

EAST GATES INTERNATIONAL

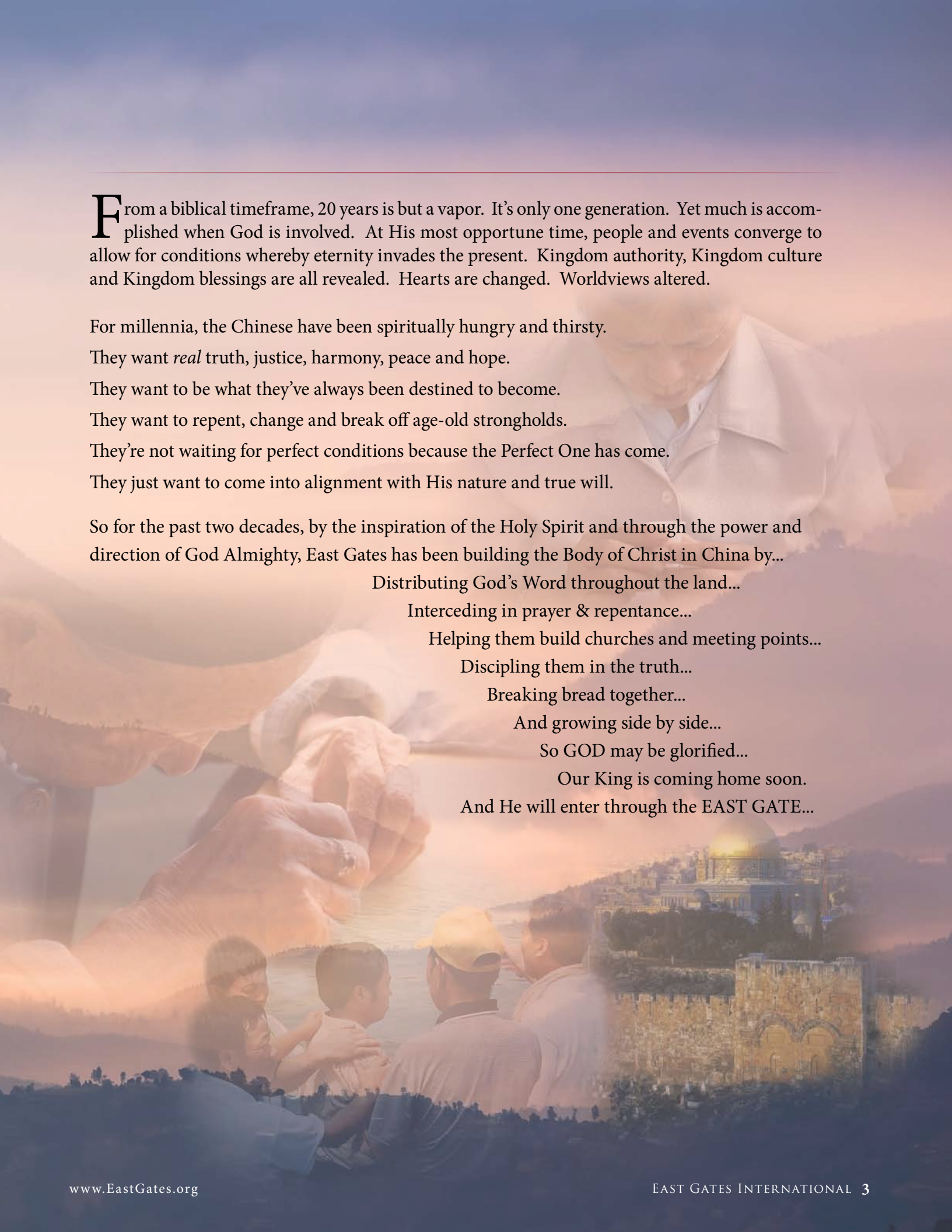
Seeing Beyond the Impossible

20TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



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From a biblical timeframe, 20 years is but a vapor. It's only one generation. Yet much is accomplished when God is involved. At His most opportune time, people and events converge to allow for conditions whereby eternity invades the present. Kingdom authority, Kingdom culture and Kingdom blessings are all revealed. Hearts are changed. Worldviews altered.

For millennia, the Chinese have been spiritually hungry and thirsty.

They want *real* truth, justice, harmony, peace and hope.

They want to be what they've always been destined to become.

They want to repent, change and break off age-old strongholds.

They're not waiting for perfect conditions because the Perfect One has come.

They just want to come into alignment with His nature and true will.

So for the past two decades, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and through the power and direction of God Almighty, East Gates has been building the Body of Christ in China by...

Distributing God's Word throughout the land...

Interceding in prayer & repentance...

Helping them build churches and meeting points...

Discipling them in the truth...

Breaking bread together...

And growing side by side...

So GOD may be glorified...

Our King is coming home soon.


And He will enter through the EAST GATE...



EAST GATES' LEGACY IN CHINA

WALKING IN GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

BY
NED GRAHAM




Over 20 years ago, God called a small group of people to begin a unique ministry in China, that from the beginning, had a huge mountain to climb. They knew they had to rely upon God's faithfulness and nothing else.

China is one of the longest lasting civilizations on earth and brings with it an illustrious history and culture that continues to transform the modern world. This transformation, however, has not come without a cost. Since time immemorial, the Chinese have been closely acquainted with adversity. Even after the dynastic cycles ended at the beginning of the 20th century, they were not immune from calamity, as wars with bordering neighbors and internal strife caused the nation great pain and suffering. Well known to the outside world, the Chinese government acknowledged the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976) to be an immense tragedy that set the nation back a whole generation. Millions of intellectuals, gifted artisans and professionals with great potential were all sent to prison or made "to serve" on farms and factories in the countryside. Many were practicing Catholics, Taoists, Buddhists and Protestant Christians who died from ill-treatment or severe persecution.

With the passing of this "dark age," the clouds slowly lifted, and testimony upon testimony surfaced about what God had been doing behind the scenes. Christian churches rose from the dust. God's Spirit had not been quenched in those whose hope and joy were in the Lord. In the midst of adversity, their roots had gone deep and now they were ready to build.

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In 1988, many ministries and mission groups started flowing into China. Many had a genuine calling to partner and serve the growing number of Chinese believers but as always is the case, some wanted to exploit their sufferings for personal attention and gain.

Shortly after the 1989 Tiananmen Square event, a group of Chinese House Church leaders became aware of my parents' love for China and their 1988 historic trip to my mother's birthplace in Huaian China. That year, these leaders also learned of my interest in China from a man I met while serving as a pastor near Seattle. Through this connection, these House Church leaders invited me to a private meeting. They wanted to discuss ideas regarding how God could use their networks in China, with our influence, to change the course of the China's modern church history.

In the autumn of 1989, I made my first visit to the People's Republic of China (PRC). It was a pivotal trip as God opened doors at many levels. I had the opportunity to meet with top leaders within China's government and religious departments such as Bishop Shun Yi Fang, Bishop KH Ting, Rev. Han Wenzao and others. Doors were also opened to meet privately with many of the most influential House Church leaders at the time -- Wang Ming Dao, Li Tian En, Samuel Lamb and Allan Yuan to name a few. Most of them are now with the Lord.

As timing would have it, my parents' visit was said to be the cause of a prominent Chinese House church evangelist, Xu Yongze's arrest, upon his entry into Beijing to attend one of my father's meetings. It was purported that my father had extended an invitation to meet with him.

Despite the confusion and great misunderstanding, God had other plans. What men intended for evil, God blessed and turned into good (Gen.50:20). When I was in Fuzhou province, I was woken abruptly at 2 am in the morning by a House church believer. In distress, he said an underground Bible printing operation was in jeopardy because of a software glitch. Knowing my knowledge with computers, he was hoping I could help. The next thing I knew, he came by. We walked for an hour in the dark to an apartment that was "blackout" -- something you would

expect in the London Blitz. After solving the software problem, I was asked if I would be willing to wait and meet someone. At this point, I didn't know if this was a trap by China's Public Security Bureau (PSB) or a "God Thing." I decided to wait, resting in His faithfulness.

To my surprise, Xu Yongze's son was in hiding near this location and he wanted to meet me. When he arrived, the Holy Spirit descended and we fell weeping into each others arms. In brief, he told me the story behind his father's arrest. His father was visiting Beijing, but obviously not at my father's request. His father had been going to meet friends and on the way, was arrested in a park by the PSB. His son told me how much it had pained his father to have my family blamed for his arrest. He said the House Church community across China wanted me to know the truth. This divine appointment led to great healing between a number of House Church networks across China. God began to swing open gates only He could open!

In 1990, within the underground House Church movement, there was a huge need for Bibles. Several House church leaders asked if I could use our relationships within the Central government, to secure legally printed Bibles at the Amity Printing Press in Nanjing for safe and secure distribution throughout their networks.

At the time, my mother, Ruth Bell Graham was one of the founding Board members of East Gates of which I eventually was elected President. Our God given premise was to change China's negative perception towards Christianity. Our goal was to work with the "top" and "bottom" in China and help the governing authorities better understand the House church movement better. Our hope and prayer was that eventually, they would see the mutual benefits gained from the relationship.

Based upon the sterling examples of my grandfather, Dr. L. Nelson Bell, James Hudson Taylor and other key pioneers called to serve China, we knew God's approach was never political but spiritual. To assist the growing Church in China, we needed to engage the leadership to help them better understand their growing Christian population as well as help reconcile the deep hurts existent between the

Open and House Church leaders and registered and unregistered believers. The first step was to work at the top and dialogue with the Chinese government and the primary entities that represented their religious and Christian ideological positions -- the Religious Affairs Bureau (RAB), the Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) and the China Christian Council (CCC).

Given our desire to see Bibles available to all Christians in China, without restriction, and knowing the growing House churches' pressing desire to obtain them without threat of confiscation or imprisonment, we prayerfully began diplomatic initiatives with this objective in mind. We were told by respected journalists, politicians, State Department officials and notable ministers that we were naive and misguided but we continued to walk in God's faithfulness. Our East Gates verse is, "For with God, nothing shall be impossible" (Luke 1:37, KJV) and our motto is, *Seeing Beyond the Impossible*. We have always experienced this promise to prove true.

Through Godly wisdom, patience and perseverance, we were given favor with the RAB, TSPM and CCC officials and they began to see how giving the opportunity for millions of House Church believers to receive Bibles would only be advantageous for them. Contracts were signed with the promise that after House Church believers provided the proper identification (comparable to like a social security number in the U.S.), East Gates would be given the permission to legally distribute Bibles to them throughout China without restriction. In addition, the promise was made to those House church believers, who signed up for a Bible, that they would not be tracked down or harassed. To date, East Gates has distributed close to 3.5 million Bibles throughout every province and that promise has been kept.

My father has often said, "There is no greater tool for evangelism than the Bible." Without God's Word, we are poorly equipped to carry out the Great Commission. Jesus told His disciples as they gathered on the mountain-side, "You are the light of the world... In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16, NIV). Without God's Spirit confirming the Word of



Ned and Christina Graham

God and vice-versa, our "light" will be dim in this dark and dying world.

