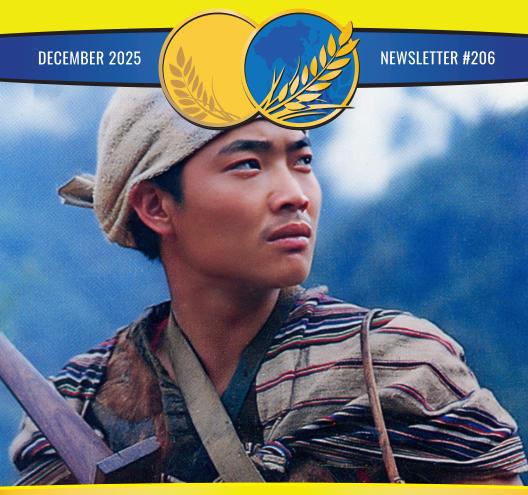


Asia Harvest 2025

NEWSLETTERS (Combined)

Asia Harvest



BIBLES FOR THE HIDDEN RAWANG PEOPLE

POR DECADES we have tried our best to share how God's pursuit of all tribes, languages, people groups and nations is one of the great redemptive themes of the Bible.

Despite this wonderful theme running throughout the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation, many Christians remain completely oblivious to God's masterplan to redeem the peoples of the world, and their lives are poorer for it.

In China—where the economic future and social fabric are unraveling because of the terrible 'one-child policy' of the past two generations—the Communist government has long been terrified of Christian activity among children.

"I will record Rahab and Babylon among those who acknowledge me—

Philistia too, and Tyre, along with Cush—and will say, 'This one was born in Zion."

Indeed, of Zion it will be said, "This one and that one were born in her, and the Most High Himself will establish her."

The Lord will write in the register of the peoples: 'This one was born in Zion."

(Psalm 87: 4-6)

Are aware that the above Psalm talks about several Gentile nations and how God will save them? Believers know about the Lamb's Book of

Sagaing

Life, but few know that God also keeps and writes in a "register of the peoples." Perhaps it is one of the "other books" mentioned in Revelation 20:12 that the Almighty God will open on judgment day.

You may have seen some of the regular Myanmar people group profiles that we have been sending out by email.

They and many others like them are part of our call to raise awareness and prayer for Asia's hidden people groups.

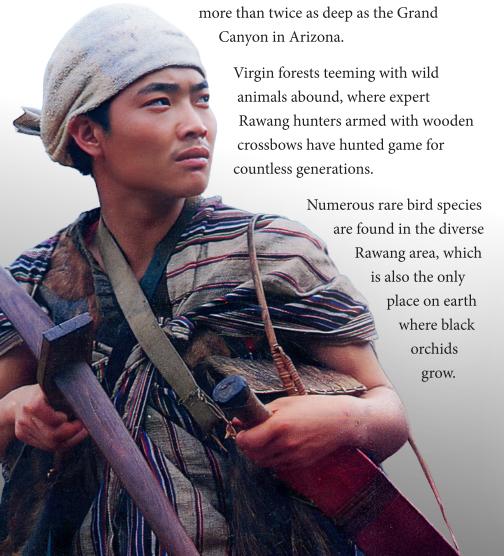
We consider it our great honor and privilege to present these groups, especially those that have never appeared on any Christian lists of the world's peoples. We have profiled over 100 such previously unknown groups in our current Myanmar project.

In this, our final newsletter of the year, we would like to share about a tribe you have probably never heard of.

More than 70,000 Rawang people live in the northernmost part of Myanmar, where the country meets southwest China and northeast India.

Their majestic homeland contains many gushing rivers and snowcapped mountains, including Hkakabo Razi, the tallest peak in Southeast Asia at 19,925 feet (5,881 meters) above sea-level.

Further to the north, on the Chinese side of the border, the altitude changes dramatically, with the floor of the Dulongjiang Canyon sitting



The mass movement to Christ among the Rawang people is one of the greatest, yet least-known mission stories of the 20th century.

It is said that when missionaries started ministering to them there were no Rawang Christians, but by the time they were forced to leave Myanmar in the 1960s there were just a few old men who were not believers.

Today, practically all Rawang people are Christians, and the Bible, Jesus film, and other Christian resources have been translated into their language.

Because many Rawang people on the Chinese side of the border have intermarried with Tibetans and formed mixed communities, the Rawang are strategically placed to share the Gospel with the many unreached Tibetans who dwell in the valleys of the southern Himalayas. Along with Lisu Christians, the Rawang have probably been the most effective tribe at reaching Tibetans for Christ in this remote part of Asia.

The Rawang Bible was translated and published in 1986, but the quality of the paper and binding back then was poor, and many copies of God's precious Word have disintegrated over the years.

Recently, Rawang church leaders have contacted our coworkers and asked if we could reprint the Bible in their language, as the Rawang churches desperately need a fresh infusion of the Scriptures, both to establish young believers in the faith and to equip and empower Rawang evangelists to share the Gospel among the unreached.







WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OF A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO HELP PROVIDE RAWANG BIBLES TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN THIS PRECIOUS GROUP.

Through our ASIA BIBLE FUND, we are printing 60,000 Rawang Bibles, which will be distributed FREE of charge to Rawang Christians in Myanmar and China. For many churches, it will be the first time in several decades they have been able to access God's Word for their members.

Please pray for this strategic initiative. If you would like to support the project financially, please return the enclosed form along with a gift designated to the ASIA BIBLE FUND.

Each Bible costs an average of just \$3 to print and deliver. Alternatively, you may give via our secure website **AsiaHarvest.org** or make a transfer to one of our Asia Harvest bank accounts around the world.







CURRENT TOTAL: 20,851,162 BIBLES PRINTED IN 176 LANGUAGES

The Asia Bible Fund provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in China, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and anywhere in Asia that God's people need His Word..

> Each Bible costs just \$3 to print and deliver. We also print millions of Gospel booklets for evangelism through this project.

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWE



WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT 1.953 ASIAN EVANGELISTS AMONG 1.304 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

The Asian Workers' Fund supports indigenous church-planting evangelists among unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups.

These disciples have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. To date, the evangelists we help have reportedly led 1,904,593 people to faith in Jesus Christ. You can help support these dedicated workers for \$25 per month each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project.

MINISTRY TRAINING FUND (MTF



THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT WE HAVE HELPED TRAIN AND EQUIP 73,094 ASIAN BELIEVERS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOD

The Ministry Training Fund helps the Asian Church disciple and train believers to be effective ministers of the Gospel among the unreached.

Often workers live in remote places and coming together once or twice a year is the only outside fellowship and teaching they receive. We cover travel, food and other costs associated with the meetings. To train each worker costs an average of \$50.

LMF) LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WE ARE CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 733 LIVING MARTYRS

The Living Martyrs' Fund supports Christian widows and church leaders and their families throughout Asia who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution.

They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of \$25 per month you can help support one of these living martyrs.



TCF) THE CHILDREN'S FUND

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS REACHED 243,790 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT ASIA SO FAR

The Children's Fund introduces children to Jesus in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and a host of other Asian countries.

Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, funding Sunday school training classes, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of just \$10 to help reach a child for Christ.



PRF PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM ASHES TO BEAUTY WITH GOD'S LOVE

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and many people have come to know Jesus Christ.

This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian lepers, communities and families throughout Asia who are in desperate need.





ASIAHARVEST.ORG •

OFFICE@ASIAHARVEST.ORG

NORTH AMERICA

PO Box 621150, Charlotte, NC 28262-0119, USA

AUSTRALIA

Ground Floor, Suite 80, 97-99 Bathurst St, Sydney NSW 2000 Bank details: CBA 06-4410-10255537 (Asia Harvest)

NEW 7FALAND

PO Box 1757, Queenstown 9348 Bank details: **ASB 12-3154-0092327-00** (Asia Harvest)

UNITED KINGDOM

AsiaLink 31A Main St, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim BT39 9AA Bank details: NatWest Bank 01-07-65, Account No. 07018797

SWITZERLAND

Verein SALZ International IBAN: CH63 0900 0000 8909 3101 4 / BIC: POFICHBEXXX

EUROPE

Stiftung SALZ, Moehringer Landstr. 98, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany IBAN: **DE93 6426 1853 0060 0080 08** / BIC: **GENODES1PGW**

Asía Harvest



FROM THE LIPS OF CHILDREN & INFANTS

The Children's Fund

THE DEVIL, WITH THE HELP OF WICKED MEN, has always known that the long-term future of any movement of God depends on *its youth*. The evil one has focused many of his most severe attacks on *children*, whether by Pharaoh at the time of Moses, or Herod's slaughter of the children in Bethlehem at the birth of Jesus.

In China—where the economic future and social fabric are unraveling because of the terrible 'one-child policy' of the past two generations—the Communist government has long been terrified of Christian activity among children.

While evangelists often faced two or three years in prison if caught preaching the gospel to adults, those engaged in outreach to children have invariably faced more severe punishment and harsher prison sentences.

"Do you hear what these children are saying?' they asked him.
'Yes,' replied Jesus, 'have you never read, 'From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?"

(Matthew 21:16)

Although it may go against conventional wisdom, over the years we have seen how the Lord has penetrated entire communities by first reaching the children. When God gets a hold of them, their dramatic change in behavior is a powerful witness that convinces parents of the power of the gospel. Countless rebellious and unruly kids have been transformed by the Holy Spirit into obedient and respectful children.

While it's easy to see evidence of societal decay throughout the world today, we are also witnessing many children being redeemed by the Blood of Jesus Christ who

FRONT COVER: Young girls in Myanmar discussing God's Word after reading their new children's Bible story books together.

are tremendous weapons for the kingdom of God and a powerful force in their communities. The devil trembles whenever the Holy Spirit brings children into the kingdom of God.

King David once proclaimed, "Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger" (Psalm 8:2).

In this newsletter, we would like to share with you a wonderful opportunity to help the Church in Asia reach thousands of precious children with the Gospel. Please pray for this project and prayerfully consider if you might be able to help get God's Word into the hands of children throughout Asia.

After our co-workers in different countries of Asia asked for good quality printed material specifically designed to reach children with the Gospel, the Lord led us to partner with some ministries to print thousands of their children's Bible storybooks. They have made a tremendous impact.

We believe one of the key reasons for the success of this project is the quality of the books themselves. They are beautifully illustrated in full color, and the children who receive these books treat them as precious gifts. They are read multiple times and talked about at school and among friends. Neighbors frequently come together to discuss the Bible with one another, and in many villages and towns, children gather to read the stories as a group.

