

# The Reformation Translation Fellowship NEWSLETTER Spring 2015



## The Church

Dr. Edmond Clowney, Author

A typical North American pastor has a library of hundreds of books. The shelves of his library are heavy with Bible commentaries, church history, and Christian counseling text books.

Now picture a pastor with his Bible and maybe a dozen Christian study books. That describes the situation for many house church pastors in China.

Pastors in China desperately need Reformed literature. RTF was recently asked by house church leaders to help them understand the proper place and teaching of the church. The classic text on the

subject, *The Church*, was written by Dr. Edmond Clowney. Since the first English printing, Dr. Clowney's text has become the standard positively influencing seminary students, pastors and church leaders. Ten years ago RTF first published this text in Chinese. With the recent request from Chinese pastors Dr. Clowney's book was republished by RTF. The original translation needed significant editorial work. Retranslation and editing was done by members of a Chinese congregation in Rochester, NY. RTF thanks this talented group for their dedication and work.

We received a meaningful endorsement from a leading Chinese theologian and teacher saying: ***I look forward to seeing the doctrine of the Church by Ed Clowney which is in my view one of the best books on the Church.***

With the cooperation of the copyright holder, this text is also available in PDF format at our RTF web site.

## Parenting By God's Promises Dr. Joel Beeke, Author

Imagine for a moment raising your family with little or no Christian literature. Lacking well written books, would you know how to apply biblical precepts in your home raising your children? That is the situation for many Christian families in Chinese house churches.

Because you and many like you have supported RTF, we are happy to announce that *Parenting by God's Promises* by Joel Beeke has been published in China. Our first print run of twenty thousand copies has been presented to house church pastors. It is being studied by multiple thousand house church elders. The principles are being applied by thousands of Chinese families. This timely and important title is already making a positive impact on Christian families. Our

translator/editor shared this comment: ***I have enjoyed a great spiritual feast. Joel Beeke is a godly man and this great book is filled with the inspiration of Holy Spirit, especially when he handles the balance between the promise of God and the responsibility of man in parenting.***

You may have read and found benefit from books such as Dr. Beeke's *Parenting by God's Promises*. It is well worth the investment of your time. Right now this edifying text is also instructing families in China because of your support. With the cooperation of the author and the American publisher, the RTF Chinese translation is also available in E-book format for free download at our RTF website.



**For convenience to our supporters, a courtesy reply envelope is enclosed.**

Our international supporters should send contributions to:

**Reformation Translation Fellowship  
Mr. David Carr, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 3825  
W. Lafayette, IN 47996-3825**

### Request Additional Newsletters

Others in your congregation could learn about the mission work of Reformation Translation Fellowship. Email RTF to request a quantity of future RTF Newsletters sent to you or your church.

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[www.rtf-usa.com](http://www.rtf-usa.com)

## What Does it Cost to Deliver an RTF Book in China?

Lord willing and with your cooperation RTF plans to print and distribute at least 120,000 books in 2015. With great opportunity comes a large challenge. RTF does all this with a very modest budget.

What does it cost to print and deliver an RTF book in China?

Without going into the details of securing a license from the original copyright holder, coordinating the translation and editing of the manuscript, printing and distributing multiple thousand physical books in China, the average cost is a very modest two dollars (US\$2.00) per copy. Your support provides quality Reformed titles such as *Parenting by God's Promises* by Joel Beeke to Chinese house church families. It teaches pastors and elders how to apply the Doctrines of Grace *The Church* by Dr. Edmond Clowney.

You, and other families like yours, are an important part of RTF by underwriting the cost of delivering 5 or 10 books per month. A church can support this significant work by sponsoring 25 or 50 books every month. A Christian foundation can provide five hundred, one thousand or more books annually. All contributions, small or large, are used to instruct Chinese church leaders and families in the Doctrines of Grace through the publication of quality Reformed books.

So we ask the question again: What does it cost to deliver an RTF book in China? The better questions are: What are the benefits to the Church Militant in China today? What are the eternal benefits to Christian families in Chinese house churches? You and your congregation can participate in this important mission project in providing Reformed text books in China.

### E-Books Available Free at [RTF-USA.COM](http://RTF-USA.COM)

Why does RTF, with the cooperation of publishers, make Chinese titles such as *Parenting By God's Promises* and *The Church* available for free? As a Christian mission, Reformation Translation Fellowship works on the biblical principle that as we have freely received the Gospel of Christ, so we share it freely to all those who will receive it.

The reason that RTF exists and the reason you support RTF is not to pay a translator or an editor. It's not even to print thousands of books in China. The reason for RTF's existence and your reason for supporting RTF is to provide Chinese pastors, elders and families with theologically sound biblical text books from which they learn reformed theology. They are then able to teach their congregations, flocks and families biblical truths.

#### ***Jeanette Li: A Girl Born Facing Outside.***

Jeanette Li lived in China during and after the 1949 civil war and revolution. This English autobiography gives a first-hand account of the tumultuous days when RTF was formed and why it was established. *Jeanette Li:* has been reprinted and is available from the publisher, Crown and Covenant.

[http://www.crownandcovenant.com/product\\_p/ds396.htm](http://www.crownandcovenant.com/product_p/ds396.htm)



Jeanette Li is included in this 1950 photo of missionaries and evangelists, some of whom were already instrumental in establishing RTF.