In the 21st century, China continues to grow economically but digress morally. Now in our 20th year, East Gates continues to climb the mountain and be faithful to its high calling. We've obeyed God's voice to build on the foundations established and continue to expand in other vital areas -- discipleship training, the publishing of Chinese Christian literature, church building and social welfare projects -- all of which you will read about in this special anniversary issue.

Jesus told his disciples and His voice continues to echo on down to us today, "...if you have faith [that is living] like a grain of mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to yonder place, and it will move, and nothing will be impossible to you'" (Matthew 17:20, Amplified). We continue walking in God's faithfulness and praise Him for His eternal love for our Chinese brothers and sisters and the great nation of China. We continue to "See Beyond the Impossible!"

~ Ned Graham, President
葛內順

EAST GATES' WORK IN GOD'S MIGHTY HANDS

East Gates was established 20 years ago. Its entrance onto the stage of China's Church history was inevitable. Personally, given my background, character and giftings, I was destined to work for this ministry.

The Cultural Revolution began in 1966. All Christian churches were closed at that time. During that period, historians say China entered a "zero growth" period. The Communist Party defined it as "A Decade of Turmoil." It finally ended in 1976.

A few years later, on April 8, 1979, the Century Christian Church in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, finally opened its doors after 13 years. Soon after, the more well-known churches such as Chongwenmen Church in Beijing, Muen Church in Shanghai and Dongshan Church in Guangdong, all reopened one after another. Two years later, tens of thousands of churches came up from the dust and started holding services.

God's Word is never bound. Despite what the Cultural Revolution created on the surface, the Gospel of Christ continued to flow powerfully underneath and in the fullness of time, it caught on like wildfire across the land. A young man named Li, in Henan Province, recalled how the Gospel revived in his hometown. He said, "I could hear voices singing praises to the Lord from believers swinging on hammocks, to those working in the fields or beside streams."

Yes, the 1980s were the most wonderful years in China's modern history. No wonder the famous Professor Yu Dan of Beijing Normal University said, "The 1980s were the gracious years!" What she stated was really true. Every Chinese alive today has the same feeling deep in their hearts. For Christians, the Gospel took flight during that period like a mighty whirlwind growing with full force. Churches popped up like mushrooms and the number of Christians grew exponentially. The whole world was surprised and amazed.

The direct result of this great Gospel revival was a great shortage of Bibles. People who became aware of what was happening with the Church in China, domestic or overseas, tried to use every kind of method to smuggle Bibles directly into China. But even with these major efforts, supply didn't come close to meeting Bible demands at the time.

In 1986, the United Bible Society in the US (UBS), Amity Foundation and the China Christian Council (CCC), worked together to establish the Amity Printing Press in Nanjing, China for the main purpose of printing large quantities of Bibles. Due to historical reasons, it was difficult for believers who chose to meet in homes to obtain Bibles.

Before the printing of Bibles, believers would write the Bible out by hand or use archaic mimeograph methods to make copies. During the Cultural Revolution, brothers and sisters in the Lord, who were older and younger than I, all took part in creating copies of the Bible by these methods. The Bible that had been printed with different kinds of characters and mimeograph methods are not easily found today. What remain are precious relics of a momentous time in China's Christian history.



In the early 1990s, believers in Mainland China and Hong Kong worked with Christians they knew who had contact with Overseas Mission Groups, to see if they could help smuggle Bibles into China. At that time, East Gates had started to provide Bibles legally to believers in China who



had chosen not to meet at Open, Three-Self or registered churches. In six to seven years, East Gates successfully delivered approximately two million Bibles as well as a variety of Christian reference and devotional books to all provinces throughout China. When I share this with people, they can't believe it and are amazed, but it's a fact and absolutely true.

When you read this special 20th anniversary edition, you will discover that East Gates' diverse ministries to the House churches today, all began by supplying them with Bibles. After hearing our testimony, people inevitably praise God but always ask the question, "So what is the key to East Gates' success?" It's hard for them to believe that in a Socialistic country with such a huge population, we were able to deliver millions of Bibles, to believers meeting in homes, in such a short time. In addition, it's hard for them to fathom that East Gates has been serving China effectively for 20 years. During that time, China's leadership has changed hands several times. There have also been internal ministry changes as well. So what has caused East Gates to continually succeed amid the "mountain and valley" seasons of time?

First, East Gates' service to China is literally a miracle. Everyone who has had a part in this ministry, no matter what their family or personal background, have all had a part in living out God's will in this venue. Psalm 127:1 states, "Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain."

Chinese culture has always been shaped by events occurring at their most opportune time, making the most of our land and resources and the support of the people. After 1989, I believe all these factors converged giving rise to East Gates Ministries.

East Gates' attitude has always been one of transparency and never doing things in the secret or dark. Delivering millions of Bibles to unregistered churches, could not have been accomplished without the Central government's approval as well as the permission and assistance from the Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) and China Chris-

tian Council (CCC). Some of the most respected House church pastors, who were there at the beginning, many of whom are now with the Lord, all admit and acknowledge this truth. At the time, given the incredible need for Bibles, they gave strong support for what East Gates was doing.

God is all powerful. Only He can make the most blunt and sharp objects smooth and into something of great use and beauty. East Gates is the work of God's hands!

I've been working for East Gates close to 20 years now. The best years of my life have been dedicated to this ministry. Although my outer nature is wasting away day by day, I hope my inner nature is being renewed day by day. May I be like my Lord completely.

~ Zhang Guiyan, China Project Director
張桂炎



EACH GENERATION WILL REAP WHAT THE FORMER GENERATION HAS SOWN.

~ Chinese Proverb ~



▲ Pastor Allen Yuan and his wife, well-known names in the House church community, are now with the Lord. While on earth, God used them at a pivotal time in China's Church history to bring revival and spread the Gospel throughout China. They, along with many other unsung heroes, played an integral part in helping East Gates establish its extensive Bible distribution network of which we are eternally grateful.



▲ Brother Shen of Zhejiang Province is a faithful pastor who suffered much during the Cultural Revolution. His church was one of the first to rise up from the dust in April 1979. Now 86 years old, he continues to plant Kingdom "seeds" and churches for the Lord.



◀ In Yunnan Province, Pastor Yang (100) continues to shepherd, bless and pass down to the next generation (like these Australian missionaries) all the Lord has imparted to him.

◀ At the young age of 96, Sister Yu prays over and encourages patients in her favorite mission field -- the hospital.

Like a modern day Paul and Timothy, Pastor Zhang and co-worker, Brother Zheng, walk the dusty roads of Yunnan Province training worship teams.



▲ Brother Zheng loves to redeem the time by giving out "Good News" tracts along the busy sidewalks of Shanghai.

EAST GATES' 20-YEAR CONTRIBUTION

A SIGNIFICANT CHAPTER IN THE MODERN HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN CHINA

In 1978, China implemented the Open and Reform Policy. Only a few years later, in the early 1980s, churches that were closed during the Cultural Revolution, gradually reopened in every province and city throughout China. In time, large numbers of pastors and Christians were released from labor camps or prisons in border areas where they were exiled. Among them were well-known House church leaders such as Wang Mingdao, Samuel Xian-gao Lamb, Alan Xiang-zhen Yuan and others. Many Christians that had been imprisoned for over 10-20 years, who thought they would never see freedom again, were freed.

I contacted many of those Christians after their release and I found they all had a common mindset. They felt that given all the time they had lost in prison, they would treasure every opportunity to witness and share the Gospel. It was their heart's desire to offer all their remaining years to God. I believe the majority of Christians that had not been imprisoned at this time, felt this way as well. The passion for evangelism now was so great.

As a result, the Gospel blossomed and bore fruit in ways unimaginable. The number of believers grew rapidly. Conservatively speaking, in the mid-1980s, the estimated number of Christians now reached well over ten million. The number was tenfold what statistics showed in 1949, right before the "New China" was established.

The Ai-ji Printing Press in Shanghai, managed by the China Christian Council (CCC) and National Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM), became the first legal Bible printing press in the country. It was reported that Ai-ji printed and distributed approximately two million Bibles before the well-known Amity Printing Press was founded in 1987, which eventually took over Bible printing for all of China.

Once the West became aware of the great disparity between the growing number of Chinese Christians and lack of Bibles, overseas believers, churches and other related organizations tried smuggling millions of Bibles into China,

mostly targeting House church members since it was very hard for them to buy Bibles from the CCC/TSPM.

Even though many different methods were used to smuggle tens of thousands of Bibles into the country, the supply could not meet the demand given the rapid development of the House church movement and the sheer number of growing Chinese believers. Even though the Amity Printing Press went into operation in 1987, for the first few years, it could only print several million Bibles so millions of believers still had to worship without God's Word.

The second year after East Gates was founded in 1990, House church leaders made us aware of the fact they needed over a million copies of the Bible. Thank you Lord. They encouraged East Gates to have detailed discussions with different House church parties on this important issue so everyone could come to an agreement on how to properly provide Bibles to Christians in China.

In time, God led and opened the way for East Gates to have detailed discussions with the China Christian Council, United Bible Society, Amity Printing Press and other parties for the sole purpose of providing Bibles to all Christians in China. By the grace of God, a final agreement and contract was signed by all parties. In just three years, East Gates was able to deliver millions of Bibles to churches in cities and provinces throughout China. All the glory goes to God!

In the late 1990s, China's Central government began to develop the Northwestern part of the country. They wanted a greater balance in economic development between the flourishing coastal regions and the interior (i.e. Xinjiang Province). At that time, the House church movement to these remote areas was spreading like wildfire.

In the past ten years, when we would visit areas in the Northwest and Southwest parts of China, oftentimes we would run into mission teams sent out from the Zhejiang, Henan and Anhui Provinces. First, we would care-

fully observe their work and in time, we became partners with them. Given the incredible Christian growth in the Northwest and Southwest areas, East Gates has been helping these mission teams establish more meeting groups, Christian libraries and training centers.

I especially remember a situation whereby two groups told me the same thing, back to back, on totally two different occasions: "If you want to write about the history of the Church in China in the past 20 years, especially regarding the House church movement, then a Chapter you cannot leave out is the involvement and support of East Gates Ministries."

This comment surfaces often, and on behalf of East Gates, I mention it not to sound conceited or prideful, but only to say that if anything, we are incredibly humbled and indebted to God for this great privilege and honor.

Thank you Lord for using East Gates in these 20 years, this tiny organization with oftentimes, insufficient resources. You Lord, allow us to be a valuable part of Your Plan and blessing to China. You have allowed us to be participants and witnesses in how You are bringing revival to the Church in China as well – choosing and growing the in-



creasing number of faithful servants to evangelize in different villages and cities for the purpose of allowing more Chinese to come to know You and turn towards You.

Someone that genuinely serves God knows that his labor is not in vain and will produce a great harvest. Over these past 20 years, the toil and hardships I've experienced is nothing compared to the joy and blessings that have come in serving my Lord. All glory to my Lord! Amen!

