

CHOPSTICK CHATTER

INSPIRING AND EQUIPPING FOR GOD'S WORK IN EAST ASIA

Dear Friends,

Sun Sun got baptised!! 10 years ago I asked you to pray for my friend in the local market in Taiwan. Christine introduced me to Sun Sun - she was the first person I ever told a Bible story to in Taiwan. I know that some of you have continued to pray for friends in Taiwan - thank you. Sun Sun is married to E-Tune (you might remember him from early prayer letters/videos - he owns a Bike shop). My co-workers Aaron and Amy (in Donggang) have continued to meet regularly with E-Tune and Sun Sun over the past 8 years for prayer and Bible study. See page 2 for her testimony she shared at her baptism. (Apologies for the somewhat stilted translation. It sounds much nicer in Chinese.)



I've been reading over my journals from the past 25 years or so. I keep finding quotes I want to share but then I find another one and another...there are too many bible verses, quotes from books, conversations. In light of it taking 10 years from when Christine and I began sharing Bible stories with Sun Sun to when she committed to Christ in baptism, I've been encouraged by this quote - from 'Not less than everything - The courageous women who carried the christian gospel to China' by Valerie Griffiths - *'Most of the women discussed in this book spent 30-40 years of their lives in China, and the extraordinary opportunities which opened up for them in later life were rooted in the 15-20 years that they had first spent in the villages and towns, mastering the language and adapting to Chinese culture until they were able to speak to the hearts of local women. It was a long apprenticeship, but in mid-life these women were used by God throughout China, far beyond the CIM boundaries'* pg 321. It's easy in the step-by-step shuffle of life to forget the big picture. I keep repeating to myself words from 2 John - 'Walk in truth. Walk in love'. Each foot shuffle counts. **Pray we will** keep shuffling forward in God's truth and in God's love, keeping our eye on the day when *'Night will be no more; people will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, because they Lord God will give them light, and they will reign forever and ever'* Rev 22:5.

It was good to be reminded at our recent OMF Home staff conference of the

OMF Aussie Mission:

'We partner with the Church in Australia to mobilise people, prayer and resources for strategic and sustainable cross-cultural ministries amongst East Asians'.



In light of OMF's Mission, please pray for:

APRIL PRAYER DATES

- 8th April** - Meeting to discuss possible future short term mission discipleship trips.
- 9th/16th/23rd** - Bible story telling training at AFES group, UQ.
- 18th** - Mission Steps - our National Director, Paul Jessop will be sharing.
- Meetings with Mentor-ee's/Enquirers - 5 booked in so far this month.
- Preparing for sharing/workshops - QTC, AFES - please pray for wisdom to best what to share and how.

Sun Sun's Testimony

"Q. Why did you trust in Jesus?"

Before I met E-Tune, I lived by myself for 10 years without a sense of belonging or purpose. After many years feeling like this, I went back to my now unfamiliar home(town) with a weary heart but trying to get back into life there and properly spend time with my family. I started cycling to deal with my low mood and that's how I met E-Tune

On the first day we met, he told me the Adam and Eve story, how God sent his son so I could know him, and that life is not just monotonous. He told me lots of Bible stories, supported me bit by bit, encouraged me, and gently walked with me. When I felt sad, he would use words from the Bible to remind me and get me out of the slump. I had never thought life could be like this!

Afterwards, why did I believe in God? E-Tune and I both thought that if we had met when we were younger, we definitely would not be together.

I keep thinking to myself, "God chose E-Tune to help me through that chaotic year."

God let us meet in the most difficult moments of my life, and slowly let me understand that we are God's children. Christine, Linda, Aaron, Amy - they prayed for me, helped me read the Bible, taught me how to listen to God's spirit. I'm really thankful for their unselfish dedication.

Actually, I was always scared of getting baptised and becoming a Christian. I felt like I could never be prepared. But God had already prepared me. He gave me a family, let me be mother to my children, having children helped me understand what a parent's unlimited love is like, the wisdom from the Bible, it's like it's all teaching from our Heavenly Father. And I also long for the hope to return to our Heavenly Father.

Lastly, I'm thankful to our Heavenly Father who brought me to this world and in his own way showed his love. He let me and my family all become his beloved children, to have his wisdom, tolerance, unselfishness, and knowing how to discern right from wrong.