



East Gates

Seeing Beyond the Impossible™

INTERNATIONAL

July-August 2016

*D*ear East Gates partner,

When we look at what is happening around the world, there is cause for great consternation. One could say that on the outside, things may seem like they're falling apart but from the Throne Room perspective, things are falling together.

Around 2000 years ago, Jesus stood on the Mount of Olives and proclaimed to His disciples major events that would precede His second coming (Matthew 24). Living in a volatile "earthquake" zone (spiritually and physically), it's not surprising Jesus' disciples thought the Messiah would return in their lifetime. We share with our Chinese brothers and sisters that given the momentous events happening around the world, it's not surprising we would think Jesus' eminent second return would be around the corner as well. Jesus' words continue to resonate and come to pass globally before our eyes everyday. (Matthew 24:1-14).



Many false prophets will rise up and lead many into error.



Ethnicities will rise against ethnicities.
Nation against nation.



Famines and pestilences will increase.



Earthquakes will occur in diverse places.

*G*iven China's 5000 year long history, it is used to domestic events of a cataclysmic nature but we share with our Chinese brothers and sisters that Jesus Christ is warning us about events to occur of cosmic and global proportions which mankind has never experienced.
Matthew 24:21



Because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

We share with our students that Jesus Christ tells us *not* to be afraid or anxious-ridden (v.6) All authority has been given to Him over heaven and earth (Matthew 28:18). We tell them to write in their Bibles ~

FEED YOUR FAITH AND YOUR FEARS WILL STARVE TO DEATH!

We admonish our Chinese students to add to God's divine order and not satan's earthly disorder (Ephesians 2:2). With humanity's continual desire to play god, they should not be surprised of all the dis-EASE that surrounds them. In the meantime, prepare for the Kingdom to come and the imperishable crown that awaits them.

Although much of the world's attention will be on the XXXI Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from August 5-21, God's attention will be on His spiritual Olympians. Hebrews 11 lists just a few. His "Hall of Fame of Faith" grows daily and thousands are Chinese. They're not whom the world would consider as great but in God's eyes, they have the crown of righteousness. It's not about who wins, but about who truly loves, God's way.

In our training sessions, we speak of the things that are not yet, as if they are. We don't train for Kingdom glory because we have to but because we love the King and we want to. Every morning, we rise with the Son and meditate upon His ways like an athlete rehearses for the perfect dive, run, jump or swim. We absorb His truths so in time it becomes instinctive and a life-giving habit versus just a technique.



The start is sometimes the most important part of the race. The body and mind are at full attention -- listening and intensely focused.

"For physical training is of some value...but godliness [spiritual training] is useful and of value in everything and in every way, for it holds promise for the present life and also for the life which is to come."

I Timothy 4:5
Amplified



Students preparing for the life to come at the Cixi Training School.

Sometimes it takes years to perfect one verse out of our training manual, the Bible, but like an Olympic athlete who practices every day, so do we. For example, to live by Ephesians 4:29 (Amplified) is a major challenge for most spiritual Olympians -- "Let no foul or polluting language, or worthless talk [ever] come out of your mouth; but only such [speech] as is good and beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may be a blessing and give grace (God's favor) to those who hear it." Can you imagine if everyone in the world lived by this verse? That is what we share with our Chinese students. It can start with you. You can reveal what the true rewards are that come from the true training instruction Book, the true Coach and the true Spirit by what you pray and live out each day.



This praying medical staff knows who our *Great Physician* is and whom they need to go to for wisdom to help restore the poor in spirit and sick.



A streetworker and others take time to pray during their busy day.



Chinese "Olympians" know that Godly perseverance comes with collective prayer during times of church persecution as what recently occurred in Wenzhou, China.

The late Ruth Bell Graham, whom many of our Chinese brothers and sisters affectionately knew as a “daughter of China” once wrote:

“The center of power, it has been said, is to be found not in the summit meetings, the peace conferences, of the United Nations, but rather where a child of God prays for God’s will to be done in his life, his home, and in the world about him. We cannot pray and remain the same. We cannot pray and have the world about us remain the same. God has decreed to act in response to prayer. “Ask,” He commands us. And Satan trembles for fear we will. Alexander the Great once gave a poor man a city and when he modestly refused it as too great for him, Alexander replied, “The business is not what thou art fit to receive but what it becometh me to give.”

Someone has said that in praying for those we love we must remember: 1) The love of God that wants the best for them; 2) The wisdom of God that knows what is best for them; and 3) The power of God that can accomplish it. Heaven must be full of answers to prayers for which no one ever bothered to ask.”