~ Tsang Honwah, Project Coordinator / Trainer
曾漢華



I PRAY THAT YOU MAY BE ACTIVE IN SHARING YOUR FAITH, SO THAT YOU WILL HAVE A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF EVERY GOOD THING WE HAVE IN CHRIST.

YOUR LOVE HAS GIVEN ME GREAT JOY AND ENCOURAGEMENT, BECAUSE YOU, BROTHER, HAVE REFRESHED THE HEARTS OF THE SAINTS.

~ Philemon 1:6-7 ~

GOD'S DESTINY FOR CHINA



Since time immemorial, the Chinese have had a deep sense that the heavens and the earth were somehow inextricably connected in a very profound and mysterious way. Thousands of years ago, they had a far greater symbiotic relationship with the earth, sea and sky than now. Soon, they realized there was an unspoken pattern, rhythm and moral order that governed the universe. They began to see how the spiritual was intimately tied with the physical, and in time, developed a reverence for whom they called Shang-Di...the Supreme God.

Early in China's history, the Chinese firmly believed that in order for their Middle Kingdom to prosper forever, Shang-Di's perfect, just and moral order that governed the heavens must somehow be established on earth. Shang-Di (上帝) would only bless the nation if the Emperor was righteous and properly wielded divine power. If the Emperor became despotic and corrupt, the Mandate from Heaven, or right to govern, would be removed and transferred to another ruler more worthy.

In God's sovereign plan, His true Heavenly Mandate was first revealed to the Israelites. In His divine providence, He chose to work with the tiny nation of Israel and the Jews first, so they could be the humble channel by which He could bless the nations (Gen.12:2-3; Deut.4:1-8). Today our great God is still fulfilling His covenant relationship with Israel for the eternal welfare of all the nations -- including China (Romans 11). Everyday, "the great wall" that has long stood between the Chinese heart and their Creator, comes down one stone at a time. Their eyes have been opened and they're beginning to understand

the deeper meaning behind profound scriptures such as Romans 11:25-26: *"For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery--so that you will not be wise in your own estimation--that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; and so all Israel will be saved."*

Today, the "fire" has been ignited in millions of Chinese believers as they've come to realize, "we are a significant part of what the Apostle Paul was talking about when he said, 'fullness of the Gentiles!'" Now, there are continual prayer towers, reconciliation and revival gatherings throughout the Body of Christ in Asia. They know that in the flesh, they'll stay divided. But through and by the power of the Holy Spirit, they can be united. They want this one prayer of Jesus answered more than any other -- *"...that they all be one..." (John 17:21).*

In working alongside my Chinese brothers and sisters over these many years, I've often wonder what would have happened if the Gospel had first traveled East, instead of West, and reached China far before the influence of the Western world. I believe the Spirit-led apostles would have brought the Chinese an understanding of time, space, meditation, prayer, spiritual rest, respect for authority, education, and an integration of mind, body, soul and spirit that they would have very much identified with. The biblical Hebraic worldview is far more similar to the Asian mindset than the Greco-Roman, which is the bedrock of Western thinking.

When we share the Gospel in China, we bring to them this

THE TRUE HEAVENLY MANDATE



Hebraic worldview and the true Heavenly Mandate their emperors and rulers all longed for but could never define. We reveal to them the real Shang-Di, who came forth in the fullness of time (Gal.4:4), as Jesus Christ (Yeshua in Hebrew), to reveal the Kingdom of God.

He is our Creator and our King who can live within us now. He is the one who breathed into us His breath of life and divine intellect. Unlike any other creature on the face of the earth, humans were brought forth as “praying beings.” Only we can develop an intimate relationship with our Creator. He gave us His instruction book, the Holy Bible, so we could learn of His nature, life-giving patterns, rhythms and moral order to life. He is molding and shaping us to rule with Him in power and glory! That’s what we teach God’s Chinese disciples today.

The Chinese have always yearned for immortality. In this 21st century, millions are finally discovering what it means to have true eternal life and it’s not being buried 6 feet under like these terra cotta soldiers!

Within the pages of this 20th anniversary newsletter, you will be amazed at the transformation taking place in the Church in China. God’s Kingdom and true Heavenly Mandate have come down to earth for those who have opened their hearts to His Way and His Spirit. He has been able to transform their disorder into His order, their emptiness into His fullness and their darkness into His Light. They are a new creation. All their testimonies speak to this fact.

A dear Christian brother, who was a brilliant scholar, teacher and friend of mine passed away about 10 years ago. At his funeral, someone said to me, “He’s in a better place now.” I replied, “No. He’s always been in that place.” And so it is with many of the Chinese Christians you will read about in the pages to follow. Today, they’re living in Christ’s victory and not as victims of their circumstances. Many missionaries flock over to China as teachers but always come back as students. May the Body of Christ in China continue to glorify Him and His Name . . . Amen.

~ *Christina Kuo Graham*

葛郭瑞玉



INSIGHTS

Hung Ping Yung has been East Gates' China/Hong Kong office manager for the past 20 years. His balanced perspective in viewing and handling every situation as well as wealth of Godly wisdom have been invaluable to the ministry. We thought you would appreciate some of his insights...

East Gates: In the 20 years you've been with East Gates, serving your Chinese brothers and sisters, what are some of the greatest changes you've seen occur in the registered and unregistered churches?

Hung Ping Yung: China is a huge country where anything can happen anywhere and therefore, everyone doesn't always know what's going on. Looking back at the Church in China over the past 20 years, many things happened that were expected and unexpected all at the same time. Overall, the general trend of the registered churches has been a good one compared to times past. The situation regarding the unregistered churches has also improved, especially in their desire to seek greater knowledge of Jesus Christ.

When China instituted Deng Xiao Ping's Reform Policies over 20 years ago, believers were requested to have their meetings at churches authorized and registered with China's government. At that time, appointed church leaders may not have been that familiar with Christianity or been aware of the importance for believers to have fellowship but it didn't matter because they were mainly selected by government officials to maintain stability within society. Over the years, the atmosphere in the registered churches has changed for the better as the Government now has a better understanding of Christianity and the younger generation of Christian leaders are more open-minded and biblically educated.

As for the unregistered churches and the majority of the House church believers, they did not stop meeting in small groups during the Cultural Revolution. Strong fellowship and continual Bible studies kept them well-equipped and spiritually strong. I believe their emphasis on those factors kept them bonded and unified. Even when the Reform Policy came into being, the unregistered churches kept the same style of meetings as before. Because of their history, they were still cautious and leery of the Government. But with the Open Policy, the constitution now accommodated for the type of religious freedom whereby unregistered

churches were able to spring up like mushrooms.

At this time, overseas believers from various churches and denominations flooded into China to help the unregistered churches. Based on their own denominational traditions and backgrounds, they brought in different types of ministries and teachings. Understandably, the unregistered churches had their own common history and experience as well. As time went by, unity within the unregistered churches diminished. In the past few years, different kinds of unregistered churches have risen. Although the spirit of seeking Bible truth is still high, the unity among unregistered church is not like what it was before.

EG: How has China's views changed on Christianity?

HPY: The Communist Party once viewed religion like a flood and beast of prey. It was only because they didn't understand it, especially Christianity. Also, through what they studied of European history, religion had a powerful sway on politics and the State (i.e. Catholicism). The Communist Party is cautious to any religion they're not familiar with or understand. As a result, even after China's government implemented the Reform Policies, it was still cautious towards religious groups, especially Christianity, given its overseas history and background. Therefore, Christians had more restrictions.

Over the past 20 years, however, there has been more communication and exchange with Christian churches, ministries, organizations and believers from overseas countries allowing the Government to gain a better understanding of Christianity. They've come to see it as a more common and orthodox religion so there is greater leniency towards its practice than before. For example, the Government now allows the printing of over 3 million Bibles annually and anyone in China can easily purchase a Bible without fear or worry. Today, we hear leaders from different levels of China's government as well as from the State Administration of Religious Affairs (SARA) department say, "A good Christian is also a good citizen of the country." Praise God.

EG: What do you admire most about the early Chinese missionaries and pioneers who served during some of the most challenging times in China's modern history (1930 – present)? Is there anything we can learn from them?



“I baptize you with water but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit” (Mark 1:8). “The Lord knows those who are His,” and, “Everyone who confesses the name of the Lord must turn away from wickedness” (II Tim. 2:19).

HPY: Many adversities occurred during China’s modern history. Millions were challenged including Christians. During this timeframe, faithful Chinese missionaries and pioneers of Christ were serving the Lord faithfully. No matter what kind of trials they faced, be it heavy persecution, ridicule or imprisonment, they encouraged believers to be faithful to Christ through their good testimonies.

These pioneers, such as: Jia Yu-ming, John Song, Yang Shao-tang, Ji Zhi-wen and others, faithfully preached the Gospel and taught everyone to believe God’s Truth. In God’s strength, they bravely faced whatever came their way. They are a sterling example to us when it comes to what it means to be faithful, devoted and courageous.

EG: What advice would you give young missionaries who want to serve in China or Hong Kong today?

HPY: My advice would be to make sure you have a real calling from God in this area. You should study the history surrounding the Church in China. Make sure you know and understand the positive and negative aspects of each church and group of believers you feel called to serve. Be sensitive to the political climate in that area. Have a servant’s heart and be considerate of the Chinese believer’s perspective and views on things. Just like each one of us, there’s always a reason of how and why we came to see the world and God in the way we do. Teach them the truth in love, not by force. Spend time with them in prayer and

fellowship. If possible, work with those Chinese believers and/ or churches in the most patient, quiet and flexible manner possible.

The situation in Hong Kong is totally different when compared to China since Hong Kong has much more religious freedom. It’s easy to start a registered church in Hong Kong. Hong Kong believers need help in knowing how to implement God’s Truth and values in every day life. So if you can live your life successfully in this context and teach the same, you will be effective in Hong Kong. Life is tough on the island and so many aspects of the culture conflict with God’s Kingdom culture.

EG: In all of your travels throughout China, is there a testimony you would like to share that has significantly affected your outlook on life?

HPY: I remember a pastor in the central part of China. Before he came to Christ, he was a Mafia leader and a really corrupt person. When he finally repented and offered himself up to Christ, I could see the power of God on him and how it changed his life. From that point on, he had a hunger for the Truth, equipped himself and answered God’s call to become the shepherd of a flock. Believers at his church shared with me how they love this pastor because he is gentle and kind. He loves them as he loves himself. They appreciate how he spends so much time teaching them the Truth after he equips himself.

I felt the same thing these believers shared when I had the chance to meet him years ago. To me, the complete transformation of this pastor is really quite unbelievable. How could he change into a totally different person from what he was? Many believers (including myself) reflect on how it would have been if we were in the same situation. Most of us would have said, “There’s no way I can change.” I oftentimes ask myself, “Have I really changed (my pride) through the power of God?” Am I truly submitted to His leading without complaints? This pastor showed me what true repentance is all about.

~Hung Ping Yung
熊炳容

在中國建立基督

BUILDING BODY OF C IN CHIN



Distributing Bibles legally throughout China.



Working with Christian bookstores in China, helping them flourish and establish mini-libraries throughout China.



Assisting and teaching at training centers.



Equipping national seminaries. Providing scholarships and funding mission projects.