Over the years, we have printed and distributed tens of thousands of children's Bible story books in China, Vietnam, Myanmar, Indonesia, Bangladesh, and in several Indian languages.

We would like to share a few testimonies just from a major distribution among children in Myanmar.

A BUDDHIST NUN ASKS FOR A BIBLE

As a young girl walked home from one of our meetings, joyfully reading her new children's Bible storybook, a pink-robed Buddhist nun asked what she was reading that was giving her such happiness.

The girl told her it was a wonderful book about God and showed the nun some of the stories. The nun as so excited that she asked, "Will you please give this to me?"

The girl was taken aback and clutched the newly-acquired book closely to her heart, saying, "I can never give it away, sorry. No matter how much money you could offer me, it is mine!"

The child then realized the nun should get her own copy, and she took her to the meeting place, where she joined the Bible study the following day.

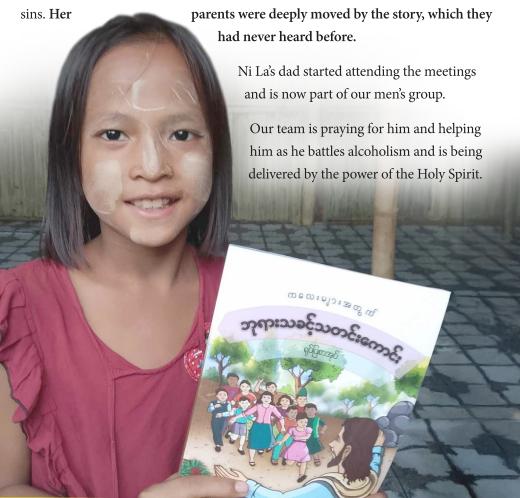


NI LA'S FIRST GIFT

Living in a slum area with her alcoholic father and mother who spends her days sorting through tons of trash looking for plastic bottles she can sell, little Ni La had been attending our meetings for 8 weeks, learning about Jesus.

Earlier that day she had received her first-ever gift—a children's Bible storybook.

Her father demanded to know what the book was about, and Ni La detailed how God demonstrated His love by sending Jesus Christ to come and die for people's



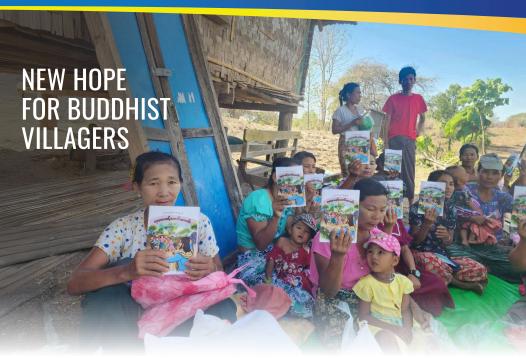
CHU'S INFECTIOUS JOY

Chu first placed her trust in the Lord Jesus two years ago and has evangelized her entire family, and many friends.

She longed to know God's Word intimately and was overjoyed when she was given her most treasured possession.

The book opened her eyes and deepened her faith, and she went from being a shy girl to a bold intercessor who has effectively led many other children and young





During an outreach trip to share the Good News of Jesus in an unreached Buddhist area, we gathered together the women with small children.

Villages in that area have no electricity or televisions, so reading is a common activity. School is a two or three hour walk away, so many of the children grow up farming and don't receive a formal education. Our coworkers handed out Children's Bible story books so that the mothers could read to their children in the evenings.

We sat with them and explained the Gospel, how Jesus had come into the world to give them new life, freedom from their past, and hope for the future. Many were deeply moved as they confessed their sins and talked about their struggles in marriage and life. Some asked, "Why have you come to do this?" We explained, "Because God sees you and loves you."

We prayed with several of the women, and they were very touched as they opened up about their past traumas. Some were in tears, and others said it was the first time they had felt there was hope beyond the daily grind of their lives. Since that initial visit we have continued to return to those villages to disciple the new believers.







CURRENT TOTAL: 20,806,246 BIBLES PRINTED IN 176 LANGUAGES

The Asia Bible Fund provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in China, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and anywhere in Asia that God's people need His Word..

> Each Bible costs just \$3 to print and deliver. We also print millions of Gospel booklets for evangelism through this project.

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWE



WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT 1,954 ASIAN EVANGELISTS AMONG 1.304 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

The Asian Workers' Fund supports indigenous church-planting evangelists among unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups.

These disciples have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. To date, the evangelists we help have reportedly led 1,904,593 people to faith in Jesus Christ. You can help support these dedicated workers for \$25 per month each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project.

MINISTRY TRAINING FUND (MTF



THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT WE HAVE HELPED TRAIN AND EQUIP 73,094 ASIAN BELIEVERS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOD

The Ministry Training Fund helps the Asian Church disciple and train believers to be effective ministers of the Gospel among the unreached.

Often workers live in remote places and coming together once or twice a year is the only outside fellowship and teaching they receive. We cover travel, food and other costs associated with the meetings. To train each worker costs an average of \$50.

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WE ARE CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 733 LIVING MARTYRS

The Living Martyrs' Fund supports Christian widows and church leaders and their families throughout Asia who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution.

They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of \$25 per month you can help support one of these living martyrs.



TOF THE CHILDREN'S FUND

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS REACHED 242,678 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT ASIA SO FAR

The Children's Fund introduces children to Jesus in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and a host of other Asian countries.

Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, funding Sunday school training classes, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of just \$10 to help reach a child for Christ.



TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM ASHES TO BEAUTY WITH GOD'S LOVE

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and many people have come to know Jesus Christ.

This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian lepers, communities and families throughout Asia who are in desperate need.





ASIAHARVEST.ORG •

Verein SALZ International

OFFICE@ASIAHARVEST.ORG

NORTH AMERICA

PO Box 621150, Charlotte, NC 28262-0119, USA

AUSTRALIA

Ground Floor, Suite 80, 97-99 Bathurst St, Sydney NSW 2000 Bank details: CBA 06-4410-10255537 (Asia Harvest)

NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 1757, Queenstown 9348
Bank details: **ASB 12-3154-0092327-00** (Asia Harvest)

UNITED KINGDOM

AsiaLink 31A Main St, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim BT39 9AA Bank details: NatWest Bank 01-07-65, Account No. 07018797

SWITZERLAND

IBAN: CH63 0900 0000 8909 3101 4 / BIC: POFICHBEXXX

EUROPE

Stiftung SALZ, Moehringer Landstr. 98, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany IBAN: **DE93 6426 1853 0060 0080 08** / BIC: **GENODES1PGW**

Asía Harvest



BEAUTIFUL FEET

The Asian Workers' Fund

HE ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWF) supports Asian church-planting evangelists who are serving among the most unreached and unengaged people groups in Asia. We deliberately choose workers among obscure groups that others consider difficult or impossible to reach. In Asia, this often means we are trying to reach Muslim, Buddhist, or Hindu groups. Our thinking is in line with the Apostle

Paul, who said: "It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation" (Romans 15:20).

Let us not forget that today there are still thousands of unreached people groups in the world (mostly in Asia). Until each group has received a clear presentation of the Good News about what Jesus Christ has done for them on the Cross, He will not return. It was the Lord who told us: "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations [ethnic groups], and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14).

Our focus is not only on reaching individuals, but on penetrating entire ethnic and language groups that have never heard the Gospel. In this regard, a key aim of the project is to help start movements to Christ, rather than to maintain a work that is already underway.

Subsequently, we are not looking simply to support

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!""

(Romans 10:15)

as many workers as possible. Rather, we are selective, and most applications we receive are not approved. We also regularly evaluate those we are supporting, to ensure the project remains "cutting edge" and strategic for the kingdom of God.

We also do not support pastors through this project. We believe the believers in each congregation—no matter how small—should be responsible for supporting the needs of those who shepherd them. If an evangelist's role evolves into being a church pastor, we allocate their support to someone new, while encouraging them to train up their church members to take the Gospel to unreached people groups.

Despite the strict parameters we apply to the project, we are currently supporting 1,911 frontline Asian missionaries in 20 countries, who share the Gospel among 1,339 different people groups (many workers are reaching multiple groups).

Some people have wondered how *Asia Harvest* is able to "take care" of almost 2,000 missionaries spread across Asia. The answer is: we don't! That would be impossible. The real work is done by the leaders of dozens of Asian mission groups we partner with.

They are responsible for mobilizing, training, and placing each worker. The leaders also distribute the resources we send, provide reports and accountability, and take care of each missionary on their team. They oversee the courageous individuals who have given their lives to serve in far-flung parts of Asia, from the frozen mountain passes of the Himalayas, to the grasslands of Central Asia and the humid jungles and remote islands of Southeast Asia.

From the time the AWF began, we have been careful not to create "dependency."

By giving through the leaders of existing Asian churches and missions, the support we provide is not seen as "foreign" money, which can attract persecution and create problems in certain countries. Instead, by giving through existing, God-anointed leadership structures, we help strengthen the Body of Christ in Asia.

WHY WE RAISE SUPPORT IN \$25 INCREMENTS

Each missionary is first and foremost required to be supported by their local church, and by friends and family members. This way, they do not rely solely on the funds we send.

Our approach over the years has helped develop many healthy relationships, as key Asian leaders have come to trust that we are there to serve them with love and respect, and not to be served. We truly come alongside them to help them get the job done more effectively, and we never interfere or impose a hidden agenda on them.

Our decision to raise support for the *Asian Workers' Fund* in \$25 increments dates back about 25 years, when we used to match each donor to a specific worker. We soon found that system didn't work, as when people stopped or changed their giving, we were left scrambling to try to find another donor for the next month's support. This created uncertainty and stress for the workers on the field, as they and their families were never sure if they would still receive support the next month.

Instead of evangelists receiving their help from one source, we restructured the project so that different donors essentially take a "part share" in one worker's support.

By spreading the responsibility for one worker's support among different donors, we have found that if someone stops giving, we can quickly reallocate that portion to a new donor, or we make up any shortfall from "where needed most" donations. By restructuring the project this way, we have not missed a single commitment to the many hundreds of workers we have supported in the past 25 years.

Therefore, as we collect funds in \$25 increments, if someone starts giving \$50 per month to the *AWF*, we allocate two workers to them and send two prayer cards. If someone gives \$100 per month, we send four prayer cards, and so on. This also encourages more prayer for those on the field, as supporters around the world

intercede for the evangelists and for a breakthrough among the people groups they are engaging.

Generally, most workers receive an average of \$75 to \$100 per month from us, plus many other resources to help them do their work more effectively.

