Devotion by Annie Ching at the Wednesday Prayer Meeting on Feb 14, 2018 contrasting and complementing the bible verses against common greetings during Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year.

Valentine's Day Greetings

1. 訴不尽的千言万萬語, 永遠是我給你心底的愛和祝福.

Thousand words can never fully express my blessed and loving wishes for you from the bottom of my heart.

Psalm 40:5 "LORD, my God, You have done great things: marvelous works and <u>your</u> <u>thoughts</u> toward us. There is no one who compares to you! I will try to recite your actions, even though there are too many to number. 耶和華我的神啊, 你所行的奇事, 並你 向我們所懷的意念甚多, 不能向你陳明。若要陳明, 其事不可勝數。"

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 耶和華說: 我知道我向你們所懷的意念是賜平安的意念,不是降災禍的意念,要叫你們末後有指望。"

** Thousand words can never fully express my blessed and loving wishes for you from the bottom of my heart. But someone much bigger that you and I can. May the marvelous and countless thoughts of God bring to you His hope for a future fills with peace, wonder and prosperity.

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2. 溫馨的问候,盼你能时常想到我,也希望你能知道,无论天涯海角我都深深祝福你. A warm hello to you! Hope you will think of me often. And, hope you know that my earnest blessing will always be there for you wherever you are: at the end of the sky or in the depth of the sea!

Isaiah 49:15-16 "Can a woman forget her nursing child And have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, but I will not forget you. 16"Behold, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me." 婦人焉能忘記他吃奶的嬰孩, 不憐恤他所生的兒子? 即或有忘記 的,我卻不忘記你。看哪,我將你銘刻在我掌上; 你的牆垣常在 我眼前。

** <u>A warm hello to you! Hope you will think of me often. May your sky be always</u> blue, your sea be always calm, and my earnest prayer will always be for you. Even so, God will never forget you and me, for we have already been inscribed on the palms of His hands; and we are always in His presence. That's the blessing I earnestly wish for you when I think of you.

Chinese New Year Greetings

3. 新的一年, 新的開始! 新年快樂, 馬(狗)到成功!

A new year, a new beginning! Happy new year, Horse(Dog) will bring success! Psalm 147:10-11 "He gives to the beast its food, And to the young ravens which cry. He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He does not take pleasure in the legs of a man. The LORD favors those who fear Him, Those who wait for His loving kindness." 他賜食給走獸和啼叫的小烏鴉 。他不喜悅馬的力大 , 不 喜愛人的腿快 。耶和華 喜愛敬畏他和盼望他慈愛的人."

Psalm 20:7 "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God 詩篇 20:7 有人靠車,有人靠馬,但我們要提到耶和華我們神的名."

** <u>A new year, a new beginning! Happy new year to you! Trusting, waiting and</u> revering for the loving kindness of God will bring victory and success! May your horse/dog bring you good companionship.

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4. 開心每秒鐘, 快樂每一日天, 幸福每一年, 健康到永遠! Happy every second, satisfied every day, fortune every year, good health forever! Lamentations 3:23 "The LORD'S loving kindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him." 這是出於耶和華諸般 的慈愛, 是因他的憐憫不至斷絕。 23 每早晨這都是新的,你的誠實極其廣大。 24 我心裡說: 「耶和華是我的份, 因此我要仰望他。

<u>** May you put your hope in the Lord who will satisfy you with His great</u> <u>faithfulness, every second of your life. May you daily be happy in His ever</u> <u>compassions on you. And with his never ceasing loving kindness, may your health and</u> portion be provided as you live your days in hope and assurance. Happy New Year!!

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5. 仰首是春, 俯首是秋, 願所有的幸福隨著你.

Lift up your head up high, Spring is there; lower your head down, autumn is waiting! May all the good fortune follow you through Spring and Autumn.

Deut. 11:12: "But the land into which you are about to cross to possess it, a land of hills and valleys, drinks water from the rain of heaven, a land for which the LORD your God cares; <u>the eyes of the LORD your God are always on it, from the beginning</u> <u>even to the end of the year.</u> 1It shall come about, if you listen obediently to my commandments which I am commanding you today, to love the LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and all your soul,

申命記 11:12: "你們要過去得為業的那地乃是有山有谷,雨水滋潤之地, 12 是耶和華你神所 眷顧的。<u>從歲首到年終,耶和華你神的眼目時常看顧那地</u>。 13「你們若留意聽從我今日所吩咐 的誡命,愛耶和華你們的神,盡心、盡性侍奉他,"

** Lift up your head high, Spring is there; lower your head down, autumn is waiting! May God of my faith protect and care for you with His watchful and caring eyes through spring and autumn, and bring you abundant blessing in the year!

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