Assisting and supporting Christian elderly homes.



Providing necessary funds for the purchase, construction and expansion of churches and meeting points.



Working to provide for the special needs of believers in the minority tribe areas.



Educating churches and organizations that are interested in gaining greater depth and understanding of Christianity in China -- past, present and future.



的身體

THE CHRIST NA



Through diplomacy, we build bridges of greater understanding between China's Christian community and all levels of society.

One of the main messages of the Bible is God is able to accomplish a lot with a little. We've seen what He is able to do with five loaves and two fishes (Mark 6:39-44), an army of 300 (Judges 7), a handful of apostles embued with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38-47) and a tiny little mustard seed (Matthew 13:31-32). With God, *all* things are possible.

From the beginning, East Gates' motto has been, *Seeing Beyond the Impossible* and in the 20 years of our existence, we have seen this reality come true time and time again with respect to our ministry in China.

Over the past 20 years, our indigenous staff have been able to witness the incredible evolution of the Church in China. They've literally seen it rise from the dust and ashes. Today, they have the blessing of being able to see thousands of believers attend weekly services.

Knowing the diverse backgrounds of these Chinese believers, East Gates has been prayerful and strategic in where to best invest our time, energy and resources.

In partnership with our faithful donors and other ministries, God has seen fit to use our limited staff and funds to reach every province in China with Bibles, Christian literature, discipleship training, elderly homes and resources to build new churches and meeting points. What seeds were planted years ago are now producing much fruit. The Body of Christ continues to grow powerfully in China.

I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do greater things than these... You may ask anything in my name, and I will do it.

~ John 14:12-14 ~



Assisting with resupplying Bibles, rebuilding meeting points and other vital needs after a natural disaster.

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GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO EAT

MATTHEW 14:16



My name is Brother Feng and I was born in Shanghai on November 2, 1936. I grew up next to the Oujiang River that flows alongside the mountains and other tributaries in Zhejiang Province. As a child, trekking up the mountain to cut firewood was a lesson, for as I grew older, I became a traveling carpenter to make my living.

Shanghai has a wealth of talent, but in God's eyes, I am just a humble servant for Him, for it is He who examines our hearts. God is the one who has generously gifted and lifted me up so that I have the respect now in peoples' eyes. Everything comes from Him.

When I was young, my pastor/teacher Tang Ren-hei gave me honest exhortations and encouragement. At 50, I had the good fortune of knowing the famous House Church leader, Wang Ming-dao. I learned much from this older generation through their words and deeds. Yes, I have been a supremely blessed person and I will never forget these events in my life.

From a very young age, I had been living at the Qingxin Church in Shanghai and serving our youth fellowship there. In 1954, my pastors, Tang Ren-hei and Chen Rong-sheng prayed over me as they assigned me to be a co-worker in this department. Over the years, I had the opportunity to make evangelistic visits to different places, plant churches and oversee various church ministries. As a lay pastor, I preached the Gospel in Shanghai, Wenzhou, Rongjia and throughout Zhejiang Province while supporting myself through carpentry. I never stopped evangelizing even during the tumultuous Cultural Revolution (1966-76).

On September 30, 1969, I was "invited" to come with the Public Security Bureau (PSB) for leading a meeting at an elderly Christian brother's home in Shanghai. After seven months, I was released on May 1, 1970. During that period, while held by the PSB, I felt God's powerful presence and was able to witness to them from my cell, producing fruit worthy of the Gospel. The Vice-chief of the PSB plus two other officers and their families accepted Jesus Christ. I weighed about 49 kilograms (108 lbs.) when I was "invited" to the PSB office and when I was released, I had gained 20

kilograms (44 lbs.), all by the grace of God.

Four years later, in 1974, I found myself still working as a carpenter in Fangshun Village of Qingtian County in Zhejiang Province. Fanshaun Village had 36 smaller villages within its boundaries and each small village had their own meetings. Even though I joined the meetings everyday, sometimes I was too busy to respond to the various invitations to teach and preach.

It seemed God was raising many young people back then to become the present church leaders in Zhejiang Province and throughout China. During that time, which was near the end of the Cultural Revolution, all churches were closed but the Gospel was still surging. God's Word can never be bound!

After 1980, the Gospel spread like wildfire. Meeting points were established one after another. It was as if in one full sweep, tens of millions of Christians appeared. I think the outside world was amazed. It seemed like God was saving Chinese everyday, as mounting numbers of young people were called to serve Him. At that time, there was a great shortage of Bibles and Christian spiritual literature. Christian youth would work together and mimeograph the Bible but the thirst was too great. There were occasions when it seemed like I had to supply large cities like Guangzhou and Shanghai with Bibles countless times, but it still did not seem enough. In 1987, however, China began to print Bibles but the distribution was only to the official churches and not to us. We could only purchase a few copies. Can you imagine how many thousands of believers longed for the Bible? Our Lord and Master, Jesus said, "... you give them something to eat" (Matthew 14:16).



Brother Feng baptizing a new believer.

As a pastor, I was very anxious when faced with all these believers who had such a hunger for God's Word. Prayers for a Bible became the overwhelming cry of the Church at that time! It was during this very period that God raised East Gates to fulfill these prayers. East Gates promised to supply us Bibles at that time, but since we never had this experience before, we doubted the requirements and methods in which the Bibles would be delivered. Having gone through so many hardships and trials, initially we were not willing to give our names and addresses to anyone we didn't know. But quickly, we discovered that East Gates was an organization that was full of wisdom. After they carefully discussed and worked out all the details guaranteeing our protection and security, we gladly accepted the Bibles.

I remember one incident in which a young co-worker at our church cooperated with East Gates' co-workers. East Gates used the Amity Printing Press truck from Nanjing to deliver Bibles to Hangzhou directly. Afterward, this young co-worker hired another truck to deliver Bibles to Wenzhou. 8,640 Bibles came in all different sizes and versions. After seeing this occur several times, we knew East Gates' promise to safeguard our safety was truth. As a result, Bibles continued to flow into Wenzhou, and from Wenzhou, Bibles were delivered to various hubs throughout China. We praise and thank you Lord for your unmeasured grace in listening to, hearing and answering our prayers for Bibles!

As time went on, East Gates co-workers informed us it was safe to deliver Bibles to other locations directly. Bibles did

not have to be sent to Wenzhou first and then sent out. If the initial distribution method was used, it would only increase transportation costs and increase the probability of problems and accidents. Before signing any contract with various recipients, East Gates always wanted to insure the believers that the Bibles would arrive safely, on time and in good order. Because of the challenging areas where some of the Bibles had to be delivered, East Gates began to work with insurance brokers to guarantee the safe arrival of not only the Bibles but the deliverers too.

Called now to serve in the Wenzhou church, I can say that it is a church with a mission. You will find that Wenzhou-founded churches are usually located in cities around the world where the standard of living is middle to above average. Wherever Wenzhou believers go, they work with the local churches, helping them to expand their mission work in the community. It's just like an ink drop on paper but slowly the ink drop spreads as it infiltrates and soaks within the paper fibers. In the same way, the church expands slowly and the number of believers in Christ grows daily.

In the past 20 years, I've been to tens of cities in the Northeast, Northwest and Southwest of China. Bibles delivered by East Gates has literally covered all of China. I can't enumerate the numbers here. Only God could have raised a ministry like East Gates. Clearly no one else could have had the ingenuity and ability to do it. All the glory goes to God. "You give them something to eat."

~ Brother Feng, co-worker

馮弟兄



Two decades ago, God empowered East Gates, Brother Feng and fellow believers, to distribute Bibles and spread the Gospel throughout China.

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD....

Words have deep and significant meaning in Chinese culture. China was one of the first civilizations to carve their thoughts into stone and later, parchment. In their ancient writings are the reflections of a people that were searching for God. Their hopes were if their emperor and kingdom lived under the righteous moral order of the universe, this All-Knowing Being would impart wisdom, insight, understanding and knowledge on how to perpetuate their generations in prosperity, peace and harmony.

Today, millions of Chinese know who this one true God is, and as this House church pastor's meticulous notes on Jesus' teachings reveal—God's speaks Chinese too.



LOVE



HEART

The most significant words in Chinese all have deep meaning, much like in Hebrew.

In the center of this Chinese character for "love" is the character for—heart.





East Gates' primary calling from its inception has been to facilitate Bible distribution throughout China. With God's grace and faithfulness, our work continues in this area in full strength and measure. Requests from Chinese believers come into our office weekly and because of our extensive network and contacts, the time between request and delivery is short.

Today, the Amity Printing Press in Nanjing, China is able

to print one million pieces of literature per month, many of which are Bibles distributed throughout the world.

Remember, a Bible is a gift that keeps on giving. Invest into the eternal welfare of a potential Chinese believer today!

Contact us at 1-800-959-3464 or
email us at egmi@eastgates.org

PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS THROUGHOUT CHINA

East Gates works with translators and Chinese Christian publishing companies to produce key training materials for China's growing number of devout Chinese believers. Each translated work requires much prayer and thought on how to convey in Chinese, what the author originally intended. The demand is great but the supply is few.



The greatest reward is when you hear a House church pastor say, “Wow. After reading *Behold the Man*, the real Jesus whom I knew in my mind, I feel I now know in my heart. These new insights confirm what I sensed in my Spirit all along!” Or... “*Listening to the Language of the Bible* is a wonderful piece of work. After carefully studying the ideas behind ‘Having a Good Eye (Ayin-Tovah),’ ‘Evil Tongue (Lashon HaRa)’ and other key biblical concepts like ‘The Direction of Your Heart (Kavanah),’ my idea of what it means to be a true disciple and child of God have increased 100-fold. Thank you.”

In light of these wonderful testimonies and many more, please continue to pray that East Gates be able to help “feed the flock” in this wonderful way. Your prayers are priceless!

Dear Brother Ned, Sister Christina and East Gates co-workers,

20 years is not a short period of time. It's an important milestone. One of the major tenets of the Bible is, “It is better to give than to receive.” East Gates has been like a loving mother to all the believers in China. Throughout these past 20 years, it has been like a mother that quietly loves, attends and cherishes its precious children ~ the Church in China. How could this happen if it were not the love of God? The mighty love of God binds us together. This is so exciting.

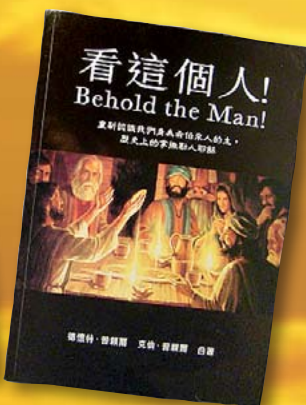
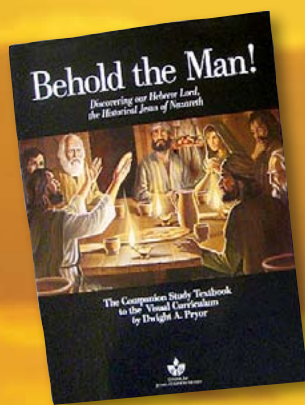
When we reflect on what has happened these past 20 years, it's as if things happened yesterday. My mother who is now with the Lord was a powerful witness to all that happened. Very early on, she knew the Bible would have to be eventually printed in China. Long story short, one day my mother shared with a brother in the Lord how proud a pastor felt when he was holding his own Bible printed in his own country, China. This brother immediately identified with what she was saying. To my knowledge, this is how East Gates ultimately got started. It started distributing to all the House church believers who at the time didn't have access to Bibles. They knew that believers, like abundantly fruitful trees, must be planted by living streams of water!