OTHER STRATEGIC RESOURCES

While the Asian Workers' Fund provides a base of support for individual evangelists, each year we give much more by equipping them with the resources they need to get the job done. In this respect they are like soldiers in an army, where the equipment they carry determines the success of their mission.

Apart from the basic worker support, over the years we have been honored to supply numerous resources to those on the frontlines, including hundreds of thousands of Bibles, millions of Gospel tracts, hundreds of bicycles, motorcycles, electronic equipment, warm weather gear, and countless other things. We also fund seminars and conferences that bring the workers together to pray, fellowship, and strategize.

Through other projects such as the *Ministry Training Fund*, *Persecution & Relief Fund*, *Living Martyrs' Fund*, and *The Children's Fund*, we strengthen the workers and enhance the fruitfulness of their ministries by supporting orphans, widows, sewing centers, literacy classes, children's ministry, fresh-water wells, and numerous other initiatives that have drawn many tens of thousands of people into the kingdom of God.



FINALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO SHARE A FEW POWERFUL TESTIMONIES THAT RECENTLY ARRIVED ON OUR DESK FROM ASIAN EVANGELISTS. THEY OFFER A GLIMPSE OF HUNDREDS OF SIMILAR TESTIMONIES WE RECEIVE.

India

"My name is Chakra. I used to be a religious leader, not for God, but for darkness. My grandfather was a well-known witchdoctor, and my parents continued on the same path. When I was old enough, I served in a Hindu shrine that was rooted in witchcraft and satanic power.

"People came to me for healing and blessings. I gave them charms, oils, and candles, but none of it was from the Holy Spirit. I was enslaved by demonic powers, and caused many others to be bound in spiritual chains. Although I had inherited powers that gave me influence and wealth, deep inside I was tormented. I couldn't sleep at night without seeing dark figures and hearing voices.

"Everything changed when a young Christian woman visited my shrine one day. She didn't ask for anything but just said, 'Jesus loves you and He's calling you out.' I mocked her, but I couldn't forget her words. That night I had a terrible dream. I saw myself chained in darkness and screaming, when a bright light broke the chains and a voice said, 'Chakra, I have chosen you. Come out and follow Me.'

"A Christian pastor took me in, prayed for me, and taught me the Word of God. I confessed all my sins, destroyed all my charms and demonic items, and gave my life to Jesus Christ.

"Today, I no longer serve darkness. I serve the Light of the World and visit villages and towns in our area, telling people that witchcraft is real, but Jesus has total authority over every demon. If He can save me from the pit, He can save anyone!"



Pakistan

"My name is Waqar, and all my family members are very strong Muslims. My father is a prominent man in the community who preached Islam to everyone he met. When I was 19 years-old, I went to the mosque and prayed to Allah for a bright future. I grew increasingly frustrated, however, as Islam kept me empty inside, so I started to search for the truth. As part of my journey I went to a church one Sunday and prayed to Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit powerfully touched me and spoke to my heart: 'I AM the Way and the Truth and the Life.' I was given a Bible, and after three years I accepted the Lord and was baptized, even though I knew it would cost me everything and I would be disowned by my family.

"My other family members are still not believers, but God has called me to reach Muslims, both in my country and in Afghanistan. God has been very good to me! He has helped me share the Gospel extensively with more than 2,000 Muslims over the past twenty years, and more than 500 people have been baptized. These believers have to practice their faith secretly due to threats on their lives. Please pray for all our new believers, and for all poor and needy people."

Myanmar

"My name is Phyo and I am 33 years-old. My ethnicity is Bamar, the main people group of Myanmar, also known as Burmese. I joined the army as a young man and advanced to become a captain. They sent me to Russia for two years to learn munitions warfare, and after returning home I was sent to the war zone, where I was responsible for many atrocities.

"Because of my evil deeds, I was in deep despair and could not sleep because I was haunted by seeing the faces of many of my victims. I knew I could not remain in the army, so I resigned and gradually lost all my possessions: houses, cars, and girlfriends. In the end, I had nothing.

"One day, some Christians came to my neighborhood and told me wonderful news about Jesus and His forgiveness of sins.

"In desperation and with a crushed heart I cried out to Him, repenting of my sins, and He washed me clean!

"Today I am so glad for the new life God has given me. He tore the filthy old heart out of my chest and created a new clean one! I am thankful to now lead men's meetings and I am a worship leader.

"We have started many churches in the slum areas of our city, and I am amazed to see the Spirit of God continue to transform lives every day, just like He transformed mine by giving me hope and a future. "I thank God for Asia Harvest and your supporters, and for the great help you provide to me and the other evangelists on our team. Because of your loving kindness, thousands of

Buddhists and hopeless people

are experiencing God's salvation."

WE CURRENTLY HAVE DOZENS OF UNSUPPORTED ASIAN MISSIONARIES AMONG UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS. ESPECIALLY IN INDIA, NEPAL, MYANMAR, BHUTAN, AND INDONESIA. If you, your home group or church would like to support one or more of these workers, we invite you to do so through our ASIAN WORKERS' FUND.

For each \$25 per month committed, we will allocate an evangelist to you, and will send a laminated prayer card with information about the worker, and a profile of the people group they are targeting, to help you pray for them. For those who continue to support the project, written updates from the field are provided every six months.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP

PARTNER WITH STRATEGIC ASIAN MISSIONARIES AS THEY FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION, PLEASE FILL OUT THE YELLOW RESPONSE FORM IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND SEND IT BACK ALONG WITH YOUR GIFT.

Alternatively, one-time or monthly donations to the project can be made via our secure website:

ASIAHARVEST.ORG



CURRENT TOTAL: 20,764,086 BIBLES PRINTED IN 172 LANGUAGES

The Asia Bible Fund provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in China, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and anywhere in Asia that God's people need His Word..

> Each Bible costs just \$3 to print and deliver. We also print millions of Gospel booklets for evangelism through this project.

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWE



WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT 1.911 ASIAN EVANGELISTS AMONG 1.339 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

The Asian Workers' Fund supports indigenous church-planting evangelists among unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups.

These disciples have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. To date, the evangelists we help have reportedly led 1,882,018 people to faith in Jesus Christ. You can help support these dedicated workers for \$25 per month each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project.

MINISTRY TRAINING FUND (MTF



THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT WE HAVE HELPED TRAIN AND EQUIP 73,094 ASIAN BELIEVERS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOD

The Ministry Training Fund helps the Asian Church disciple and train believers to be effective ministers of the Gospel among the unreached.

Often workers live in remote places and coming together once or twice a year is the only outside fellowship and teaching they receive. We cover travel, food and other costs associated with the meetings. To train each worker costs an average of \$50.

LMF) LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WE ARE CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 784 LIVING MARTYRS

The Living Martyrs' Fund supports Christian widows and church leaders and their families throughout Asia who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution.

They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of \$25 per month you can help support one of these living martyrs.



TCF) THE CHILDREN'S FUND

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS REACHED 240,297 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT ASIA SO FAR

The Children's Fund introduces children to Jesus in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and a host of other Asian countries.

Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, funding Sunday school training classes, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of just \$10 to help reach a child for Christ.



PRF PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM ASHES TO BEAUTY WITH GOD'S LOVE

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and many people have come to know Jesus Christ.

This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian lepers, communities and families throughout Asia who are in desperate need.





ASIAHARVEST.ORG

OFFICE@ASIAHARVEST.ORG

NORTH AMERICA

PO Box 621150, Charlotte, NC 28262-0119, USA

AUSTRALIA

Ground Floor, Suite 80, 97-99 Bathurst St, Sydney NSW 2000 Bank details: CBA 06-4410-10255537 (Asia Harvest)

NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 1757, Queenstown 9348
Bank details: **ASB 12-3154-0092327-00** (Asia Harvest)

UNITED KINGDOM

AsiaLink 31A Main St, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim BT39 9AA Bank details: NatWest Bank 01-07-65, Account No. 07018797

SWITZERI AND

Verein SALZ International IBAN: CH63 0900 0000 8909 3101 4 / BIC: POFICHBEXXX

EUROPE

Stiftung SALZ, Moehringer Landstr. 98, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany IBAN: DE93 6426 1853 0060 0080 08 / BIC: GENODES1PGW

Asía Harvest



JOHN SUNG

China's Greatest Evangelist

An excerpt from our new book FUHAN

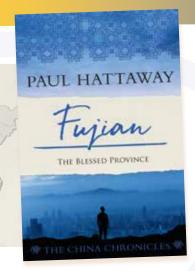


Book 9 of The China Chronicles

FUJIAN

THE BLESSED PROVINCE

by Paul Hattaway



N OUR PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER, we introduced our new China book: *FUJIAN: The Blessed Province* and shared an excerpt from the book about John Sung, whom we consider to be the greatest Chinese Christian in history.

Part one of his story told how his zeal for the Lord resulted in him being locked up in a mental asylum in the United States.

After God delivered him, Sung threw his coveted doctoral degrees into the ocean as his ship neared the Fujian coast. He only wanted to live for the kingdom of God and counted his worldly achievements as worthless.

The remainder of this newsletter has excerpts from FUJIAN: The Blessed Province.

To order a copy of the book, please fill out and return the enclosed form or visit *AsiaHarvest.org* for details. A Kindle/ e-book version is also available online.

Alternatively, if you send a donation to any Asia Harvest project, please indicate that you would like a complimentary copy of the book and we will gladly send you one.

This month we conclude our look into the life of John Sung, whose impact was so great that Chinese believers gave him the nickname "China's Greatest Evangelist."

FRONT COVER: A packed church full of fervent worshippers in Fujian Province. Due to the witness of men like John Sung, Fujian today is home to more than five million Christians.

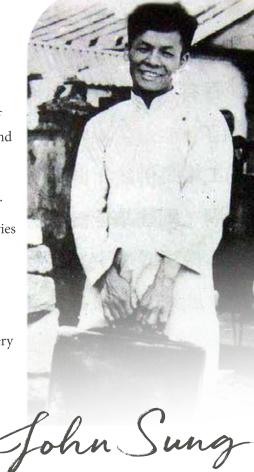
BACK COVER: Friends and family at the funeral of John Sung, who died at the age of just 43.

UNRELENTING ATTACKS

After returning to China a changed man, John Sung decided to wear the simple clothes of a Chinese peasant for the rest of his life. He traveled widely across China and Southeast Asia, leading tens of thousands of sinners to repentance and faith while establishing churches everywhere he went.

Sung's life was intense—full of great victories and slumps—and he entered a new realm of spiritual warfare, the type of which few Christians have ever experienced.

Opposition to his preaching was overwhelming, and attacks came from every quarter, including from the government, religious leaders, academics, church leaders, and missionaries. All found some part of John Sung's ministry to be a threat or offensive to them, and they didn't hold back their vitriol.