In light of Ruth’s powerful words on prayer, I (Christina) would like to share what divine power and blessings can flow from our East Gates’ prayer network. At the end of March 2016, my mother, Margaret, a devout Christian, was advised by doctors to have her right leg removed just above the knee due to circulation issues. I asked our East Gates team to pray. Sonny, our Project Director, sent an “all points bulletin out” to those whom he knew would genuinely go before God’s Throne Room on my mom’s behalf. Sister Sheng was one of them. A few months ago, I met her in Shanghai. She told me in person, “When Sonny sent me the prayer request for your mom, I knew I had to do my homework, so I wrote my heartfelt prayers out and asked him to send it to you” (see translation below). When East Gates prays, a whole community prays.

Dear heavenly Father ~ Margaret’s condition is getting worse. She needs surgery to amputate half of her leg to save her life. At this moment, may Your loving kindness and mercy surround her. Remove any anxiety within the depths of her heart. Help her to know and deeply believe that You will keep her body, soul and spirit in peace. Increase her faith and comfort her. Dear Savior Lord Jesus, You’re the One and only miracle-working Doctor who can heal Margaret’s pain. May Your healing grace on the precious Cross fill Margaret richly! May Your precious Blood become the only healing medicine flowing through her body so it makes every systematic function of her body nourished and restored so she may recover quickly! May Margaret experience the wonderful healing power of Your Blood. May she live out a dynamic life gained by Your Blood. May the Holy Spirit guide the surgeon’s hands so he is completely under Your control, working with the precious healing Blood of Jesus. May the surgery go smoothly and be blessed by God! Praying in the victorious Name of my Resurrected Savior and the Lord Jesus’ Blood. Amen!” ~ Sheng

Thank you East Gates “Prayer Olympians” for your gold medal efforts! My mom is well now and is a continual beacon of hope and inspiration to all those around her. She’s less mobile these days but prays everyday for all the leaders and believers in Israel, China, the U.S. and more...



Two spiritual “gold medalists.”
Our mothers ~ Margaret Kuo and the late Ruth Bell Graham (1920-2007).



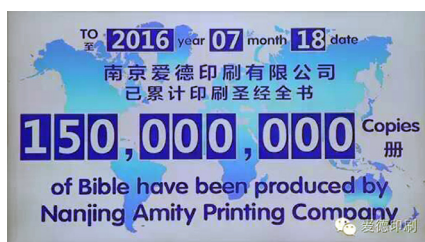
Sister Sheng and Christina



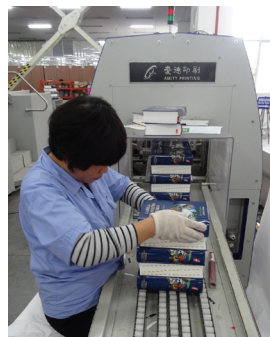
Christina and mom

In a day and age, where it is easy to backslide, become apathetic or hopeless, we quote well-known American theologian and Bible teacher, Warren Wiersbe from his book, *Be Decisive* --“If Christians were putting into their spiritual walk the kind of discipline that athletes put into their chosen sport, the church would be pulsating with revival life.” That is so true but sadly in the West, this is no longer the case.

We share with our Chinese co-workers, imagine living in a world with no moral absolutes, where truth is in the eye of the beholder and society continues to fall prey to eroding standards. It's happening all around us and this condition existed as well during the time of Jeremiah. He was called to take a public stand for God's Truth and he did. Thankfully, the Body of Christ in China is doing the same.



On July 18, 2016, Amity Printing Press will have printed 150 million Bibles. The digital clock keeps flipping.



Amity staff work around the clock.



Painted on a column at Amity Printing Press.



East Gates gifting the youth with children's Bibles.



East Gates helping young believers stay on fire and not lose sight of their goal and imperishable crown.



Rejoicing in the fruits of one's labors with the baptisms of our Jiangxi Province brothers and sisters.



Supporting Marriage Enrichment Retreats to equip couples to build Godly families.



AFTER ALL, WHAT GIVES US
HOPE AND JOY, AND WHAT
WILL BE OUR PROUD REWARD
AND CROWN AS WE STAND
BEFORE OUR LORD JESUS
WHEN HE RETURNS?
IT IS YOU!

I THESSALONIANS 2:19



Ned and Christina Graham
Ned and Christina Graham