Since that time, East Gates has always had a closely connected relationship with the registered and unregistered churches in China. Now, we are all buckled together in working towards the revival of the Gospel with one heart so we many glorify our mighty God together!

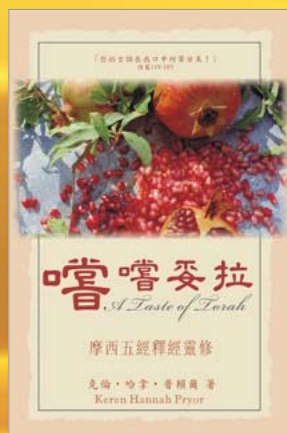
We cannot express how thankful we are to Brother Ned, Sister Christina and all the East Gates co-workers for their unconditional friendship. We congratulate East Gates 20th anniversary and with sincere hearts, wish East Gates a bright future.

The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former says the LORD of hosts and in this place I will give peace, declares the LORD of host (Haggai 2:9, NASB).

Phoebe & Caleb (Requested their English names be used)



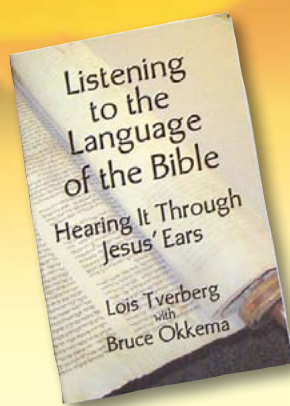
BEHOLD THE MAN
Prof. Dwight Pryor



TASTE OF TORAH
Keren Hannah Pryor



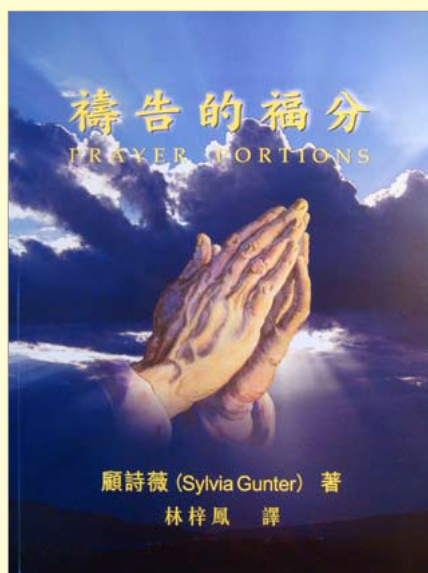
THE BASICS
Rev. Gene Cunningham



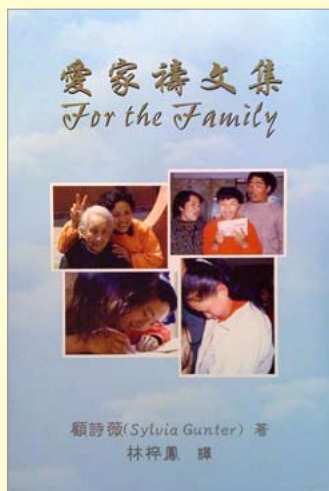
LISTENING TO THE LANGUAGE OF THE BIBLE
Prof. Lois Tverberg



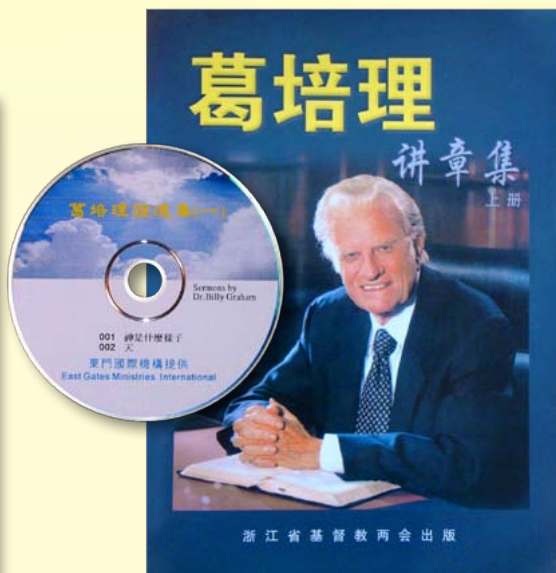
A DIFFERENT GOD
Prof. Dwight Pryor



PRAYER PORTIONS
Sylvia Gunter



FOR THE FAMILY
Sylvia Gunter



BILLY GRAHAM'S SERMONS-VOL. 1&2
160 sermons in Simplified /Traditional Chinese.
Also in CD and MP3.

BAO-SHAN BIBLE SCHOOL OF THE NATIONS

I'm Rev. Xu Xian-zong, Principle of the Bao-shan Bible School of the Nations in Yunnan Province. From the first visit of East Gates' co-workers four years ago to the present, their continual attention to our needs has made the positive difference, be it supplying construction materials to Bible School software. As a result, the quality of our Christian education has improved steadily.

Bao-shan is a beautiful place. The climate is temperate and the area scenic, far from the noise and congestion of the city. At 60 years of age, I'm able to take carefree, leisurely walks with my grandchild and enjoy this season in my life. Despite these great blessings, I always think about being about my "Father's business" and how to develop our local churches. In the past, I poured out my heart and sold our family property to relieve the financial difficulties of the churches as well as establish schools. It was a



time of great hardships and full of frustrations. I can take a deep breathe of relief now, recalling the past and comparing it to the present.

East Gates co-workers came to visit us in the early part of 2006. Although it was the first time we met, we immediately connected and with sincerity, I discussed aspirations and goals. I've always lived by the philosophy that "Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise."

During this initial meeting, we learned much from one another. We were able to establish a clear and definitive sense of direction for the development of Bao-shan Bible School of the Nations. We both wished we had met earlier.

Bao-shan is located on the Western border of Yunnan Province. It forms a district with four other counties: Teng-chong, Long-ling, Shi-dian and Chang-ning. The south and northwestern regions of Bao-shan are adjacent to Myanmar (Burma). It has a rich culture because it was one of the earlier developed areas of Yunnan Province. Bao-shan was the headquarters for building the Burma Road back during World War II.

Because there are 92 churches, 20,000 believers and only two pastors in Bao-shan, there is great need for training. I founded the Bao-shan Christian Training Center in 1998 and used the address of my hometown congregation, the Qing-hua church. In 2000, I rented a house and moved the training center to Bao-shan. I sold my own property to pay all the expenses.

In 2002, I used 950,000 RMB (US\$140,000) to buy the 860 square meters (.21 acres) of land for the present school. The brick and concrete building is three stories high and 310 square meters (3337 square feet). In time, a simple iron sheet house was added to the 14 original, simple tiled rooms which once were used for student dormitories, a kitchen and canteen.

Once we had a school and dormitory, the number of administrators, teaching staff and students increased. This moved the Bao-shan Christian Training Center to a higher status. It was now the Bao-shan Bible School of the Nations and able to issue diplomas. At present, there are eight teachers and three co-workers. Four of the teachers are Sichuan Theological Seminary graduates. Two instructors come from specialized training schools and two from Yunnan Seminary.

The Yunnan Nations Bible School was established in 1998 and in the past 11 years it has seen 520 students and 414 graduates. 22 moved on to studies at Sichuan Theological Seminary and 35 to Yunnan Seminary. We now have 106 students enrolled.

Most of our Bible school graduates become core co-workers at different local churches. A new work force has been formed to help develop the local congregations. We often call back graduates so they can further their studies. We have a diverse student body in that they come from 15 different nationalities and ethnic groups: Han, Lisu, Jingpo,



Miao, Dai, Lahu, Hani, Wa, Nu, Dulong, Yi, Jinuo, Bai and Pumi.

East Gates co-workers have a good theological background and experience in running schools. With their encouragement, support and subsidies for construction, the Bao-shan Bible School of the Nations has been able to build a new teaching building, student dormitory, kitchen, canteen, computer room, library and special classroom between January 2007-July 2008. The total construction area covered 1,760 square meters (.43 acres) or 2,200 square meters (.54 acres) if one includes the original buildings.

This year, we just finished the construction of an assembly hall and named it the Ganen Church or Thanksgiving Church. It's where the Bible School students and local believers can come and worship on Sunday. When I spoke with East Gates' co-worker, Brother Zhang, yesterday, we both had a common wish, to improve the educational quality of the school. The facility is one of the best in Yunnan Province but the "software" (i.e. teachers, training materials) needs improvement.

First, as the principal of the school, I have the major responsibility of redefining the concept of education. Second, we need to bring in teachers with higher education to strengthen the faculty. We should also raise the standards for enrollment to ensure quality students. Students may apply with a recommendation from their local church. Presently, we have an intermediate and advanced

class with a two-year curriculum. As we develop and mature, it will change to a three-year curriculum.

I deeply believe by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, that Bao-shan Bible School of the Nations will not fail in its God entrusted mission. In time, it will become an important base for theological education on the southwest border of China.

We hope we can continue to work with East Gates and other brothers and sisters to train more workers for the Lord. All glory goes to Him.

~ Bao-shan Bible School of the Nations, Yunnan Province



OUR FOOTPRINTS REACH EVERY CORNER IN CHINA...

We partner with local China ministries in fulfilling many needs within the Church in China and the nation.

God sends us out to “search and rescue” the lost, because at the true foundation of every man, woman and child is the image of God. Due to life’s circumstances, some have layers of “dirt” that need more excavation and removal than others, but in the end, God never loses hope in restoring potential sons and daughters to His Family and neither should we.

ZHEJIANG PROVINCE

THE HOMELESS



A LOT CAN HAPPEN UNDER A CITY OVERPASS.
THE HOMELESS ARE FED PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY
WITH FOOD, BIBLES AND BIBLE STUDY



TO KNOW THE ROAD AHEAD, ASK THOSE COMING BACK...

~ Chinese Proverb ~

IF YOU HAVE DONE BUT JUST ONE THING IN GOD'S LOVE TODAY
YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH.

~ Mother Teresa ~

Unfortunately, natural disasters are common in China. What a family or church saved for years, could be gone in a few seconds. East Gates is quick to respond in restoring Bibles, Christian literature and genuine “food for the soul” as well as help setting up temporary tents where they can worship.



SICHUAN PROVINCE



A church is a hospital for sinners and a sanctuary for saints. A medical clinic can be too, like this one, where most of the doctors and staff are believers. The Great Physician's presence is well known here. We provide Bibles and stand alongside with them in praying the diseased back to wholeness and life.