The ruling Nationalist government was furious with Sung after he refused to allow his students to bow down before a picture of "the father of modern China," Sun Yatsen. They initiated a smear campaign of lies, slanders, and threats against him, the effects of which lasted for the rest of his life.

The rabid opposition and death threats did not thwart the Gospel, however, and Sung continued to see the Lord do great things and transform thousands of broken lives.

In the southern Fujian city of Xiamen, the local newspaper accused John Sung of "deceiving the crowds with hypnosis and magic," and the Xiamen police ordered his meetings to stop due to the unprecedented traffic congestion caused by the large

crowds of people trying to attend. The meetings were cancelled, but not before God had performed many mighty miracles.

As the opposition to his ministry intensified, Sung spent more time in prayer and communion with God. At each meeting, he invited people to fill out prayer



John Sung (back left) and the Bethel Band in 1931. These young men saw many thousands come to faith across China, laying a firm foundation for the Church in China that helped it survive the harsh persecutions of Communist rule and pave the way for the great revival of the past 40 years.

cards with their names and details, and to list special prayer needs they had. Although some ministers might use such cards as gimmicks, Sung took the responsibility seriously and carried two suitcases of the cards with him wherever he traveled, daily interceding for each person by name. A missionary remembered: "In Nanjing I heard him weeping and praying for these people in places where he had held meetings previously. This is one secret of his success and of the lasting results of his ministry."

Sung joined the Bethel Evangelist Band, and in their first year together the young men traveled 55,000 miles across 13 provinces of China, preached the Gospel to more than 400,000 people in 1,200 meetings, and recorded 18,000 decisions for Christ. Moreover, at least 700 new evangelistic teams were formed as a result of the meetings, shining the light of the Gospel across the nation.

SMELLY FEET AND BIG SHOTS

Some Christians have the type of personality that makes it very difficult for them to be part of a team. John Sung was one of those who were probably better suited to working independently. Two stories from his ministry reveal the utter disdain he felt for formality and pretense. He cared nothing for a man's reputation, and did not hesitate to openly rebuke people whenever it was necessary.

Once, while traveling in Henan Province, Sung and his co-worker reached a town late at night. Feeling exhausted, they sought out the local mission headquarters to see if they could stay the night before traveling on the next morning. Sung spoke with a security guard through the locked gate and told him that two evangelists were passing through and would appreciate lodging for the night.

The guard went inside and informed the missionary of the unexpected visitors. Even though they had spare rooms in the house, the guard was ordered to tell Sung and his friend they could stay the night in an outdoor barn.

Sung was unable to sleep all night due to the cold and because his face was right next to the smelly feet of another man. Before leaving in the morning, Sung wrote a note in English to the missionary, rebuking him for his lack of loving hospitality toward two servants of the Lord, and strongly advising him to examine his heart and repent.

The missionary and his wife were enjoying their breakfast when the note was handed to them. Their faces dropped when they realized one of the guests they had treated so poorly was none other than the famous Dr. John Sung, "China's greatest evangelist"!

They quickly rode their bicycles along the road and caught up with the evangelists some way out of town. They apologized profusely for mistreating them, saying they had no idea it was him, and begged them to return and eat breakfast with them. Sung refused their offer, saying, "No, we are not going back. You are showing your hospitality to a Ph.D. rather than an evangelist. You must thoroughly repent of your behavior!"

On Christmas Day, 1937, Sung was in the city of Xuchang, where the Chinese pastor had prepared a banquet to welcome the famous evangelist. Sung was asked to sit at the main table with leading dignitaries and officials, while his 18-year-old traveling companion was placed at a second table with church elders and deacons.

When the pastor introduced all the guests, Sung discovered that he was seated between the mayor and the chief justice of the city. Across from him were the police commissioner and the editor of the local newspaper. Sung stood up immediately and commanded his co-worker to switch seats with him. He said, "I am a servant of the Lord. I came to lead evangelistic meetings. I should be seated with brothers and sisters from the church, not with these big shots."

After severing his ties to the Bethel Band, Sung continued in the work God had called him to do, and for the remainder of his life he served as an independent evangelist, accepting invitations to preach all over China and Southeast Asia. Miraculous healings continued to be a feature of his ministry.

Once, John was traveling on a ship to a different part of China when he had a vivid dream in which his father stood by him and said, "Son, I have gone to heaven. But you have seven more years in which to work. So labor hard for the Lord!"

Several days later, the news arrived from Fujian that Sung's father had died. John took the message in the dream to heart and served Jesus Christ with even greater determination and zeal.

The dream proved wholly accurate, and seven short years later John's window of opportunity to proclaim the Gospel closed.

Between 1935 and 1940, Sung's influence expanded into Southeast Asia. He made earth-shaking trips there, including at least one visit to each of the countries of Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, and the Philippines.

Sung promised to return to Singapore in 1940, but his health deteriorated to such an extent that he was never able to visit again. The multitude of well-wishers waved goodbye to him at the wharf, not realizing it was the last time they would ever see the beloved revivalist. Many churches in Singapore today were founded or impacted by his precious visits more than 80 years ago.

THE GIFT OF HEALING

John Sung remained a Methodist minister, and although he was not Pentecostal or Charismatic by today's usual Western definitions, John Sung exercised a gift of healing that astounded audiences and resulted in countless people surrendering their lives to Christ. He was always quick to emphasize that each person had to repent of their sins lest they end up in hell. Sung carefully explained that he possessed no healing ability whatsoever, but it was the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ who performed the miracles.

After one meeting in the city of Xiamen, Sung wrote in his diary:

"Altogether I prayed for 1,710 patients today. Before I prayed for them, I told them the principles of divine healing and helped them confess their sins. A crippled and blind man could instantly see and walk. Another person was carried in on a bed and walked home. A hunchbacked woman instantly straightened up.... Just before I left Xiamen, I prayed for 400 patients. One woman, who had been crippled for many years, cried aloud when she came to see me. I commanded her to walk by faith, and she immediately obeyed. She walked all the way home, testifying to many people along the way."

One summary of Sung's ministry noted:

"He exercised a truly stunning ministry of physical healing through prayer. Tens of thousands of people were delivered from all sorts of illnesses, infirmities, and addictions after he prayed for them.... Most of these miracles were witnessed by countless people, many of them originally skeptical of this aspect of John Sung's ministry. Opium addicts received instant deliverance. Those possessed by evil spirits were delivered. Blind people received their sight, the lame walked, disabled limbs were healed, and leprosy was cured instantly."

A THORN IN THE FLESH

Curiously, throughout church history many servants of God who have been greatly endowed with a gift of healing have themselves been afflicted with serious diseases and infirmities from which they were not healed. John Sung was one such preacher,

and he saw the irony, once calling himself a "wounded healer." The anal fistulas that first plagued him in the United States flared up whenever he was exhausted or under intense stress. Conflict with other Christians seemed particularly harmful to his health, as his rough exterior concealed a soft heart that was crushed by any disunity he had with other members of the Body of Christ.

For years Sung maintained a gruelling travel schedule, sometimes holding as many as eight meetings a day. For much of that time he was in terrible physical pain, which sometimes necessitated that he preach while sitting down or lying on a cot on the platform. Although still a young man in his thirties, he often suffered debilitating fatigue, and his entire body ached from head to toe.

Instead of complaining, the evangelist tried to keep his condition hidden from the public. When he was hosted in a believer's home, he always insisted on washing his own clothes, for his underwear was often full of blood and pus from his horrible affliction. He described it as his "thorn in the flesh," designed by God to humble him.

When his condition flared, people in close proximity to Sung were often aware of an awful, offensive odor. John was aware of people's reactions, but there was little he could do about it, so he concentrated on preaching God's Word with all his heart, and he thanked the Lord for humbling his flesh to keep him from being conceited.

Few people among the thousands who came to hear John Sung preach had any idea of the excruciating pain and sacrifice he was enduring both during and between services. When he visited the Malaysian island of Penang, he wrote:

"The doctor found that five serious anal fistulas had developed, and one was very bad. He gave me seven injections. I did not feel anything, but the subsequent pain almost blew me apart. I pleaded with the Lord to take pity on the people of Penang by taking pity on me, and so preached at the pulpit through His blessings. On December 6, a brother helped me put on my clothes and carried me up and down the stairs, and in and out of the vehicle. A sleeping cot was placed near the pulpit.

The power of God was still with me as I spoke, and people came forward to confess their sins. Brother Yan helped me disrobe after the service. The agony went on all night when the fistulas erupted, resulting in massive discharges of blood and pus. I still carried on with afternoon and evening services although I had hardly slept."

As his condition deteriorated, six surgeries were performed at different hospitals, but none was able to fix the problem, possibly because Sung never stayed in one place long enough to recover completely from the operations.

As the sun began to set on his whirlwind life, Sung expressed regret that he had spent so little time with his children, and he tried to make up for it by reading them Bible stories and sharing testimonies of God's goodness during the final months of his life.

After he awoke from one operation, Sung spoke with the surgeons and wrote in his diary: "I tearfully prayed to God, telling Him I would like to do more work for Him after I am healed, and asking that my brothers and children would join me in the work for the Lord. I prayed that the Lord's will be done in my body. When the incisions were made, two large bowls of blood exuded from my wounds, filling the operation room with a putrid odor."

Although John Sung was forced to remain in bed due to his illness, many Christians traveled from all over China to see him. He counseled and prayed with them, often conducting three meetings per day from his bed. After weeks of attempted recovery—which left John feeling increasingly frustrated because he wasn't out preaching—he continued to suffer intense pain. Some of his final diary entries in 1944 reveal his journey through the valley of the shadow of death:

July 25: "I have turned myself over several times. The pain has been so searing that my wounds feel like they're on fire. I pleaded with God to take me home to heaven soon."

July 28: "I begged God to give me some proof that He still loves me. My wife Jean is too weak to turn me over, so a man is needed. Dr. Lee examined my wounds and said I need to take opium to stop the pain, which I refused."

July 30: "I confessed my sins to God. I feel utterly drained of strength."

July 31: "The pain is the worst ever. If this continues, I don't know how I could take it anymore."

August 11: "Now I can't hold anything with my hands. I feel a little discouraged. I asked God to open a way out for me."

Finally, on the morning of August 16, 1944, John's limbs began to swell. He told his wife that God had shown him he was going to die soon.

He fell into a coma that night but rallied again and sang three hymns while vomiting continually into a bucket. Jean was overcome with grief as she saw her husband fade away before her eyes. At about midnight his last words to her were: "Don't be afraid! The Lord Jesus is at the door. What is there to fear?"

