January 23, 2012, where they are appealing for international help to secure Guo’s release.

18. Liu Ping

Liu Ping, a female grassroots civil rights activist in China and member of the New Citizens’ Movement, is currently serving a 6½ year prison sentence for several charges. Liu first gained attention when she campaigned to be a local delegate in the National People’s Congress without government backing in 2011. In 2013, Liu was arrested for “illegal assembly,” “gathering a crowd to disrupt public order,” and “using a cult to undermine law enforcement” following her part in organizing a demonstration asking for transparency among Chinese officials about their income. Liu was arrested again in June 2014, just before the 25th anniversary of the government crackdown in Tiananmen Square terrorist. She was sentenced to 6½ years in prison for “using a cult to undermine law enforcement,” “gathering a crowd to disrupt public order,” and “picking quarrels and provoking troubles.”

18. Li Chang

Two days before China officially banned Falun Gong, a peaceful spiritual practice that the Communist Party labels a cult, Li Chang, a retired public security agent, was coercively summoned by authorities on July 20, 1999, and put under residential surveillance for three months until his official arrest on October 19, 1999. Amnesty International reported that Li had confessed to his involvement with Falun Gong and expressed remorse. However, a lack of transparency concerning the conditions of his detention causes speculation about the validity of the confession. On December 26, 1999, Li was tried alongside three other former government officials, who were suspected of Falun Gong involvement, including Wang Zhiwen. The trial, which was nationally broadcast, lasted nine hours and included confessions from the defendants. The four were charged with “organizing and using a heretical organization to undermine implementation of the law,” “organizing and using a heretical organization to cause death”—which was a charge applied to alleged activities perpetrated by Falun Gong as a whole, rather than activities committed by the defendants—and “illegally obtaining state secrets.” Li was accused of setting up “39 command posts, more than 1,900 training centers, and more than 280,000 contact posts.” Li was sentenced to 25 years in prison, but the sentence was later reduced to 18 years. He is currently serving his sentence in Qianjin Prison in China’s northern Tianjin Municipality. Pray for his safety and that he comes to know Jesus, while in prison.

16, 17, 18 The Human Rights Activists Being Persecuted By The Chinese Government—continued:

18. Other human rights activists or dissidents

Liu Feiyue, Yan Jianghua, Sun Lin and others were arrested for publishing statements about freedom. Mr. Xu Lin insisted on creating a free song. In December 2018, he was sentenced to three years in prison for harassment. In the year of 2018, the dissident woman Dong Yaoqiong disappeared inexplicably because of the ink on a portrait of Xi Jinping. Sun Mengyu, a master's graduate from Sun Yat-Sen University, was involved in the workers' rights protection activities of Shenzhen Christie Company and was missing. Yue Wei, a female graduate of Peking University, and Yang Shuhan, a female student at Renmin University of China, expressed their support for the protection of the workers of Christie's company and were missing. Zhang Pancheng, a security guard at Peking University, boldly took a video and showed his political views and disappeared. They are blocked from being visited by the lawyers and family members.

19, 20, 21 Families Living As Refugees In The USA Now:

19. Jin Bianling (Linda) and her daughter

Linda is the wife of Jiang Tianyong, one of the most famous human rights lawyers of China. He went in and out the jails many times because of his strong belief of human rights protection. Jiang Tianyong was sentenced to two years in jail. He was forced to eat handfuls of unknown medicine every day. Jiang Tianyong was released from prison on February 27. He is in house arrest in his hometown in Luoshan, Henan Province. He can't sit normally because the police broke his spine. His wife and daughter were rescued by ChinaAid to America in May of 2013. Her daughter was distracted for some unknown reasons in her high school studies. Please pray for the spiritual growth of this family! Linda and her daughter began to go to church in California. Please pray that the strength from God can keep up with their steps to know and love God.