SHANDONG PROVINCE



ARM AND ARM IN THE STORM



My name is Brother Wang (Philip) and I was born in a small town called Enshi, in Shadi Township, located in the Western region of Hubei Province, China. This area is quite beautiful and called “little Mountain Lu.” During the Qing dynasty, a Belgium Catholic Church was built here and the Gospel spread. Historically, this region was also home to the Tujia Minority Tribe and to this day, their suspension-type homes remain, bringing a unique atmosphere to the area. I was fortunate in being able to spend my teenage years in this peaceful, quaint township.

In 1983, I was enlisted into the military. At the time, it was a dream come true for most youth since they would now be able to wear the coveted yellow uniform. My troop was stationed at Jiamusi, Heilongjiang Province. After leaving the army, I stayed there a short while and got married to a local girl. She was a Christian and because of her influence, I also became a believer and accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior.

In 1989, I was clearly called by God and sensed the need to become a full-time minister, so I quit my secular job. At that time, there was a Gospel revival in the Northeast and believers worked passionately night and day. Every day, God brought more and more people to church.

By the late 1990s, we had preached the Gospel to most of the counties and cities near Jiamusi and established many churches. The greatest difficulty we faced was the lack

of Bibles. Many believers as well as pastors did not have Bibles. We tried our best to contact Christian brothers and sisters in the largest cities such as Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. They made every effort to try and get us Bibles, but the most they could send were several hundred, which seemed insignificant given the great movement that was mounting with full force around Jiamusi. We knew at that point, it would take a miracle of God to satisfy the overwhelming demand for Bibles because the requests were growing daily. We decided to earnestly pray to God and ask Him to prepare us for the answer.

At that very time, God touched a Shanghai brother’s heart to write us a letter. We had never met him before. I remember to this day, the contents of the letter. He said, “God has given us a new ministry that provides Bibles to brothers and sisters that meet in homes.” I was deeply touched after receiving this letter. I knew now that God had heard our prayers. As a result, the entire church knelt down to pray and give praise to God.

I immediately wrote a letter to this brother since email did not exist at that time. Posting a letter was the only way of exchanging communication. I wrote, “We have been in dire need of God’s Word – the Bible. When we cried out loud to God, we received your letter. Our entire church knelt before God to praise Him.”

This brother sent us 10,000 Bibles. It was too wonderful for our eyes to comprehend and we knew it was the Lord’s

doing (Psalm 118:23). From that time on, East Gates consistently sent us Bibles. It not only satisfied our need, it also spread to the nearby areas like radiation. With this stream of Bibles now so readily available, we knew it would guarantee the spreading of the Gospel in Heilongjiang and the Northeastern part of China.

Two years later, this Shanghai brother came to visit us along with another co-worker. At that time, we knew they were working for an organization called East Gates. The organization's primary mission was to provide Bibles to the House churches along with other highly effective ministries. The Jiamusi church arranged for its co-workers involved with teaching, pastoral care and Sunday school work, to fellowship with East Gates' co-workers. Their wisdom and vision gave us great assistance.

We shared with the East Gates co-workers how the Gospel spread from a local humble dwelling. They asked me if the small house was still there. I told them, "Yes" but that it would be demolished soon. They immediately grabbed us to leave and said, "That house is a valuable part of the Jiamusi church's history. You should keep this historical information in tact to pass on down to the next generation. We must go there now to take some pictures!"

We were greatly strengthened by our contact and cooperation with East Gates' staff and their visit. Their co-workers from Hong Kong and the United States have visited Jiamusi many times. As always, East Gates provided Bibles, supplied us with different kinds of reference books and established a mini-library at our church. Undoubtedly, it gave our co-workers and students much insight towards developing their knowledge and deep understanding of the Bible.

East Gates was also concerned with our mission work. They traveled with us over several hundred miles to visit those brothers and sisters that were spreading the Gospel to the Hezhe Minority Tribe located downstream from the Amur River. They not only supported us financially

and helped us with personal matters but most importantly, they gave us great encouragement in the Lord.

East Gates has been developing ministries throughout China. We have heard and seen them. They understand that land is valuable when it comes to church development. They reminded us that at a suitable time in the future, we should reserve some land for church development. Through their inspiration, we started becoming more aware of vacated homes and unsold land around us.

On one occasion, when East Gates' brothers came to visit us again, we informed them that there was land for sale. They suggested that we immediately take a look at the property. We were touched by their passion and vigor in doing things. We visited the land that night and felt God had prepared it for us and decided to buy it. Now, we've built our training center on this property and graduates from this training facility have become the backbone at different churches.

Time has passed by quickly and it has been almost 20 years now that we've worked with East Gates. In these two decades, the Jiamusi church and East Gates have stood together through thick and thin, during the most peaceful and tumultuous years. Our relationship is not just work-related but encompasses life -- God's life. East Gates' ministry at our church has involved helping patients get medical consultation, provide financial assistance to the poor as well as assist our young brothers and sisters obtain higher levels of education. It's not possible to name everything East Gates has done for us.

In the past two decades, co-workers from both sides have built a deep and longstanding friendship. We view them as our older brothers in the Lord. When I finished writing this article, I read it to my co-workers. There was a teacher from Jiangsu Province named Miss Zhu. She was so deeply touched, she cried.

Today, the Jiamusi church has raised the flag of God's Truth in the Northeast part of China. By God's grace, it has attracted a multitude to Christ. It's due to all the hard work from every one of our brothers and sisters who have faithfully obeyed the will of God, as well as East Gates' staff and all our overseas brothers and sisters. It's the result of striving side by side, with one mind and one faith for the Gospel. May the Lamb who was sacrificed for us, our Lord, Jesus Christ, be blessed and glorified! Amen!

~ Brother Wang, co-worker

汪弟兄



A HEAVENLY REDEMPTION



My name is Brother Ming and I live in a beautiful small village located in the northern part of Zhejiang Province. I have two older sisters, so being the youngest and only male, I was quite coveted and pampered. When I was very young, Buddhism proved to be a great influence in my family although we were not superstitious. I especially remember us kowtowing to our ancestors during traditional Chinese festivals.

In 1983, when I turned 11 years old, one of my cousins came to work in my hometown. Since she was a Christian, she brought the Gospel to my family and village. I recall clearly how our neighbors would gather at our home to listen to her sermons. She also taught us how to sing hymns. Sitting on a small wooden stool, it was the first time I had ever heard the Gospel. Being young at the time, I wasn't aware of the incredible need to search and have the Gospel in my life.

In time, because of the good relationship my parents had with my cousin, they developed a good impression of Christianity and didn't oppose it. She gave us a Traditional Chinese version of the Bible and a wall calendar depicting Jesus' life. Occasionally, my parents would read the Bible but they didn't really believe what it said. For me, it was beyond my understanding at the time. The cal-

endar of Jesus, however, made the deepest impression on me. Every day at mealtime, I would see it hanging there and imagine what heaven, the future, good fortune and God be all about.

In 1988, when I turned 16, the Gospel started spreading rapidly and extensively throughout the northern part of Zhejiang Province. As more young people accepted Jesus as their Savior, more miracles started occurring. That year, as the Gospel message spread from one village to the next, my parents decided to trust and believe in Jesus. As soon as my parents put their faith in Jesus, God took a hold of them. First, He healed my father's rheumatism and stomach problems that had been troubling him for years. Shortly after, my mother accepted Christ and was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Following their powerful conversion, my parents asked my two older sisters and me to believe in Christ. I didn't say "no" since I had a great respect for them. To be honest, I didn't really believe in my heart what they believed. I just attended church meetings and learned some songs to make them happy. In truth, I just pretended to believe as a facade.

At that time, I was following more the desires of my heart and started becoming less virtuous. I would lie, deceive,

MY PARENTS BEGAN TO PRAY FOR ME OUT LOUD. "GOD, WE HAVE DONE NOTHING THAT CAN REPAY YOU FOR YOUR GRACE, SO WE OFFER OUR YOUNGEST SON TO YOU! MAY YOU GRAB A HOLD OF HIM AND USE HIM!"

steal and sometimes escape to buy tickets just to watch obscene films etc.

In 1989, I was attending a boarding school for high school students, located in another town about 60 kilometers (~37 miles) from my home. Being that far away, my parents no longer had control of me. In addition, I went home only once a month. I would visit for one night, ask my parents for some money and then go back to school the next day. I tried every way I could, to not attend my parents' Christian meetings. My heart became even more rebellious against God.

My parents didn't realize I had changed for the worse because when I was in junior high school, I was an excellent student, not only in academics but behavior as well. I was runner-up in the Political Affairs entrance exam for my county's high school. Given my previous accomplishments, it was only natural that my parents thought I was studying hard in high school. Little did they know, that I had lost the will to learn and started smoking, drinking, gambling and socializing with the Triad (a cult/gang).

Eventually, they discovered the truth when they received my report card from high school. I was the only one who flunked the first year's exam. I look back now and realize I had wasted my parents' money they had worked so hard to earn.

My parents began to pray for me out loud. "God, we have done nothing that can repay You for Your grace so we offer our youngest son to You! May You grab a hold of him and use him!"

God heard their prayers and I'm so thankful to my parents for their continual support over the years such that I can walk with God to this day.

God has always been working with me it seems. When my parents were praying for me, I had contracted a skin disease at school that itched and festered. Finally, the school had no alternative but to send me home. I returned and was healed through the prayers of my local Christian brothers and sisters.

I went back to school, but the skin ailment returned and there was no improvement even though I consulted many doctors. As a result, I went back home, got healed again

and came back to school. The skin problem reoccurred, so I was sent back home, got healed and returned to school. This event happened six more times, to the point I had to apply for a very long vacation until I was fully healed.



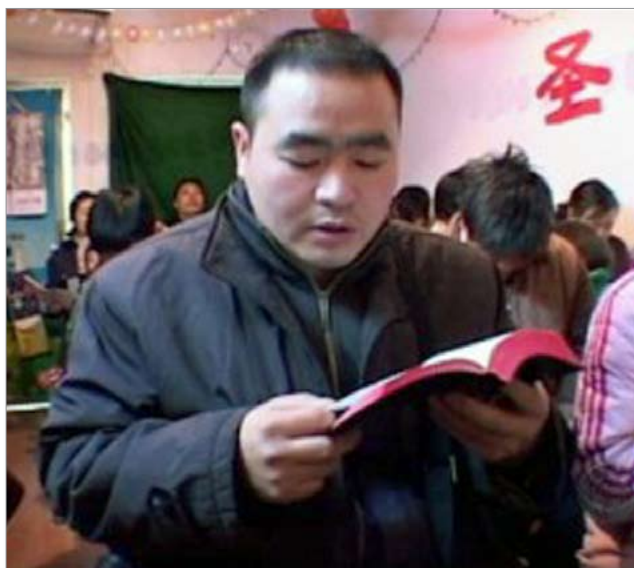
At that time, a local church was holding a revival meeting. Since I had nothing else better to do, I decided to take part. A Christian brother, around 50, spoke that evening. Given his accent, I knew he came from another area. He preached about the Sin Offerings of Israel so we could better understand our sins as Christians. During his message, I felt I had too many sins to repent of. My heart was so unsettled, I wanted to totally cry out in pure abandon. As the meeting went on, my heart felt more and more uneasy.