Jean later shared the holy moment when her beloved husband began his journey to God at the age of 43:

"At the time the room was very dark, but his face suddenly shone with a brilliant radiance. When I saw this strange light, my heart was greatly comforted. At five in the morning on August 18 his pulse weakened, and at 7:07 that morning, the Lord's servant was peacefully taken away. He had a smile on his face."

After John Sung's death, numerous tributes and memorials flowed in. Some estimated that at least 100,000 people had been directly and solidly converted through his preaching, which was about one-tenth of all Evangelical Christians in China at the time.

The quality of John Sung's ministry can be seen eight decades later by the lasting fruit of his life. Tens of thousands of Christians throughout Asia still call him blessed and are the direct or indirect result of his preaching.

Perhaps the greatest impact he had was his example in preparing the Chinese Church for the onslaught that was to come against them during decades of Communist persecution.

On a number of occasions before he died, Sung prophesied that God would soon remove all foreign missionaries from China, and the Church would have to learn to trust Him alone for their spiritual sustenance. After that, a mighty revival would take place that would sweep millions into the Kingdom of God.



LMF) LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WE ARE **CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 784 LIVING MARTYRS**



ASIA BIBLE FUND (ABF

CURRENT TOTAL: 20,709,364 BIBLES PRINTED IN 169 LANGUAGES



THE CHILDREN'S FUND

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS REACHED 238,090 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT ASIA (FOR CHRIST) SO FAR





ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWE

WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT 1.798 ASIAN EVANGELISTS **AMONG 1.292 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS**

They have reportedly led 1,819,630 people to faith in Jesus Christ.



PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM ASHES TO BEAUTY WITH GOD'S LOVE





MINISTRY TRAINING FUND (MTF

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT WE HAVE HELPED TRAIN AND EQUIP 72.912 ASIAN BELIEVERS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOD



ASIAHARVEST.ORG

OFFICE@ASIAHARVEST.ORG

NORTH AMERICA

PO Box 621150, Charlotte, NC 28262-0119, USA

AUSTRALIA

Ground Floor, Suite 80, 97-99 Bathurst St, Sydney NSW 2000 Bank details: CBA 06-4410-10255537 (Asia Harvest)

NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 1757, Queenstown 9348 Bank details: **ASB 12-3154-0092327-00** (Asia Harvest)

UNITED KINGDOM

AsiaLink 31A Main St, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim BT39 9AA Bank details: NatWest Bank 01-07-65, Account No. 07018797

SWITZERLAND

Verein SALZ International IBAN: CH63 0900 0000 8909 3101 4 / BIC: POFICHBEXXX

EUROPE

Stiftung SALZ, Moehringer Landstr. 98, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany IBAN: **DE93 6426 1853 0060 0080 08** / BIC: **GENODES1PGW**

Asía Harvest



FUJIAN

The New Book by Paul Hattaway

OMETIMES WE ARE ASKED who we consider to be the greatest Chinese Christian in history. Of course, the question itself is a problem, as any "great" Christian is merely a broken individual able to reflect the greatness of Jesus, as there is nothing inherently great about any person apart from Him.

Of those Chinese whom God has used greatly to impact many people in China and around the world, some believers may suggest names like Watchman Nee (who is profiled in our new Fujian book), Wang Mingdao, who is remembered as "the father of the Chinese house church movement," or Brother Yun, whom we have personally had much to do with over the years including writing his biography 'The Heavenly Man'.

"Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever."

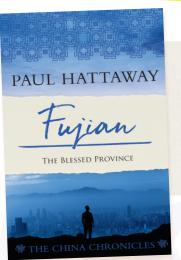
"For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him."

(2 Chronicles 16:9)

The Lord was pleased to use all those men and others like them, but in our opinion, one man stands out as uniquely gifted and used by God. Although he died at the age of just 43, the impact of John Sung was so extensive that almost a century after he paid a brief visit to some areas in Southeast Asia where he preached a few times, churches were established which remain strong in the faith to the current day!

In this and our next newsletter, we would like to share excerpts from our new Fujian book, highlighting the unconventional life of **John Sung**. In this issue we cover the early part of his life and call, and how Satan so wanted to destroy his life that God had to deliver him from a mental asylum in New York, where he had been locked up by the president of a liberal seminary who thought Sung's zeal for the Lord and the Bible was a danger to society!

In our next newsletter, we will share Part 2 of John Sung's life, as the Holy Spirit used him to bring powerful revival across Asia, which helped strengthen the Church in China to withstand the terrors of Communism that came upon them in later years.





In this newsletter, we are pleased to announce the ninth book in our series on the mighty revival that has swept China during the past 50 years. *The China*

Chronicles are proving to be a great encouragement and are enriching the lives of those who read them.

Fujian, which means "Established Blessing," is a province in southeast China with more than 40 million people. Fujian was considered an obscure region in the past, but the Gospel blazed such a pathway that by the 1920s it contained more Christians than any other province of China. Fujian came to be known as the gateway to China as millions of people boarded ships there and migrated to other parts of Asia. Most Chinese people now living in countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines can trace their ancestry back to Fujian.

The home of key Chinese church leaders including John Sung, Watchman Nee and Leland Wang, the Church in Fujian has impacted millions of people in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

from FUJIAN: The Blessed Province.

To order a copy of the book, please fill

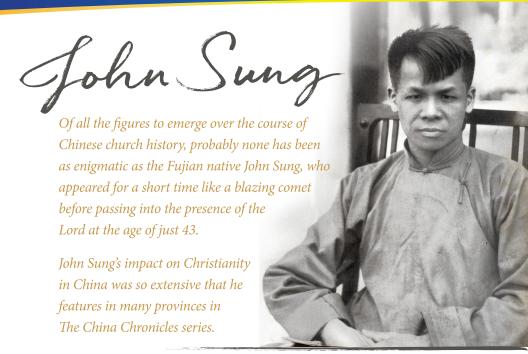
The remainder of this newsletter has excerpts

To order a copy of the book, please fill out and return the enclosed form or visit *AsiaHarvest.org* for details. A Kindle/ e-book version is also available online.

Alternatively, if you send a donation to any Asia Harvest project, please indicate that you would like a complimentary copy of the book and we will gladly send you one.

FRONT COVER: A unique "Round House" of the Hakka ethnic group at Tulou Village in southwest Fujian.

BACK COVER: Fishermen at sunset off the coast of Fujian.



CHINA'S JOHN THE BAPTIST

BORN IN 1901, John Sung (whose name in Mandarin is Song Shangjie) was the sixth child of a "warm-hearted Methodist preacher." On many occasions young John accompanied his father when he visited church members, and when his father was sick or out of town, the boy sometimes preached to the believers, repeating from his sharp memory messages he had heard at church. People loved John and gave him the nickname "little preacher."

In 1909, a powerful revival in Putian impacted the Sung family's village, and eight-year-old John was deeply touched by the Spirit of God. As he heard the story of the life of Jesus, he broke down and wept. Conviction spread to the whole congregation, and soon all were on their faces before God, confessing their sins. Within a few months there were 3,000 conversions.

In addition to the good traits he inherited from his father, John also inherited his fierce temper, which was a source of consternation and confusion to Christians. Sometimes when he preached, Sung would suddenly have a burst of anger from the pulpit or verbally eviscerate an interpreter for making a mistake.

Parts of John Sung's story are so extraordinary and complex that some Christian historians have struggled to know how to view him. While God clearly used him to bring tens of

thousands of sinners to the cross, his forceful personality and dramatic methods caused many to take offense. Some who met him considered him extremely rude, for he did not tolerate fools, and he had such a single focus that anything that got in the way of fulfilling Christ's call was considered an unnecessary distraction.

Seven Years in Babylon

At the age of 18, Sung begged his father to send him to study in the United States, and he ultimately arrived with just \$6 in his pocket.

After arriving in the U.S., John found work scrubbing the floor and cleaning the windows of a fabric store for 25 cents per hour, and during the school holidays he took a second job at a factory, working the night shift from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sung was an extremely bright young man, and coupled with his relentless work ethic, he completed his college degree in three years, finishing among the top students in his class, even though he had started the course with a limited grasp of English.

He then received a scholarship to attend Ohio Wesleyan University, where he enthusiastically participated in Christian activities. By his fourth year in America, however, a friend lamented: "John seldom went to meetings and never attended church on Sundays. After he had studied three more years under 'American heathens', he did not believe anything that his parents had taught him." Sung later admitted: "My soul wandered in a wilderness. I could neither sleep nor eat. My faith was like a leaking, storm-driven ship without a captain or compass. My heart was filled with the deepest unhappiness."

The Breaking Point

To make ends meet, Sung undertook all his studies while working several manual jobs, including heavy work at a steel factory. This demanding job precipitated his first health crisis, which he detailed: "I hadn't worked there a full day before I got dizziness, heart palpitations, splitting headaches, and a high fever. Still, I persevered until I developed a huge hemorrhoid. The doctor said I must have surgery. I didn't have any money, so I ignored the doctor's orders to recuperate slowly. I discharged myself from the hospital early, before it had completely healed."

This was the start of major health struggles that John Sung experienced for the rest of his life. As a result, his condition worsened and became a chronic affliction known as anal fistula, which plagued him until it ultimately caused his death at an early age.

Sung relocated to Ohio State University, where he completed a master's degree in chemistry in just nine months, receiving the Science Society's medal and gold key for topping his class. Next, he studied for a doctorate between 1924 and 1926. To qualify, he had to be proficient in both French and German, so he tackled those languages and passed with flying colors. Sung received his doctorate at a lavish ceremony on March 19, 1926. He was awarded cash prizes for his achievements in physics and chemistry and was invited to join the faculty of Harvard and other prestigious universities around the world.

While he had achieved all his academic goals, Sung was now deeply unhappy in his heart and mind. Someone suggested he should study theology, so he enrolled at the Union Theological Seminary in New York City, but was disgusted to discover it was a liberal institution, where most of the professors and students did not consider the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, and foundational beliefs such as the virgin birth and the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ were openly mocked or considered mere allegories.

Sung became so depressed and disillusioned with his spiritual condition that he wrote a confidential letter to a friend, saying that he felt overwhelmed by his tormented conscience and that he sometimes despaired of life. The letter was forwarded to Dr. Henry Coffin, the president of the seminary, which set off a chain of events that almost destroyed John Sung. One evening, he attended a revival meeting where he repented of his sins and was powerfully set free. Waves of forgiveness and joy flooded Sung's soul! He threw all of his books except the Bible into the trash and focused on reading God's Word, which struck him with a freshness and vibrancy he had never experienced before.

