



On the Road in China

In spare moments between meetings and ministry, I have jotted these notes. I hope they give you an inside picture of our ministry in China. Your prayer and giving are making it possible. Thank you!

Entry #1 Within hours of our arrival in the country, a church pastor and his wife wait at our hotel door while we finish our breakfast downstairs. **Like most places in Asia, the Christian leaders in China are anxious to receive encouragement, instruction and inspiration.** After catching up on all the news, we are ready to discuss our meeting schedule.

We agree to use the safety of our hotel room to meet with leaders during the day and then go to a larger venue to meet with more believers in the evening. The meeting quickly comes to an end so preparations can be made.

Now, the #1 means of dispensing this information begins in earnest; cell phones begin ringing up the Chinese believers across the city to let them know the meeting times. **Within hours church leaders arrive on the 25th floor of our hotel. They squeeze together on the beds and on the floor ready for instruction.**

We especially love these more intimate gatherings; they seem to have the greatest impact upon the growth of the leaders. The topic we have drifted into is "The Power of Our Words". I have taught this principle many times but **I am amazed how powerfully these truths have opened up for these hungry hearts. I am learning as much as the listeners. The Holy Spirit has come to teach us.**

That evening, just moments before I stand up to speak, two scriptures drop into my mind. **I can see exactly what the Lord is wanting to say to this church.** I love how this happens for me. I have learned it is the most powerful and effective way for me to function. **The Lord is building his Church** and I am there as a participant. What an honor!



The ministry is now having a big impact on the leaders. They are encountering God. Many are receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit and they are begging to extend the schedule.

Entry #2 Today, we traveled to the second city on our mission. It is a meeting of 80 church leaders. We were met at the train station by seven excited believers who are traveling with us three hours to the meeting.

Entry #3 We have arrived in the city and I am sitting alone in the van to remain hidden from the public eye. Secure arrangements are being made concerning our meetings, transportation and lodging. **The scene has all the appearance of an illegal drug smuggling operation.** The believers are nervously surveying the street like lookouts as the secrets discussions are taking place inside the gated home.

To keep our presence hidden from the police we have canceled our hotel reservations in the city and are staying in a believer's home. We will walk to the meeting in the dark before sunrise and leave at the end of the day under the cover of darkness.

Entry #4 I spent the morning teaching on faith, the power of our words and then the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Perhaps 20 stood and prayed; many received their prayer language. Afterward I ate lunch with nine of the house church pastors. **I asked, "How many of you have been to prison." It grew quiet at the table. The main elder answered my question revealing that all of them had spent time in prison.** It was just an accepted fact that no one complained out.

Entry #5 The main leader was impressed with the gift of healing that was present and set up a healing room for us. We spent each afternoon ministering to leaders individually. There were many healings with two remarkable deliverances. **Two young ladies who suffered from epilepsy were thrown to the floor by demons when we touched them.** One of the girls had suffered for 20 years. The demons put up quite a lengthy fight but in the end both had received freedom.

Entry #6 Today the power and presence of God is breaking out in the meetings. The pastors came to the meetings very needy; some depressed, joyless and sick. The presence of God has broken through to soften their hard and offended hearts. Fresh unity is now growing in their midst again. More are being filled with the spirit and many are being overcome by the presence of God coming upon them. It's getting fun!!



Entry #7 I have just finished up the third and fourth cities on our mission. We led a conference of approximately 200 workers and leaders. It was the largest group of house church leaders I have ministered to at one time. Meeting in a hotel ballroom with this many is a high security risk. We learned afterward that the police were aware of the meetings but were unconcerned because it was a true Christian meeting! I'm sure they were unaware that an American was doing the preaching. That would have shut things down in a hurry!

Over 100 prayed to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. There were moments when we lost ourselves in the glory of God and just about lost control of the meetings. I debriefed several leaders on the final day to ask them what they had received. Their testimonies were highly inspirational.



*"The Tunnel of Fire"
- a powerful time of impartation for the leaders and workers.*

Dear Friends,

It's not easy to cram weeks of events into just a few paragraphs, but I hope this gives you a feel for the ministry you are a part of in China.

Things are not always as rosy as you might imagine. The conditions are often dirty, unsanitary and facilities can be very inadequate. In these reports we have omitted the frustrating meetings we experience before we break through, the weariness of jet lag, the cross cultural communication difficulties or lack of results we might experience.

Believe me, the work is difficult and there is lots of room for improvement. At times I feel I am failing as an adequate minister and long to go home. I feel the need for greater power and other ministry gifts to help me meet the needs I encounter in the Chinese Church. My heart cries out for more laborers to teach God's truths to this nation.

But overall the China work progresses and the Kingdom of God advances. The sick are healed, the devils are cast out and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

There is a Rita Springer song that sometimes sustains me in difficulty. She sings, "It's gonna be worth it all", and I believe it!

On the road in China,

Brother Bill