Right after the meeting, I asked an elder to pray for me. I told him I could not live any longer. We found a small room to pray and the minute I knelt down, I cried out bitterly from my heart. I didn't care what other people were thinking and just continued to weep. The evil things I did in the past completely seized my heart and I just confessed my sins to God with an outpouring of tears.

The brother next to me, kept praying continuously for me. He asked God to forgive me of my sins. His Light was so illuminating! This brother and I were praying for almost two hours until we walked out of the room. After we left, it was as if God's peace, joy and calmness absolved all my heaviness. My burdens were lifted.

After my confession that day, I started to attend Bible Study and prayer meetings. Gradually, I started to yearn for the biblical things I thought before were inconsequential and complicated. August 16th of that year, I was baptized in the Name of God. Afterwards, I started to live and work at the church.

In time, I felt the need to train and learn more about Bible truths as well as how to improve my spiritual life. I yearned and continue to yearn for these kind of opportu-



nities from God. He has such mercy on me. He listened to my parents' offering prayer and my prayer.

In 1991, I came to know two Christian brothers whom I came to respect highly – Uncle Wang and Uncle Zhang Guiyan. After three years of training in spiritual devotion, I began to realize that it's not only important to receive Bible knowledge, but one has to experience God's Word through practical application and service as well.

Uncle Wang went to the US in 1994 and I returned back to my hometown and started serving my church. During this period, Uncle Zhang would always give me guidance and counsel. He told me that I should be attentive to the soon coming Bible needs of different churches and that I could help him in this area.

When I was serving my local church, there were only one or two meetings points. Now, it has developed to where there are 50-60 meeting points and believers number into the tens of thousands. The Gospel work has been moving from the villages into the cities, and the age of the believers within the church is shifting from being more elderly to mostly middle-aged people.

Given this incredible growth, I began to consider what it took to really shepherd a flock. When I returned to my hometown, I started to train co-workers. Local co-workers were my first priority. Gradually, because of the need, I started training co-workers in other areas. As a result, I had the opportunity to make contacts with many different churches and believers. Recently, I've mainly focused on three provinces in the Northeast – Shandong, Hubei and Anhui, although I've also taught in Yunnan, Guizhou and Fujian provinces. Within my home province of Zhejiang, I've traveled to cities such as Ningbo, Pingyang, Pujiang etc. I will go to these places one to two times every year to train and disciple believers.

Given my experience over these past few years in full-time Bible ministry, these are my observations:

1) Believers still need Bibles in order for the Gospel to spread extensively. For example, not long ago, I visited a church in Hedong, Shenyang Province that had about 500 people. Every Tuesday evening, they would have an evangelistic meeting. Every month, their entire church would hold a crusade. A co-worker said, "At least 50 people come to accept Christ every month. The Church will give them a Bible when they start to attend the meetings." They need a steady supply of Bibles.

2) Believers along the coastal areas and in the southern part of China should purchase their own Bibles since their economic situation is much better. They can also use their own resources to help believers in the poorer areas. Believers tend to not value or cherish the Bible as much if it is just given to them free. When I went to Shandong Province, I discovered that some of the church believers could not buy their own Bible, so Bibles that were very low quality or self-printed had to be found.

3) It's good to have someone assigned to do follow-up work after free Bibles have been distributed. Even though we're all working for the Lord, there needs to be accountability. Those who are responsible for Bible distribution and delivery should be supervised, so that places with real needs won't be overlooked.

I'm really thankful to be able to serve in this way. Although I do not understand all the issues of every church throughout China, I'm discovering that every time I visit another grassroots church, I realize it's not too dissimilar from the typical church in my local area.

~ Brother Ming, co-worker
明弟兄

“ONE MORE CHRISTIAN. ONE LESS CRIMINAL.”

~Comment by a Religious Affairs Bureau Official in China to East Gates Staff ~

Mr. Liu used to be a hardcore gang leader, serving the world of darkness.

But God had his number and got a hold of him. Now he's *souled out* for the Lord and pastors a large congregation.

Heaven and earth shake with His prayers and preaching. Brother Liu now glorifies the Lord in bringing many sons and daughters to God's Kingdom of Light. Hallelujah!!



ONE IN A BILLION...

MAKING DISCIPLES IN CHINA



Today, Christian training centers have sprouted throughout China. There is a thirst to understand God's definition of truth, love, wisdom, justice, morals, grace, wealth, sacrifice, righteousness....

As students apply more biblical values in their lives, their true identity begins to blossom. As they allow God's nature to develop more fully from within, they experience a freedom not of this world.

The reality of John 8:32 comes to life -- *"...and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*



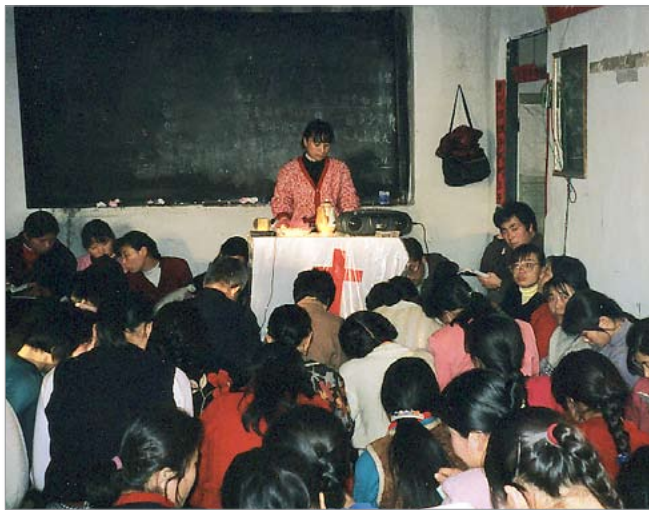
IN GOD'S ECONOMY,
ONE HAS INFINITE
WORTH...



East Gates has direct and indirect involvement with training centers throughout China. Sometimes it's through teaching and discipling. Other times, it's through supplying pastors and students with valuable training materials or it may involve making funds available so believers can be discipled at a local training center.

FEED MY SHEEP

~ John 21:16-17 ~



WITH TIME AND PATIENCE,
THE MULBERRY LEAF BECOMES
A SILK GOWN.

~ Chinese Proverb ~



Like the Jews, one of the greatest virtues of Chinese culture is their insatiable love and desire to study. They don't wait for perfect environment or conditions. They know that, "Wherever two or more are gathered, there will my Spirit be" and that's all that counts.



GOD SEES ME...

My name is Sister Houpu. I was born in Shanghai and my parents were all petty bank clerks. The Cultural Revolution broke out in 1966 when I was in third-grade, primary school. I was shocked and it was painful to witness my beloved teachers denounced and humiliated by the Red Guards at public meetings. Next door lived Grandma Zhang, a cordial and lonely lady in her seventies, whom I was on good terms with. Her only son, a Kuomintang officer, went to Taiwan after the victory of the War of Resistance (1937-1945) against Japan. Because of this, on a wintry day, the Red Guards searched her house, confiscated her valuables and property. They drove her out of her home, to a faraway location, where she found herself in some alley way without heat, gas or sanitary facilities. This incident terrified and hurt me deeply.

At 16, I was assigned to hard labor at a farm on an island far from my hometown. Not used to heavy physical labor, the team leader thought I was lazy, so he called others to throw mud at me and abuse me with dirty words day after day. In the severe winters, I dug riverbeds. In the sultry summers, I planted rice seedlings, toiling from early morning until late at night, with hardly any rest days in all those years. I experienced terrible physical and mental torture.

At that time, the farm had no running water so we drank from the polluted river. When I felt thirsty while transplanting rice seedlings in the hot summer, I had no other choice but to drink the dirty ditch water. As a result, I caught many diseases and my health deteriorated considerably. Li Anyu, an elder sister in my brigade, who received a regular high school education before the Cultural Revolution, took pity on me and lent me her used textbooks and masterpieces of Chinese classic literature. She comforted, encouraged and influenced me. After the end of the Cultural Revolution, I studied for the college entrance examination, passed it and was admitted into the English Department of a university.

I had no faith at the time. I had never contacted any religious group or ever heard of the Christian Gospel. I no longer believed in Marxism and all the Mao Zedong ide-

ologies that had been taught during the Cultural Revolution turmoil (1966-1976). The problem was, I had no other value system to replace it. Consequently, I became self-centered and narrow-minded. I knew I had to study hard to make up for all the lost time I worked on the farm.

Yang Mimi, an elder sister in my neighborhood, who had refused to go to the countryside to be reeducated by the poor peasants, stayed at home during the ten tumultuous years. She studied foreign languages under the guidance of her mother, a college professor. After the Cultural Revolution, Yang Mimi got accepted to a graduate program in English Language and Literature. Later, she passed another state level exam for the national training program of UN translators and interpreters. I regarded her as my role model and decided to study hard to become a UN translator also.

Oblivious to the outside world, I skipped my political studies and became apathetic towards my classmates. For some reason, I considered them my rivals. I was unwilling to lend them the Time and Newsweek magazines that Uncle John Yen, a friend of my father's in Hongkong, gave me. In my third year of college, I succeeded in passing the state level entrance examination to the UN Translators and Interpreters Training Program. Due to my physical health limitations, affected during the Cultural Revolution, I weighed the pros and cons and decided to work for my Alma Mater after graduation.

At this time, I still felt lost and quite disappointed. I had discarded the Maoism tenet of "serving the people wholeheartedly" together with its "class struggle." I was not sincere and serious about my own job except contributing only my articles and translations to newspapers and magazines. Because of this, I was severely criticized and punished by my school authority.

God still seemed to be looking after me because one day, Uncle John Yen sent me the *Plain Truth*, an English Christian magazine. I liked reading it very much. Under its subtle influence, I completed the Master program of International Journalism at my university and on the side, finished a Bible correspondence course.



During that timeframe, a Malaysian pastor from Grace Communion International church, Mr. Yong Chin Gee, contacted me. He taught me to recognize our Savior Jesus Christ as the One who paid for our sins through the Cross and God's tremendous mercy and grace. He also introduced me to Sister Christina Kuo, who had just joined East Gates. In the spring of 1998, she was teaching at Nanjing Jinling Theological Seminary. I traveled by train to Nanjing to meet her. We talked for a long time and began corresponding with each other.

She was very amiable and cared about my spiritual welfare. When she came to Shanghai, she would visit me. She sent me several articles and poems and asked if I could translate them into Chinese for Christian brethren in Shanghai, which I did. I appreciated her biblical knowledge, wisdom and literary talent. After reading the editor's notes to Ruth Bell Graham's *One Wintry Night*, I discovered she came from noble Chinese ancestry. Given her background and education in the US, she could have done many things in her life, but she took the path God chose for her -- to serve her brothers and sisters in China.

She has helped many lonely souls like me who were scarred by the Cultural Revolution, a man-made disaster.

Soon after we met, she asked an East Gates co-worker to send me an English-Chinese Bible, many Christian devotionals and reference books for study. She said I could also share them with my Christian friends in Shanghai.

