



Lifeline
INTERNATIONAL
Proclaiming Truth, Providing Help.

MONTHLY NEWS

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THE DAY JESUS MET A CHINESE ZACCHEUS

Most missionaries can testify to the difficulty of overseas ministry. Taking the gospel to the unreached and training leaders in far away places can be grueling at times.

Boarding planes designed for small Asians, moving from one dirty city to another, teaching morning to night for weeks, eating unfamiliar food, climbing mountains, fording streams, floating down Chinese rivers, riding hours on buses and trains, sleeping under mosquito nets in broken down hotels can challenge your endurance.

These are not complaints. This is the road we travel to experience some of the most wonderful encounters this side of heaven.

No where else do we see the level of spiritual hunger as we do in China. University students, church workers and pastors endure even greater hardship than ourselves to attend our gatherings. It's our joy to watch God meet that hunger with powerful impartation and miracles; it is quite rewarding just to have a front row seat to these encounters.



Many years ago, we were in the middle of such a difficult mission. We had visited a village to conduct a one day meeting with leaders and students. To avoid public attention, my identity as a foreigner was concealed by a motorcycle helmet and gloves.



That day God moved powerfully upon the leaders not only in spiritual impartation but in healing manifestations.

As we gathered our things to leave the village, **the leaders prevailed upon us to go to a nearby home to pray for a teenage boy who was crippled in his legs.** As I remember it, the unbelieving father was a prominent businessman in town. His son was mangled in a motorcycle accident and complications had made him unable to walk.

The room was filled with desperate people now hopeful and excited because we had arrived to pray. The scene was just as I would have imagined when Jesus came to Jairus' house.

The anointing that was present made it a calm, almost "a matter of fact" kind of ministry call. **Jesus had come into the home through us! We knew for sure the healing would take place.**

As expected, the miracle was effortless. **The boy's legs were immediately restored and he began to walk about the room with a look of disbelief on his face.** We said our goodbyes to the parents and the roomful of shouting saints and headed back out of the village. We piled into the van parked on the edge of town and began driving away.

That's when we spotted the father of the house running after the van with tears streaming down his face yelling at us in Chinese. He had run all the way through town to catch up with us. When he reached the van, he threw a fistful of money into the window. As I collected the money from my lap, I had every intention of refusing payment for a miracle. Then I realized what was happening.

The stunning miracle that took place in his home had taken a little time for him to process. It finally dawned upon him that Jesus Christ whom the Christians preached had just visited his house and supernaturally changed his world!

Convinced by a miracle, He became an instant believer! His first response was to run through the village to catch us and give thanks in the best way he knew how!

I'll never forget that scene! It was worth every hardship that day to witness **the village "Zaccheus" meet Jesus, and become a changed man!**



Personally

This month, I am traveling with my son and daughter through China. Pretty amazing, really, considering...

Have I ever told you my testimony?

Growing up with 13 siblings did not give our family many luxuries. Once in a great while, my Dad would bring home some “White Castle” hamburgers. That was high living for us!

As a teenager, I longed to get away from my small world and travel somewhere, anywhere! Of course my teenage adventures only amounted to a few camping trips with my buddies to see the scenery of the “River Gorge” in Kentucky or “Hocking Hills” in Ohio. Once, we hopped a train to Portsmouth Ohio. But like George Bailey in the classic movie “It’s a wonderful Life”, **I dreamed of a day when I would really go somewhere.**

When I turned 18 I gave my life to Jesus and immediately began promoting the Kingdom of God. One day as I was overlooking some scenery in my favorite prayer spot, my mind drifted to my dream of traveling. **At that moment I heard the voice of the Lord. He asked me if I would give up the dream of traveling and devote myself entirely to His work. I was crushed!** I remember weeping that day as I submitted to what He was asking of me. It was a death to something deep within.



I can see now my experience was very much like what God asked of Abraham; to sacrifice what he loved most, his son. **Now, as I review my 35 years of evangelistic ministry, they have carried me to five continents and 25 countries!** Ha! That proves to me Jesus is the resurrection and the life! When we give up our will we find His!

So, this month I have the joy of traveling with my children and watching them minister to the needs of the Chinese believers!

I have truly come to know God as a rewarder. It is His nature. **With that in mind, I want to pass on some encouragement to all the supporters of Lifeline International.** When I attended bible school, Dick Mills prophesied some promises to me that I would like to pass on to you.

Hebrews 6:10 “For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.”

Ruth 2:12 “May the LORD reward your work, and your wages be full from the LORD.”

Thank you for the sacrifice that you make as you labor and support the works of God around the world. I pray that your reward will be overwhelming!

For those who have never heard,

Brother Bill