

Voice of China and Asia

MISSIONARY SOCIETY, INC.



Touching Asia for Christ for Over 100 Years!

The Monthly Newsletter for our Co-laborers and Friends of the Voice of China and Asia

JUNE 2017

***And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer;
and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. – Isaiah 65:24***

Dear Missions Friend,

Your partnership in this work is so deeply appreciated. I am honored we can work together as the Lord's co-laborers proclaiming the Gospel among one-quarter of the world's population!



At this moment God's Word touched generations to come.

When recently asked the results of our latest mission work in China, I joyfully answered, "We batted 1,000!" In mission terms that means everything we attempted was successful. Every church was full of expectant believers. Every training site was well attended.

And, every motorcycle was joyfully and so gratefully received by proven rural preachers.

Even so, it is not unusual for us to encounter the unexpected on our trips. That is why we warn our team members to remain flexible. During one of our sessions that meant waiting behind closed doors while local civic authorities warned the assembled preachers to, "Beware of religious influences from outside China!"

But they arrived too late! We had already completed our lessons on how to use a new Study Bible! The whole assembly of untrained rural preachers were thrilled!

Most of them had slept on the concrete floor in the church in anticipation of the training sessions.

Every day, I hope you will remember how you have transformed the ministries of these leaders who live to share about Jesus. Through your support you have empowered them to preach on specific topics using the concordance in the back of their Study Bible. They can now also preach on various connected themes using cross references and valuable study notes written by the outside world's finest Chinese Christian scholars.

We revel that so much has already been accomplished this year. Though back from the foreign field only a few weeks, as stewards of your trust, we are in full preparation for our Bible distribution and training work in the coming months.

And we are not alone in this effort. Thanks to a generous grant from the Tyndale House Foundation, we have just received funds to equip 1,000 more rural preachers with Chinese Pastor's Study Bibles.



Jonathan Brooks with rural teachers and lay-preachers joyfully displaying their new Study Bibles.

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Also, on behalf of the Christian Motorcycle Association, Missionary Ventures International of Orlando, FL has once again reaffirmed our standards for verified and targeted motorcycle delivery to China's most capable preachers and evangelists. This has qualified us to receive grants to purchase even more motorcycles on every trip we take to China!

We are truly grateful we have met, and in many cases exceeded, the missions expectations of these notable organizations in their desire to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to our world. I am also grateful for friends like you who have helped us build and sustain these outreaches throughout the years. God is truly blessing the work of your hands.



Our friends at Missionary Ventures International. Jonathan Brooks, center, with Arlen King (l.), and Glen DuBois (r.).

Many of those we reach have already made an initial commitment to the Lord, but without Bibles, they remain babes in Christ. As they look to their untrained leaders for guidance, discipleship may take a lifetime. Believers remain vulnerable to deceptive false voices—and in China there are many—but the voice of the True Shepherd is learned through encounters with the Word of God. This is why we move forward with Christ's command, to "make disciples," firmly etched in our hearts (Matthew 28:19).

With a Bible in the hands of a rural believer, the Lord can teach them long after we leave. They can learn to recognize the voice of the Holy Spirit to lead and guide them as a powerful witness to His transforming glory. Testimonies will emerge from the overflow of their hearts, souls will be saved, and the Kingdom of God will be multiplied.



Hugging her new Bible, a most precious gift.

To this end I ask if you will join with me in faith, believing that a provision of \$30,000 for Bibles will be received by July 31st. This amount is in addition to our monthly missionary support, our handicapped orphan care, training schools and general office needs which you have so generously provided.

Yes, this is a stretch of faith. But, I am confident the Lord will supply for His beloved Chinese from the initial sponsorship to the final placement of every Bible into the hands of grateful rural Chinese believers.

Thank you for praying. And thank you for your personal financial sacrifice. You are touching generations for Christ. The Lord is surely cheering us onward!

Yours for souls,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Brooks".

Jonathan Brooks
President

Epaphrus – The Man Who Wrestled in Prayer (Part 2)

By Rev. Geof Jackson

The following excerpts are from a sermon delivered to students and faculty at the Voice of China and Asia Peniel Seminary Chapel Service in Busan, Korea on March 27, 2017.

Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers, that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. For I bear him witness that he has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis.

– **Colossians 4:12, 13**

Through teaching, preaching and prayer, we connect our heart with our people and help them grow into all that God would have them to be. For Epaphras, the pastor at Colossae, these were his highest goals. He was one of Paul's young trainees.

While visiting Paul in prison in Rome, Epaphras was noted as a great leader and servant of Christ Jesus (Colossians 1:7, 8). Paul only said that about one other person in the Bible, Timothy.

As Paul wrote to the Colossians, he used words that described Epaphras as one who continually wrestled on their behalf in prayer.

Though 1,000km away, his heart was endeared to his people. He deeply desired they reach the fullness of what God had for them. Continually in prayer, Epaphras asked God to do more for them than what he alone could do.

You, as future pastors and teachers must realize, our people need more than our teaching. They need more than what we can give them on Sunday morning and on weeknights, they need us to pray for them.

I know Koreans are people of prayer. You pray with boldness and passion. So did Epaphras. He knew his congregation needed the power of God released through prayer. How did he know this? He learned it from Paul.

Colossians 4:12 tells us Epaphras prayed they would stand perfect and complete, or as the original language tells us, mature and fully assured. This is something we can pray for everyone on our prayer list.

It takes teaching, preaching and prayer to bring people to maturity. What was missing could only come through the power of God.

We pray because many we touch need breakthroughs. By praying, we admit God has power to do what we cannot. We can teach our best, but after our sermons are done, God will continue to work on people's hearts. He will reveal things we cannot.



Rev. Geof Jackson delivering a sermon to students and faculty at Voice of China and Asia Peniel Seminary.

Now that I have met with you, I will start praying you will be complete and there will be nothing missing in your life. I'm not just going to pray it once. I'm going to pray it every time God brings you to mind.

Will we love God's people from our heart like Epaphras? Will we allow them to be a burden upon us? Epaphras even prayed for those in other cities. He didn't

just stop with those in his own church.

I have just come from China. I'll be praying for the believers there. Believe me, there will be tears. Because God has given me a heart for what He wants to do in His people.

Preach God's Word, Teach God's Word. Pray God's Word. If Epaphras can pray that way, we can too!

Next month learn how your prayers can bring God's people to their "highest and best" in the conclusion (part 3) to "Epaphras – The Man Who Wrestled in Prayer."

Is China Calling? – Short-Term Missions Opportunity

Applications for our fall short-term mission teams are now being accepted. As a team member you will verify the delivery of up to 5,000 Chinese Bibles to rural locations where believers have fasted and prayed for such a miracle. You will share how the Word of God has changed your life. And you will affirm those who daily sacrifice their lives to evangelize rural China.

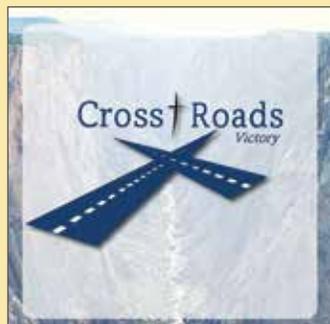


VOCA partner Ken Oliver, visiting our home office, is the first team member approved for our November 2017 distribution trip. (Ken's fourth trip with us!)



After reaching four different provinces, our November 2016 team reassembled in Shanghai for debriefing and touring before returning home.

Is China Calling? Is this God's timing for you? Applications are now being accepted through July 24th from ministry partners and project sponsors for our October 29 – November 8, 2017, Short-Term China Mission Teams. Visit our website "Mission Trip" tab for a brochure. Call today for more information and online application access (877) 392-0560. We will look forward to hearing from you!



We invite our Western Colorado Friends To Join Us For Services At:

Crossroads Victory Church | 515 S. Hillcrest Dr. | Montrose, CO. 81401
Sunday, July 2, 2017 | 10:00AM.

Voice of China and Asia presentation – potluck luncheon will follow.
Contact: Rev. Marvin Oliver • (970) 497-9044.



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SHORT-TERM MISSIONS TRIP

Join us this year in China!
October 29 – November 8, 2017
Trip closes July 24, 2017
chinateam@voiceofchinaandasia.com



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