The book, *A Foreign Devil in China*, by Dr. L. Nelson Bell, Ruth Bell Graham's father, influenced me profoundly. Looking back on the good work of East Gates in China these past 20 years, I can say it certainly has followed the footsteps of former Christian pioneers in China and paved the path for others in the future.

East Gates co-workers have been to so many out-of-the-way poor areas in China to preach the Gospel, plant churches, set up new meeting places as well as assist orphanages and elderly homes. They meet spiritual needs in a down-to-earth manner.

With the help of Christina, I repented of my sins, was baptized and now have a new life in Christ. Influenced by Christina, Mr. Yong Chin Gee and Dr. Yan Hong-bing, I started to attend churches on Sundays, study the Bible, pray daily and fellowship with Chinese Christians so could become more Christ-like. My personality has changed and I am more willing to help others.

I've shared Christian literature with my colleagues and friends, given English books that I've edited to the children of my church friends and have done voluntary translation work for East Gates (ie. "*In Memory of Sister Esther Wang*" by James Taylor III from English to Chinese, "*God Intends It for Good*," "*Nothing Is So Hard for God*"). I have also volunteered to translate correspondence work for an East Gates brother, who invited me to attend some House church meetings at his friend's home. They have helped me a great deal.

I am thankful to God for my renewal and spiritual growth in Christ through the help of Grace Communion International and East Gates. In celebration of East Gates' 20th anniversary, I should say, "Thank you, East Gates!" I will continue to be light and salt for Christ in China, be happy in the Lord, do not seek fame and wealth on the earth, be humble, modest and tolerant always and love others as myself. I will continue to be like a candle, allowing God to use me, like East Gates, to light the way for others in China.

~ Sister Houpu, co-worker
厚樸姊妹

TOGETHER WITH EAST GATES, WE GROW UP UNTO THE HEAD WHICH IS CHRIST

In the summer of 1993, we happened to meet a small group of ten deaf and mute Christians that quietly met in our city of Zhangzhou, Fujian Province. A young lady, Wen-xuan, organized it. Lead by the Holy Spirit, we started to worship and fellowship with them. My husband, Jie-zhong, prayed that he could pick up sign language quickly. God answered. Soon he was communicating with them fluently. A few months passed and more people came. They named the fellowship, Tian-yin or Heavenly Voice Deaf People's Church. They formed a Tian-yin choir and began meeting in a regular church.

The following year, they started their own website and expanded their ministry to the southern part of Fujian Province. Wherever the choir went, revival came to local churches. Many people were moved by the members' amazing testimonies on their website and how they repented of their sins.

In the winter of 2005, East Gates co-workers and Brother Zeng Han-hua came to visit us, due to their desire to assist people who were deaf and mute. We had never experienced so much joy as when they came. Brother Zeng had a very good theological background. He was kind, amiable and had much experience in working with the dumb and mute. His sermons were full of wisdom yet humorous. He understood how we felt and gave us new revelation on the love of Christ.

The East Gates co-workers were so approachable and tore down the walls of silence between those who could hear and speak and those who could not. That night, the deaf and mute felt respected and comforted. A beautiful girl named Shu-wan, used to be afraid to share her worries but she felt safe around these brothers. She asked them through email, to pray for the salvation of her husband who was a gang member.

Brother Zeng likes to write down the names of new friends and have his picture taken with them, so he can remember to pray for them when he gets home. Our members notice this, and feel more than ever, that they are indeed "one family" with the outside world through Christ.

During the financial crisis, many of our members were affected. East Gates did so much for us even though they felt it was not enough. We were deeply touched. After their first visit, one of their main co-workers, Brother Zhang, wrote an article for our church entitled, *Pray for the Deaf and Mute in China*. It was uploaded to our web site and eventually, other web sites copied it.

East Gates' concern for us is not just through words alone, but through action in every area of our ministries. They help but never interfere with our internal management of church or personal affairs.



An East Gates staff member teaches the deaf and mute believers while a fellow co-worker translates using sign language.



God speaks powerfully to those with a contrite spirit and heart.

... AND THOSE MEMBERS OF THE BODY WHICH WE DEEM LESS HONORABLE, ON THESE WE BESTOW MORE ABUNDANT HONOR... GOD HAS SO COMPOSED THE BODY, GIVING MORE ABUNDANT HONOR TO THAT MEMBER WHICH LACKED, SO THAT THERE MAY BE NO DIVISION IN THE BODY, BUT THAT THE MEMBERS MAY HAVE THE SAME CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

~ I Corinthians 12:23-25 ~

For example, the Tian-yin church grew quickly and needed a larger place to worship. In January 2006, God prepared a 3-story house for us and the love donation from East Gates enabled us to buy it. Every Spring now, our brothers and sisters joyfully meet with the East Gates co-workers. we love this kind of respect and mutual cooperation within the Body of Christ.

In March 2006, a Brother Zheng at the Hu-xin church in Zhejiang Province discovered our ministry through our website. He said the Hu-xin district was in an industrial area where many deaf, mute and disabled people came from different parts of the country to work. He said their church did not know how to share the gospel with them and hoped we could provide assistance. After praying and preparing for this opportunity, we sent out a group of four people (Zhang Jie-zhong, Bao Wen-xuan, Guo Lan-fang and Huang Bing-shan) and it was the start of the Tian-yin Deaf People Fellowship -- a ministry that would help deaf people throughout Zhejiang Province.

Over the years, the Zhangzhou Tian-yin Church has worked with many churches in establishing meeting

points for the deaf and mute. At present, over 30 deaf meet at the Yu-huan church and over 100 attend the Hu-heng Church. We also assist the Wenzhou churches establish deaf and mute meetings points since they have more international exposure. They invite American pastors to learn from their deaf and mute fellowships and meeting points. The word is spreading.

Throughout the years, we've worked closely with East Gates in all areas of ministry. As Brother Zhang's article, *Pray for the Deaf and Mute in China* stated, "Serving the deaf and mute is part of the Gospel. It needs the entire Body of Christ working together to bring true revival of the Gospel!"

We want to grow in Christ together with all churches and organizations. Most hope deaf and mute ministries will continue to grow and flourish. May the deaf and mute be filled more and more with God's grace. May God fulfill our wishes! Glory to the Name of God!

~ Huang Yan-ling

The Zhangzhou Tian-yin Deaf and Mute People's Church



ON THAT DAY THE DEAF WILL HEAR WORDS OF A BOOK, AND OUT OF THEIR GLOOM AND DARKNESS THE EYES OF THE BLIND WILL SEE.

~ Isaiah 29:18 ~



UNLESS THE LORD SHALL BUILD A HOUSE...



One of our most rewarding church building projects was becoming aware of the needs of our brothers and sisters in Gaoshan. Through great vision, much prayer and preparation, a Christian architect and contractor was hired to assist them with plans to build a church atop the Gaoshan Mountain range bordering China and Myanmar (Burma).

The entire congregation, from the youngest to the oldest, all took part. Joy filled their hearts as they worked day and night. In less than a year, praise and worship could be heard echoing from the new sanctuary. Their church is just one of hundreds scattered throughout this beautiful region.

Whatever they put their hands to do for the Lord, they do with all their might!





I Chronicles 22:15-19

“You have workman in abundance, hewers, workers of stone and timber, and all kinds of craftsmen without number, skillful in doing every kind of work...so arise and be doing, and the Lord be with you! Is not the Lord your God with you? And has He not given you peace on every side? Now set your mind and heart to seek - inquire of and require as your vital necessity - the Lord your God. Arise and build the sanctuary of the Lord God, so that the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord and the holy vessels of God may be brought into the house built to the name and renown of the Lord.”

AND YOU SHALL BUILD FOR ME A SANCTUARY WHERE I WILL PLACE MY NAME...

Since its inception, East Gates was most well-known for legal Bible distribution throughout China. In the process of fulfilling thousands of Bible requests, we developed lifelong relationships with many pastors and churches who told us their next greatest need was for funds to build a church or meeting point. So we got to work...



▲ In our years of experience in working with local churches, we find that once they receive a vision, mission and Word from the Lord to build a church, it literally rises out of the rubble almost overnight. Some members will pour their life savings towards a church building fund.

Every building project request requires us to visit with the pastor and lay leaders, assessing the situation and seeing how we can partner together in making their dream come true. East Gates encourages the church to contribute as much as they can so they can experience God working in the midst of them. When this happens, their faith and trust are in Him, not us.

During the 1st century New Testament Church era, almost all believers met in homes. Eventually, synagogues, temples and churches became commonplace. China's Christian history follows the same path.



▲ This House church can hold 200 members.

Dear Brother Ned, Sister Christina & the East Gates Staff ~

We rejoice with you on the 20th anniversary of the ministry of East Gates. Christians all over China are blessed by your labor of love for the Lord.

Several years ago, our workers visited a house that was a meeting point for the Christians in a poor area in Central China. It was run down and there were leaks whenever there was rain. However, when they visited the house again the next time, it was repaired. Believers were worshipping the Lord in a newly constructed house because of contributions from East Gates. This incident is only one of the testimonies of the many churches that East Gates has ministered to in China.

May God continue to bless and expand what He is doing in China through the ministry of East Gates.

*Brother and Sister Lit
Fellow Workers in China*



Many churches we assist also serve as training centers.



Sometimes, requests to help refurbish or rebuild village house churches come from the most obscure places.



Amazingly, in this church, each seat is made of a pillar of bricks. Members bring their own cushions. In China, every church you can possibly imagine exists.



Sometimes churches need help not only with construction but also in buying the land.

BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD, THE LAMB OF GOD
WAS SLAIN, SO THAT HIS ETERNAL NATURE COULD BECOME ONE
WITH OURS, THEREBY ALLOWING FOR THE PERPETUATION OF HIS
LIFE IN THIS WORLD AND THE WORLD TO COME.

GOD'S TRUTH CONTINUES TO ECHO FORTH FROM CREATION...

FROM THE GARDEN OF EDEN...
THROUGH TO THE TIMES OF THE PATRIARCHS—ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB...
THE MAJOR AND MINOR PROPHETS...
AND THE GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES...



RESOUNDING THROUGH
THE VOICE OF OUR KING, YESHUA,
GOD IN THE FLESH...

FROM JERUSALEM...

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH...

TRAVELING WEST AND NOW COMING FULL CIRCLE
THROUGH TO THE EAST...

HOMeward BOUND TO THE HOLY LAND!

EAST GATES' VISION

The vision of East Gates is to help the Body of Christ in Asia, particularly China, fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 29:19-20). Working legally and in partnership with the Church in China, East Gates seeks to equip the Christians in China with the tools they need to grow in their relationship with God and to reach out with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

EAST GATES' MISSION

- To equip our brothers and sisters in China with Bibles and Christian literature as well as assist pastors and lay leaders with training tools to help their ministry.
- To build bridges to China's leaders at all levels so better understanding and trust is established between China's believers and the secular authorities who govern their nation.
- To partner with other ministries that serve China whose philosophy of ministry is in agreement with working legally and in cooperation with the churches in China.

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East Gates International gratefully accepts donations, to support and promote the work of our brethren in China. Please see our website, or call us for details, on how you can help.