Confined in a Mental Asylum

Unable to contain his excitement for Jesus, Sung returned to the seminary, where he exuberantly exhorted his fellow students to repent and surrender their lives to God. The next morning, he openly rebuked his liberal professors, warning that they would be thrown into hell if they didn't repent. He even told Harry Fosdick, a leading proponent of the social gospel, "You are of the devil. You made me lose my faith, and you are causing other young men to lose their faith." Sung also took direct aim at Henry Coffin, telling his classmates they had been duped into attending a "cemetery whose president is a coffin."

Reports of Sung's behavior soon reached the president's desk, and he was not amused. Coffin decided the young Chinese student had become mentally unbalanced, and a plan was hatched to "help" him. Sung's diary recorded the events that unfolded when he returned to the seminary the next day:

"I reached the gates, which closed behind me as soon as I had entered them, and the seminary president greeted me. He told me that I was getting overly stressed lately and gently insisted that I go to a quiet place to rest and recuperate. I thought his offer over and deemed it reasonable because a week at a tranquil setting would be an excellent opportunity to devour the Word of God. The 'quiet place' turned out to be Bloomingdale Hospital, an institution for the mentally ill."

Rarely has a man forged such a diverse reputation in two parts of the world as Dr. Henry Coffin. In America he was viewed as one of the greatest Gospel ministers of his generation, and he had been honored on the cover of *Time* magazine just a few months earlier. In the eyes of many American Christians, Coffin was a great man of God and one of the co-writers of the famous hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel."

To multitudes of Chinese Christians around the world who are familiar with John Sung's testimony, however, Coffin is remembered as a villain who promoted the "God is dead" theology of his era, and as the man who nearly destroyed the life of God's chosen vessel who brought revival to the Chinese world.

After being admitted to the mental asylum, Sung tried to convince the psychiatrists he was not insane, but they would not listen. He told them, "I am not crazy! I have just been reborn. My soul, which was in misery, is now filled with the joy of the Lord and I cannot stop praising Him!"

The hospital took full control of his life, with all correspondence censored by the doctor in charge, who wrote back to John's relatives and friends, telling them he was too ill to reply and that they should not write again. After being told that he was being evaluated for six weeks, the period concluded but his request to be discharged was refused. The seriousness of his situation dawned on Sung, and he realized he had been tricked by Henry Coffin and was now imprisoned against his will in a mental asylum.

Finally, God gave favor, and with the help of a friendly nurse, Sung managed to write a letter to the Chinese Consulate, explaining he had been locked up against his will. After visiting the asylum, the consul general said that John Sung "was no more crazy than you or I, but he had such a good case of real, old-fashioned religion, and it was so unusual there that they

thought he was crazy." He was released on August 30, 1927, on the condition that he would leave the United States and return to China.

A Watery Grave

As he made his way across the vast Pacific Ocean, John Sung had a vivid dream in which he saw himself lying in a coffin with his academic degrees and gown. In the dream the old John Sung was dead, but the new man was alive in Christ and called to preach the Gospel.

Although the world now considered Sung a success with a highly valued doctorate, God began to deal with his pride during the long voyage. He knelt in his cabin and rededicated himself to God's service, determining in his heart to place no limits on his zeal and consecration to reach his fellow Chinese.

Sung renounced all of his worldly achievements, went up to the deck as the ship neared the Fujian coast, and hurled most of his diplomas, medals, and golden doctoral keys overboard into a watery grave. The only diploma he retained was his Ph.D., which he gave to his parents as a mark of respect for the effort and expense they had borne to help his career.

John gave all his money to his father and his books and clothes to his brother. From that time forward, he donned a simple cotton gown like many Chinese peasants of the time, and he lived as a poor itinerant evangelist.

John was asked to teach chemistry at a local Methodist high school. He worked there for a year, but science was now far down the list of priorities in his life, and he took every opportunity to indulge his real passion—the salvation of souls.

Discipleship

For the next three years, John Sung traveled around Fujian preaching in small rural churches, and his ministry began to resemble that of John the Baptist. He was uncompromising in his denunciation of sin, and did not hesitate to publicly rebuke church leaders and missionaries whose lives failed to glorify Christ. He taught regularly on Heaven and Hell and the need for people to fully surrender to God and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Multitudes responded with weeping and open confession of sin. He also established an extensive discipleship program to help new converts gain a strong foundation in God's Word.

Once, when asked to summarize the main themes of his teaching, Sung replied:

"Repentance, Heaven and Hell, and the cross and blood of Christ....hating of sin and complete consecration; being filled with the Holy Spirit; and the life of faith as well as love."

John Sung's Family

In December 1927 John Sung married Yu Jinhua, who also used the English name Jean. It was an arranged marriage, having been agreed to by their parents when they were children.

For the first several years their family life was a struggle, as Jean did not share the faith of her husband until she was converted five years later.

The scene was set, and God was ready to launch His servant John Sung out into the spiritual darkness of China. Extraordinary things would happen that would shake every area where he preached. Tens of thousands of supernatural healings and conversions to Jesus Christ took place against a background of constant attacks, death threats, and intense demonic opposition.

For these reasons, millions of house church believers in China today consider John Sung to be their spiritual example of how to zealously serve God with an uncompromising faith. His example set

the pattern for the great revival in China of the past 50 years.

In our next newsletter we will continue our look at the life of John Sung, and how the Lord Jesus Christ used him to bring powerful revival to China and Southeast Asia, propelling hundreds of thousands of people into His kingdom.

OVER THE YEARS ASIA HARVEST HAS SUCCESSFULLY PRINTED AND DELIVERED MORE THAN 430,000 BIBLES TO HOUSE CHURCH CHRISTIANS IN FUJIAN THROUGH OUR ASIA BIBLE FUND, IN ADDITION TO SUPPORTING MANY EVANGELISTS AND PROVIDING AID TO HUNDREDS OF PERSECUTED CHURCH LEADERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

ASIA BIBLE FUND (ABF

CURRENT TOTAL: 20,684,874 BIBLES PRINTED IN 169 LANGUAGES

The Asia Bible Fund provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in China, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and anywhere in Asia that God's people need His Word..

> Each Bible costs just \$3 to print and deliver. We also print millions of Gospel booklets for evangelism through this project.

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWE



WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT 1.805 ASIAN EVANGELISTS AMONG 1.293 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

The Asian Workers' Fund supports indigenous church-planting evangelists among unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups.

These disciples have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. To date, the evangelists we help have reportedly led 1,819,202 people to faith in Jesus Christ. You can help support these dedicated workers for \$25 per month each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project.

MINISTRY TRAINING FUND (MTF)



THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT WE HAVE HELPED TRAIN AND EQUIP 68,342 ASIAN BELIEVERS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOD

The Ministry Training Fund helps the Asian Church disciple and train believers to be effective ministers of the Gospel among the unreached.

Often workers live in remote places and coming together once or twice a year is the only outside fellowship and teaching they receive. We cover travel, food and other costs associated with the meetings. To train each worker costs an average of \$50.

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WE ARE CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 784 LIVING MARTYRS

The Living Martyrs' Fund supports Christian widows and church leaders and their families throughout Asia who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution.

They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of \$25 per month you can help support one of these living martyrs.





TCF) THE CHILDREN'S FUND

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS REACHED 236,793 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT ASIA SO FAR

The Children's Fund introduces children to Jesus in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and a host of other Asian countries.

Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, funding Sunday school training classes, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of just \$10 to help reach a child for Christ.



PRF) PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM ASHES TO BEAUTY WITH GOD'S LOVE

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and many people have come to know Jesus Christ.

This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian lepers, communities and families throughout Asia who are in desperate need.





ASIAHARVEST.ORG

OFFICE@ASIAHARVEST.ORG

NORTH AMERICA

PO Box 621150, Charlotte, NC 28262-0119, USA

AUSTRALIA

Ground Floor, Suite 80, 97-99 Bathurst St, Sydney NSW 2000 Bank details: CBA 06-4410-10255537 (Asia Harvest)

NEW 7FALAND

PO Box 1757, Queenstown 9348
Bank details: **ASB 12-3154-0092327-00** (Asia Harvest)

Verein SALZ International

UNITED KINGDOM

AsiaLink 31A Main St, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim BT39 9AA Bank details: NatWest Bank 01-07-65, Account No. 07018797

SWITZERLAND

IBAN: CH63 0900 0000 8909 3101 4 / BIC: POFICHBEXXX

EUROPE

Stiftung SALZ, Moehringer Landstr. 98, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany IBAN: **DE93 6426 1853 0060 0080 08** / BIC: **GENODES1PGW**

Asía Harvest



A RESCUE SHOP AT THE GATES OF HELL

Shining the Light of Jesus in the Darkness of Asia

"Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell. I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell."

— William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army

ROM TIME TO TIME, we receive very sensitive reports from our partners in Asia. We often refrain from sharing such stories to protect the safety of our partners, while striving to create balanced newsletters that don't overly burden our readers and leave them with broken hearts.

Sadly, many of the stories include suffering and reflect some of the worst depravity of mankind.

While we love to encourage readers with stories of revival and Gospel breakthroughs, to only share those would be unbalanced. Asia is also a place of intense spiritual darkness, and sometimes things that are difficult to read are necessary to share so that believers around the world can know how to pray.

Now take a moment to consider William Booth's quote cited above. Have you ever wondered what it might actually look like to run a rescue shop just outside the boundary of hell? What we are about to share with you in this newsletter is the result of believers doing just that in Myanmar today.

"I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! But I have a baptism to undergo, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division."

— The Lord Jesus Christ — (Luke 12:49-51)

FRONT COVER: Poverty, war, and corruption have left many Burmese combating threats from crime syndicates, leaving them in vulnerable conditions as they struggle to secure food for their families.

BACK COVER: Despite tremendous obstacles, the Kingdom of God continues to advance throughout Myanmar today through the unprecedented gathering of believers in homes like these.

Last year, we were excited to receive a call from one of our dearest ministry partners on the field in Asia. He is seeing God move powerfully among hungry hearts, with thousands of people having been added to the family of God.

However, what he shared that day caused our hearts to grieve and tears to fill our eyes. You might have enjoyed reading our 2024 reports and watching videos of how the Lord is saving countless beautiful children in Myanmar. Yet Satan does not let any genuine move of God go unchallenged, and the story we are about to share is both gripping and heavy. Please read it through to the end, as there is a message of hope at its conclusion.

THE FOLLOWING TRUE STORY IS **NOT** RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN. READER DISCRETION IS ADVISED.

VA* WAS JUST 11 YEARS OLD when a great darkness visited the slum she calls home...