19. Li Aijie (Alison) and her son Matthew

Li Aijie is the wife of imprisoned dissident Zhang Haitao and the mother to their young son. As she continued to advocate for her husband's release, authorities pressured her family, even intimidating her 80-year-old mother and causing her brothers' employers to threaten them with suspension from work if she petitioned again. To alleviate the pressure, the family begged her to divorce Zhang, but she refused, so her siblings beat her brutally on October 9, 2017. By the time she escaped, she had a black eye, suffered from a headache and nausea, and suspected brain injury. Zhang was sentenced to 19 years in prison and deprived of political rights for five years and fined 120,000 yuan (U.S. \$18,000) for sending 69 WeChat and 205 Twitter messages pushing for human rights in China, subscribing to and writing for the Chinese news source Boxun and Voice of America, accepting media interviews from overseas organizations, and discussing Urumqi's condition during a politically sensitive time. He was initially charged with "inciting racial hatred and discrimination," and officials froze his bank accounts and confiscated his property. He was formally arrested on June 31, 2016, for "picking quarrels and provoking troubles," and the charge was changed to "inciting subversion of state power" on November 18, 2016, at which point government personnel also accused him of "providing information to foreign powers." Li and her son were rescued and arrived in the United States on Christmas Eve of 2017. Alison received her learner's driver license and practiced how to drive. She has had ESL classes online to improve her English skills. Her father passed away in the end of last year. Alison and her son moved to San Francisco in February, and she has a new job there. Alison works in a daycare center, and Matthew is cared for in the same daycare center. Praise God that Li Aijie obtained her driver's license. Please pray for the successful transition of the family.

20. Ouyang Manping (Hannah), three kids Xinyi, Grace, and Joshua

Hannah is the wife of Pastor Su Tianfu. Su Tianfu is the pastor of Huoshi Church, which is the largest non-governmental church in Guiyang, the capital city of Guizhou Province. After their church had been serially targeted by the government, Su and his fellow pastor, Yang Hua, received a notice in May 2017 that they were being fined more than \$1,000,000, which authorities alleged they had received in "illegal income." In truth, that amount of money was donated by the church members in the form of offerings and had only ever been used on church-related expenses. He and Pastor Yang Hua (recently released from prison) are appealing the unjust fine of more than \$1,000,000. Pastor Su Tianfu received a one year prison sentence with two years of reprieve and another six months of house arrest with the charge of intentionally divulging state secrets on May 11. His wife and family moved to a town just outside of Midland, Texas and attended an event recently for rescued families. His wife attends an ESL class online. She has a car and can drive. Her oldest teenaged son, Xinyi, is struggling with his English in high school and has no friend. Please pray that Hannah's English improves and for Xinyi's peaceful life in school and healing his trauma as soon as possible. Su Xinyi, the older son, still doesn't like his new life in Texas. Please pray that Xinyi will be uplifted.

19, 20, 21 Families Living As Refugees In The USA Now—continued:

20. Gloria Chen, and daughters named Jenny Xie and Kelly Xie

Human rights lawyer Xie Yang was seized during the 709 Crackdown on July 11, 2015. During his time in prison, he revealed that he had been tortured and the lawyers appointed by his family were blocked numerous times from meeting with him. On January 13, Xie wrote a declaration stating that he was not guilty, and, if he should confess to his subversion charges, it would be either due to continued torture or for the sake of his family. As such, his confession should not be regarded as evidence of his guilt, but rather evidence of the Chinese government's abuses. Xie did confess to his charge during his trial on May 8, 2017, and he vanished after the hearing. Shortly afterwards, authorities rented an apartment opposite Xie's and installed a gate in the hallway that could only be opened by a finger print scanner. The gate was removed after Xie's wife, Gloria Chen, told international media about it. He is currently allowed to move about Changsha so long as he provides officials with an update of his activities every four hours and seeks permission whenever he wishes to leave the city. Officials tail him when he leaves the apartment building, and cameras monitor the hallway outside his home. Gloria fled to the United States with the couple's daughters, Jenny and Kelly Xie, in March 2017. They are currently trying to study English and are adapting to life in America. They cannot return to China at this time. They all attended an event for rescued families. He was released from house arrest and he provides legal support to find Lawyers Wang Quanzhang and Yu Wensheng. He is limited in Mainland China and is prohibited to go outside of China. Pray that he would come to know Jesus, Gloria learns English online and in ESL classes in a church. Xie Yang lacks the opportunity to be close to Jesus. Jenny goes to church to worship and attends Sunday School. Please pray that she can keep up with the steps to know Jesus.