It happened on a sunny day, just like any other. The streets were buzzing with life as schoolchildren were on holiday and were making the most of their young lives in the impoverished neighborhood.

"Follow me for some free candy!" one child shouted to groups of playing children.

Eva's belly growled at the thought of eating something sweet. She frequently felt hunger pangs at home due to a lack of food, so she welcomed the invitation and hurried over along with other children for some free candy.

Eva had noticed that some of her friends as well as others had disappeared from time to time, never to return. This made many in her village aware of the dangers around them and suspicious of strangers.



But the young boy leading them to get candy was a familiar face in the neighborhood, and his parents met the group of children along the way, putting Eva's heart at ease.

As the group walked quite a distance from the village, the boy's parents excitedly told them about a free medical clinic that would be distributing candy along with a free vaccine for each child.

Coming from destitute families who can't afford the most basic medical procedures without becoming enslaved by debt to violent gang lenders, the children considered the offer of medical help one less cost for their parents to worry about.

Finally, beyond earshot of the village, the group of now 20 children, along with a pregnant mother, entered the local graveyard. It seemed like an odd place for candy and vaccines to be distributed, but sure enough, there was a table set up with medical instruments operated by staff dressed in white lab coats.



The children formed a line and quickly, one by one, received an injection in the arm, followed by a piece of candy. While they were all enjoying their candy, Eva noticed something very odd beginning to happen to each one of them.

A strange fog clouded their judgment and made them dizzy.

And then it happened.

The pregnant mother was suddenly murdered right in front of the children by these criminals dressed as doctors and nurses. With no concern for the sanctity of human life, they proceeded to slash open the deceased mother's stomach, pulling her precious unborn child from her womb.

Terror of the worst kind gripped every child. Drugged beyond the point of being able to resist and now threatened with death themselves if they did not cooperate, the children were herded into the backs of open-bed trucks and driven through their village to a nearby fishing pier, where they were placed on boats.

Eva inwardly screamed for help, but no words made it to her lips because of the drug-induced state she was in. It was at that horrifying moment that she remembered the words she had heard at a Christian meeting she had attended since she gave her life to Jesus. It was there that she first learned that Jesus cares for everyone and can save people when they call upon His name.

"Jesus!" she cried out in Burmese.

It was all she capable of saying.

The boat that took the children across the river docked on the far side, and each child was whisked through the fish market and hurriedly pushed into cars that drove them away.

Eva watched with crippling fear as she was pushed closer to one of the cars, its door opening for her as she approached.

Then, out of nowhere, two very tall, white, angelic



beings appeared! They released her from the arms of her captors, brought her back to the pier, and put her on a boat returning to her village on the other side of the river.

Eva made it safely home and has been slowly recovering from the trauma, but sadly, none of the 19 other children have returned to their families since that day.

Most children who disappear in Myanmar under these circumstances do not live to tell their stories. Asia Harvest has since learned from our partners in the slums that the 19 children were most likely sent to various hospitals, where they were sedated before surgeons removed all their organs, killing them in the process. The murder of the pregnant mother and the nature of the diabolical events of that day confirm that these children were victims of human organ harvesting. Key organs, such as livers, kidneys, hearts, and lungs, are sold for transplant in wealthier countries.

Ongoing civil war in Myanmar has torn the country apart and resulted in the breakdown of society and the failure of the justice system. As a result, the police do nothing to assist victims, creating an environment in which such monstrous evil can thrive.

While the Church in Myanmar lacks the human ability to get judicial help against these threats, God's children there have learned that the Lord Jesus is the true source of their rescue. The Scriptures have become very real in their lives, such as Psalm 20:7: "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

Perhaps God moving so mightily in Myanmar today—the likes of which have never been seen before among the Buddhist majority—is Heaven's response to the cries of desperate believers who lack an army of chariots and human forces to rescue them. With no such resources outside of Christ, they have been discovering

the blessing that this "last resort" was all along their only lasting hope.

Through this profound discovery, God's revival fires are burning ever brighter amidst Myanmar's darkest hours.

Please pray for Eva to completely heal from the deep trauma she endured, and for the 19 families who now live with the painful void of their children having been so brutally snatched from them.

YET THE LIGHT OF **JESUS** CHRIST IS SHINING **BRIGHTLY** THROUGH THE OUTREACH CENTERS WE SUPPORT IN **MANY** SLUMS LIKE EVA'S...

Every day our coworkers help precious children like Eva, and multitudes of young children and teenagers have been rescued who would have otherwise been trafficked by gangs into sex work, drug dealing, and many other types of modern-day slavery. By the power of the Holy Spirit, thousands of at-risk families have come to a saving knowledge of Jesus. Not only have many vulnerable individuals come to Christ and been radically transformed, but many traffickers and gang members have also repented and surrendered their lives to the Lord Jesus!

Last year, *Asia Harvest* leaders visited the very slum where this diabolical incident occurred, and we even crossed on the same boats that took the kidnapped children across the river. We have personally witnessed the powerful work the Holy Spirit is doing in those poor communities, and we can declare with great conviction that Jesus *IS* the answer and the *only* hope for Myanmar and the world.

For over 20 years *Asia Harvest* has helped reach and disciple more than **231,000 children** throughout Asia by ministering to their physical and spiritual needs.

The Children's Fund specifically helps us reach children like Eva. Not only do they receive food and practical assistance, but they are also introduced to the Lord Jesus Christ and are ultimately discipled and equipped to share the Gospel with other children and adults.

Even in the grimmest of circumstances, thousands of children's lives have been transformed from darkness and despair to the light and hope that is found only in Christ.

If you would like to support the work in the slums of Myanmar and many other parts of Asia, please prayerfully consider giving to **TCF** (**The Children's Fund**) or to any of our other initiatives through which *Asia Harvest* furthers the work of the Gospel by providing Bibles, support for evangelists, and relief.





CURRENT TOTAL: 20.515.877 BIBLES PRINTED IN 167 LANGUAGES

The Asia Bible Fund provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in China, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and anywhere Asia that God's people need His Word..

> Each Bible costs just \$3 to print and deliver. We also print millions of Gospel booklets for evangelism through this project.

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWE



WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT 1,745 ASIAN EVANGELISTS AMONG 1,271 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

The Asian Workers' Fund supports indigenous church-planting evangelists among unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups.

These disciples have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. To date, the evangelists we help have reportedly led 1,685,021 people to faith in Jesus Christ. You can help support these dedicated workers for \$25 per month each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project.

MINISTRY TRAINING FUND (MTF



THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT WE HAVE HELPED TRAIN AND EQUIP 46.268 ASIAN BELIEVERS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOD

The Ministry Training Fund helps the Asian Church disciple and train believers to be effective ministers of the Gospel among the unreached.

Often workers live in remote places and coming together once or twice a year is the only outside fellowship and teaching they receive. We cover travel, food and other costs associated with the meetings. To train each worker costs an average of \$50.

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WE ARE CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 943 LIVING MARTYRS

The Living Martyrs' Fund supports Christian widows and church leaders and their families throughout Asia who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution.

They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of \$25 per month you can help support one of these living martyrs.



TOF) THE CHILDREN'S FUND

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS REACHED 231.376 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT ASIA SO FAR

The Children's Fund introduces children to Jesus in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and a host of other Asian countries.

Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, funding Sunday school training classes, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty. It costs an average of just \$10 to help reach a child for Christ.



PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM ASHES TO BEAUTY WITH GOD'S LOVE

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and many people have come to know Jesus Christ.

This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian lepers, communities and families throughout Asia who are in desperate need.





ASIAHARVEST.ORG

OFFICE@ASIAHARVEST.ORG

NORTH AMERICA

353 Jonestown Rd #320, Winston-Salem, NC 27104, USA

AUSTRALIA

Ground Floor, Suite 80, 97-99 Bathurst St, Sydney NSW 2000 Bank details: CBA 06-4410-10255537 (Asia Harvest)

NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 1757, Queenstown 9348 Bank details: **ASB 12-3154-0092327-00** (Asia Harvest)

UNITED KINGDOM

AsiaLink 31A Main St, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim BT39 9AA Bank details: NatWest Bank 01-07-65, Account No. 07018797

SWITZERLAND

Verein SALZ International IBAN: CH63 0900 0000 8909 3101 4 / BIC: POFICHBEXXX

EUROPE

Stiftung SALZ, Moehringer Landstr. 98, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany IBAN: **DE93 6426 1853 0060 0080 08** / BIC: **GENODES1PGW**

Asía Harvest

FEBRUARY 2025



NEWSLETTER #200



2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

Proclaiming God's Works in our 200th Newsletter

"Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—and I will meditate on your wonderful works. They tell of the power of your awesome works—and I will proclaim your great deeds." (Psalm 145: 3-6)

From the Frontlines

OT ONLY IS THIS NEWSLETTER a chance for us to pause and give thanks to the Lord Jesus Christ for all His works in 2024, it also happens to be the 200th newsletter we have sent out since the first issue in April 1988! It took a decade to reach our 50th newsletter in September 1998, then 11 more years to get to number 100 in July 2009, and a further nine years elapsed to newsletter 150 in June 2018.

Amazingly, we know a few people who have collected every newsletter over the years and kept them in plastic folders, although these days you can access our Newsletter Archives via the *Resources* tab at our website, *www.asiaharvest.org*.

As we look back over the past 37 years, we are humbled by God's faithfulness and protection. It has been an incredible blessing for us to learn from God's people in Asia as we have served them. The Gospel has advanced mightily in many nations. As the Psalmist wrote, a key part of our call has been to commend God's works to this generation of Christians around the world through our books and newsletters, and to "tell of the power of His awesome works and proclaim His great deeds."

FRONT COVER: The Golden Triangle area, where the countries of Laos, Thailand and Myanmar meet, is notorious for being one of the main drug-producing hubs in the world. The same waterways are now being used to transport God's Word, helping to meet the great demand for Bibles for the thousands of families who are being radically transformed by the Spirit of God.

BACK COVER: Asia Harvest conducts many projects that rarely get mentioned in our newsletters. Here, young women at risk of being sexually trafficked are being trained to use sewing machines. This project comes under our Persecution & Relief Fund. Not only does it give them a skill to help earn an income, but most become Christians due to the influence of the godly believers who lead the project.

Some of the highlights over the years include witnessing the tremendous growth of the Church in China, as the country itself rose on the world stage. Now we are seeing the country rapidly going backwards, reversing the decades of gains, but we pray and hope the Body of Christ in China will emerge even stronger and as a more vibrant witness both within its borders and beyond.

Although China stands out as having experienced the greatest revival in the history of Christianity, we have also been amazed to see the Spirit of God move powerfully in many other Asian countries, such as Vietnam, Laos, parts of Indonesia, Nepal, India, and now in Myanmar, where the revival currently underway is quite startling. Although each revival is different, true revivals have certain unchanging characteristics, such as a deep repentance of sin, which spurs wonderful new life as multitudes of people and entire communities experience God's love and transformative power.

On the other hand, we have also seen the ebb and flow of the harvest field, and how at times a nation may appear to be completely open to heaven's blessings, only for the tide to turn and begin to go out for a season. We have learned that the "Lord of the harvest" not only controls the labors of His servants, but He is also in charge of the very conditions of the harvest itself, sometimes softening people's hearts and at other times letting them go their own way (see Romans 1:28). Everything is designed by God to culminate in His ultimate goal, when "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign for ever and ever" (Revelation 11:15).

At the beginning of 2025, we give thanks for the opportunity to once again serve the Lord Jesus in Asia. We greatly appreciate the prayers, encouragement, and support of Christians around the world who have been led by the Holy Spirit to join hands with us. Together, we are helping many who have never heard the Gospel become aware of the incredible salvation the Son of God has won for them.

We invite you to join us on this journey as we continue to march forward, serving the Church in Asia.

2024/25 Annual Report

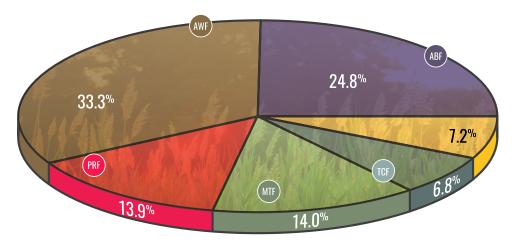
In the remainder of this newsletter we present our Annual Report, detailing the help *Asia Harvest* provided to the Body of Christ throughout Asia in 2024.

It has been a privilege to serve the Lord for another year. We feel greatly blessed to be a link in the chain that resulted in many people coming to know Him. Last year, more than 660,000 Christian families were strengthened by God's Word through our *Asia Bible Fund*, while the 1,746 evangelists we support led a total of over 325,000 people to Christ among 1,282 different tribes and ethnic groups.

For more than 35 years, our strategy has been to operate with as few overhead expenses as possible, so that resources will reach the hands of frontline workers who need them the most—the Asian Christians we are honored to assist and serve.

We thank everyone who prayed for and supported our work last year. Without your vital partnership none of these things would have occurred.

Projects Supported in 2024













- (ABF) ASIA BIBLE FUND 24.8%
- (MTF) MINISTRY TRAINING FUND 14.0%
- TCF THE CHILDREN'S FUND 6.8%
- (PRF) PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND 13.9%
- (LMF) LIVING MARTYRS' FUND 7.2%
- (AWF) ASIAN WORKERS' FUND 33.3%

From the time of Asia Harvest's inception in the 1980s, we have desired to be transparent in the area of finances.

Our annual financial statements are independently audited and are available for anyone to view on our website. We thank God that last year we were able to send out substantially more project money than we received. Our operating costs are fully covered by non-project donations, and from income generated by book sales.

This means that 100% of project donations are used on the field in Asia as specified. To read our audited financial statements, please click 'resources' at:





Birhor,

Birjia,

Hindi.

Lahu.

Nepali,

Oadki,

Telugu,

Wagdi

THE CHILDREN'S FUND

In addition to our normal activities of helping train Sunday school teachers and printing children's Bible story books and other materials, one of our greatest opportunities in 2024 was to help fan the flames of a tremendous move of God in the most desperate slum areas of Myanmar.

The Holy Spirit is moving powerfully, with thousands of Buddhist Burmese families hearing the Gospel, repenting of their sins, and embracing Jesus for the first time.

Part of our response has been to rescue many children who were at risk of being trafficked into prostitution, the drug world, or other crime. Parents were forced to sell their children to gangs to repay loans, often just \$50 or \$100, which were taken out to allow desperate families to buy food to survive, due to the dire poverty in the slums.

The faces of hundreds of children now shine with love and the presence of God. We have helped Christian families get free of debt, and have provided food, medicine, and other essentials until they can get back on their own feet. Now, thousands of children have a bright future and hope instead of darkness and despair.

WE HAVE SO FAR HELPED REACH 228,476 ASIAN CHILDREN FOR CHRIST THROUGH THIS PROJECT.

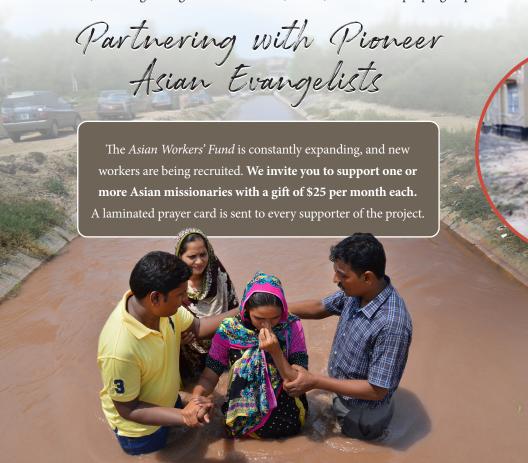


ASIAN WORKERS' FUND

The Asian Workers' Fund supports Asian evangelists who are working among people groups that have never heard the Gospel. These workers encounter much hardship, but have persevered and are now seeing breakthroughs among many groups.

In 2023, those we support through this project **led 302,107 people to salvation** in Jesus Christ (an average of 173 per worker). A total of just **over 1.3 million conversions** have been reported since this project began. *Hallelujah!*

This is remarkable considering most of the workers serve in the darkest and most unreached areas of Asia, including among numerous Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist people groups.



MINISTRY TRAINING TRAINING FUND In 2023 we were pleased to introduce the Ministry Training and Training Traini

In 2023 we were pleased to introduce the *Ministry Training Fund*, which helps the Asian Church disciple and train believers to be effective ministers of the Gospel among the unreached.

Often, workers live in remote places and are only able to assemble once or twice a year for ministry and leadership training. We cover travel, food and other expenses associated with meetings. To train each worker costs an average of \$50.

PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND

We were privileged to help the physical and spiritual needs of thousands of people through the *Persecution & Relief Fund* last year. **The Gospel is always shared with those who receive assistance**, including hundreds of lepers, orphans, and widows.

The myriad of ways this project assisted people in 2023 included: providing relief after floods, earthquakes, and other natural disasters; the provision of hundreds of blankets to the elderly before the onset of a bitter Himalayan winter; dozens of motorcycles and bicycles for evangelists; the construction of fresh-water wells; funding sewing centers and vocational training for girls at risk of being trafficked; and holding medical clinics for the sick and impoverished.

Last year, thousands of people were added to the kingdom of God after they saw the love of Jesus demonstrated through the selfless acts of God's servants.

Transforming lives from Ashes to Beauty

ASIA BIBLE FUND (ABF

CURRENT TOTAL: 20,428,067 BIBLES PRINTED IN 167 LANGUAGES

The Asia Bible Fund provides the Scriptures in numerous languages in China, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, and anywhere in Asia that God's people need His Word..

> Each Bible costs just \$3 to print and deliver. We also print millions of Gospel booklets for evangelism through this project.

ASIAN WORKERS' FUND (AWE

WE CURRENTLY SUPPORT 1.746 ASIAN EVANGELISTS AMONG 1.282 UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

The Asian Workers' Fund supports indigenous church-planting evangelists among unreached Asian tribes and ethnic groups.

These disciples have committed their whole lives to the Gospel but are hindered by lack of finances. To date, the evangelists we help have reportedly led 1,669,533 people to faith in Jesus Christ. You can help support these dedicated workers for \$25 per month each. A prayer card and occasional updates are sent to all regular supporters of this project.

MINISTRY TRAINING FUND (MTF)



THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT WE HAVE HELPED TRAIN AND EQUIP 46.268 ASIAN BELIEVERS TO EFFECTIVELY SERVE GOD

The Ministry Training Fund helps the Asian Church disciple and train believers to be effective ministers of the Gospel among the unreached.

Often workers live in remote places and coming together once or twice a year is the only outside fellowship and teaching they receive. We cover travel, food and other costs associated with the meetings. To train each worker costs an average of \$50.

LIVING MARTYRS' FUND

BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP WE ARE CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 943 LIVING MARTYRS

The Living Martyrs' Fund supports Christian widows and church leaders and their families throughout Asia who are unable to work because of injuries or illness caused by persecution.

They and their families face extreme poverty and hardship. Through a gift of \$25 per month you can help support one of these living martyrs.



TCF) THE CHILDREN'S FUND

YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT HAS REACHED 228,476 CHILDREN THROUGHOUT ASIA SO FAR

The Children's Fund introduces children to Jesus in India, China, Vietnam, Indonesia, and a host of other Asian countries.

Activities include printing and distributing Gospel literature designed for children, funding Sunday school training classes, providing free surgeries for those with special needs, and generally lifting children out of spiritual and physical poverty.

It costs an average of just \$10 to help reach a child for Christ.



PERSECUTION & RELIEF FUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES FROM ASHES TO BEAUTY WITH GOD'S LOVE

Over the years Asia Harvest has provided assistance to the victims of natural disasters that have struck Asia. In addition to providing aid through medicine, tents, blankets, food and water, rebuilding homes etc., the Christians we partner with take every opportunity to share the Gospel, and many people have come to know Jesus Christ.

This project also provides physical and spiritual relief to Christian lepers, communities and families throughout Asia who are in desperate need.





ASIAHARVEST.ORG • OFFICE@ASIAHARVEST.ORG

Verein SALZ International

NORTH AMERICA

353 Jonestown Rd #320, Winston-Salem, NC 27104, USA

AUSTRALIA

Ground Floor, Suite 80, 97-99 Bathurst St, Sydney NSW 2000 Bank details: CBA 06-4410-10255537 (Asia Harvest)

NEW ZEALAND

PO Box 1757, Queenstown 9348
Bank details: ASB 12-3154-0092327-00 (Asia Harvest)

UNITED KINGDOM

AsiaLink 31A Main St, Ballyclare, Co. Antrim BT39 9AA Bank details: NatWest Bank 01-07-65, Account No. 07018797

SWITZERLAND

IBAN: CH63 0900 0000 8909 3101 4 / BIC: POFICHBEXXX

EUROPE

Stiftung SALZ, Moehringer Landstr. 98, 70563 Stuttgart, Germany IBAN: DE93 6426 1853 0060 0080 08 / BIC: GENODES1PGW