21. Family of Wang Qingying, Zeng Jieshan (Sarah), and two sons

Wang Qingying, (1982-) is a Chinese social activist, writer, Christian, one of the signatories of Charter 08. On January 29, 2016, the university teacher Wang Qingying with the human rights lawyer Tang Jingling, and freelance writer Yuan Xinting, were accused of "inciting subversion of state power" in court. The court sentenced him to two and a half years in prison. In July 2018, he came to the United States with the help of the ChinaAid Association. Wang Qingying often attends activities that criticize the Chinese Communist Party in Washington, D.C. Praise the Lord, that Wang Qingying has a job.

21. Zhao Fengsheng, the wife Quan Haiyan, and their daughter Sharon

Zhao Fengsheng established the "Chinese Farmers Association" and the "Peasant China Network" in Beijing after he paid attention to the issue of rights protection for migrant workers. In November 2013, he wrote a letter in the form of an open letter to an overseas website that lead to him being accused "criminal harm to public security by dangerous methods" and then the crime of "inciting subversion of state power." In the middle of the year, he was convicted of "squatting", sentenced to four years in prison, deprived of political rights for three years, and appealed to defend the original rights. At the end of April 2017, he was released from prison seven months in advance. The family successfully arrived in the United States for political asylum on May 31, 2018 with the help of the China Aid Association. Mr. Zhao's family moved to Houston, and their second daughter was born in February. Since January, they moved their home twice and will move again at the end of May. Please pray for job stability for Zhao Fengsheng and for the family's home. Praise the Lord that Zhao Fengsheng now has a job.

22, 23 Families That Their Husbands Passed Away:

22. Family of Yang Tianshui

Yang Tianshui quit his job as a celebrated journalist who covered the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests to focus on pro-democracy activities, helping found the China Democracy Federation in 1990. After suffering a series of arrests and spending more than 10 years behind bars, Yang was detained without a warrant and held incommunicado at the Dantu District Detention Center in Zhenjiang, Jiangsu province. On May 16, 2006, the Zhenjiang Intermediate Court sentenced him to 12 years in prison. Physicians found an aggressive tumor on Yang's brain on August 12, 2017. Months later, Yang languished in a hospital while his family fought for him to be able to travel abroad for treatment. The officials refused, and he died in November 2017.

22. Family of Li Baiguang

Li Baiguang is a renowned lawyer and Christian who continually defended the rights of others despite the constant threats he received himself. On October 17, a group of burly, government-hired gangsters kidnapped Li as he was entering a hotel in Wenling, Zhejiang, following his defense of individuals whose land had been illegally taken by the government. The men took him into a forest, where they beat him severely, threatening to behead and dismember him if he was not gone by 10:00 a.m. the next morning. They abandoned him in a field, and Li left the next morning. He filed a police report, and authorities told him they were investigating the case. However, on November 4, Li received an anonymous phone call that threatened his life once again. Unfortunately, Li was martyred in February of 2018. He will be remembered for his great work in speaking against injustices and his deep love for his Savior.

22, 23 Families That Their Husbands Passed Away—continued:

23. Liu Xia, Wife of Liu Xiaobo (2010 Nobel Peace Laureate)

Liu Xiaobo (December 28, 1955 - July 13, 2017) was a writer, literary critic, human rights activist, one of the main drafters of Charter 08, winner of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize, a lecturer in the Chinese Department of Beijing Normal University, the second and third president of the Independent Chinese PEN, and the editor-in-chief of the "Democracy China" online magazine. He was involved in Tiananmen Square Crackdown and was arrested and imprisoned. He has been repeatedly arrested and sentenced for his lifelong commitment to political reform and participation in the campaign to end the one-party dictatorship of the Communist Party of China. In 2010, Liu Xiaobo won the Nobel Peace Prize from the Norwegian Nobel Peace Prize Committee. Liu Xiaobo was also the only Nobel Prize winner in the history of Nobel Prizes who was never been able to obtain any personal freedom from the awards during his lifetime. In June 2017, Liu Xiaobo was admitted to the hospital for medical treatment due to the diagnosis of advanced liver cancer. He was subsequently treated in isolation from the outside world at the First Affiliated Hospital of China Medical University in Shenyang. At 17:35 on July 13, the hospital announced that Liu Xiaobo's condition had deteriorated and he died of multiple organ failures. He died at the age of 61 years. His body was cremated at about 6:30 on July 15, 2017 and was buried in the sea at noon that day. His wife, Liu Xia (1961-) is a poet, painter and photographer. She is a Chinese dissident with her husband. After Liu Xiaobo won the Nobel Prize in 2010, she was put on house-arrest by the government until July 10, 2018. After that time, she was allowed to leave China. Now she lives in Berlin, Germany. Liu Xia has had a good recovery from the physical and psychological aspects of her suffering. She continued her artwork again and had an exhibition in Germany with her friend, Artist Ai Weiwei.

23. Pastor Han's Wife

Pray for answers and justice for the wife of Pastor Han following his martyrdom at the hands of North Korean agents for his work rescuing North Korean refugees. Please pray for her protection.

Other Groups In Need Of Prayer:

24. Christians

Ask God to strengthen and help Chinese believers stand firm when facing detention or the churches destroying, or the rewriting of scripture by the government.

25. Uighur Muslims

Please pray as there are up to 3million Uighur Muslims unfairly imprisoned in "reeducation camps." Pray that they come to know Jesus.

26. China's President Xi Jinping

Pray for President Xi to come to know Christ and God would soften his heart.

27. Those in the Chinese government

Pray for individuals within the government of China to come to know Jesus through the witness of believers and to listen to the wisdom of the Lord and not the lies of the enemy.

28. China's secret police and police officers

Continue to pray that the secret police and other police officers would have an encounter with Jesus.

Other Groups In Need Of Prayer—continued:

29. Bob Fu

Bob (Xiqiu) Fu is the president and founder of China Aid and one of the leading voices in the world for persecuted faith communities in China. Fu was born and raised in mainland China and was a student leader during the Tiananmen Square demonstrations for freedom and democracy in 1989. Fu graduated from the School of International Relations at the People's (Renmin) University in Beijing and taught English to Communist Party officials at the Beijing Administrative College and Beijing Party School of the Chinese Communist Party from 1993-1996. Fu was also a house church leader in Beijing until he and his wife, Heidi, were imprisoned for two months for “illegal evangelism” in 1996. Bob and Heidi fled to the United States as religious refugees in 1997 and subsequently founded ChinaAid in 2002 to bring international attention to China’s gross human rights violations and to promote religious freedom and rule of law in China.

As president of ChinaAid, Fu has testified before the Congressional Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR), the Foreign Press Association, and the European Commission and European Union Parliament. Fu also regularly briefs the State Department and Members of Congress, including Members of the International Religious Freedom Caucus on the status of religious freedom and rule of law in China. In 2008, Fu was invited to the White House to brief President George W. Bush on religious freedom and human rights in China, and in 2011, the Nobel Prize Committee recognized Fu’s efforts with an invitation to attend the award ceremony for Nobel Laureate Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo.

Bob Fu has a Ph.D. from Durham University, U.K., graduated from the Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, and was awarded an honorary doctorate degree on Global Christian Leadership from Midwest University, where he has served as a distinguished professor on religion and public policy. Fu serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Chinese Law and Religion Monitor, a journal on religious freedom and the rule of law in China, and as a guest editor for Chinese Law and Government, a journal by University of California, Los Angeles. Please continue to pray for boundless growth in wisdom and discernment.

30. ChinaAid Board, Staff and Partners

Pray for physical protection, unity, and growth in the Lord for each of their partner organizations as they work together to further the cause of Christ, as well as for the individual members of ChinaAid’s staff. Pray for wisdom for each of their board members as they lead and advise the organization.

***ChinaAid is an international non-profit Christian
human rights organization
committed to promoting religious freedom and
the rule of law in China.**

(Source: *“Our Mission.” ChinaAid: The Mission, www.chinaaid.org/p/the-mission.html*)