

February 10: We'll be launching our NEW website at: www.goforthinjesus.name Check out the site now as it develops.

GoForth MINISTRY

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January 2012 Newsletter

When Giant's Roar!

Even though I walk
through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

Psalms 23:4



The Holy Spirit at work in North Vietnam!

The door to North Vietnam has been closed to most mission efforts initiated by South Vietnamese Christians. For Brother N., that door has suddenly opened wide!

Since this past summer, as Brother N. has been searching the Word, God has revealed to him some of the basics about the soon return of Jesus Christ to earth. He also discovered that most Christians in Vietnam have a very limited awareness that Jesus will someday return to earth.

Sharing this simple foundational truth wherever he went, it wasn't too long until he was invited to speak at a meeting which would include many "Official Church" pastors somewhere near the capital city of Hanoi.

For Brother N., who is from the far south, this was a dangerous move. The "Official Church" is an arm of Vietnam's Communist government (which is anti-God), allowing only government-controlled religious organizations to exist.

Needless to say, many of the pastors of these puppet churches, especially in the North, are not even Christians. They do not believe in a real Heaven or Hell. They have no real need of a living Jesus Christ. They certainly don't believe or teach

that Jesus' will soon return - especially since it is prohibited!

Brother N. spent nearly two weeks traveling from one secret meeting to another. He taught the word eight hours a day, every day! Exhausted, his voice finally gave out.



David and the other GIANTS

The Army of Israel was renowned for their historical triumph over the giants that had once lived in the 'land of promise' they now called home. But this great army now huddled in fox-holes, numbed by the fear of a giant called Goliath who daily challenged their very identity as "God's chosen people".

No one wanted to admit that their courage had been lost. The sized of the giant, the strength of his armor, his superior weaponry, and the mocking words that had gushed from his mouth every morning and evening for the past 40 days had drained their courage the instant they encountered him.

Every day, twice a day, Goliath presented himself to the Army of Israel. And in response, every day, twice a day, Israel's army ran from him.

Day after day after day - they ran.

Running away! It had become an habitual reaction! They were doing it twice a day. No one seemed to ever considered actually fighting Goliath any more.

The army had found a safe solution to their menacing problem. Cover up their terror of Goliath by simply not confronting him. Cover it up those fears long enough and eventually they would become convinced that the habit of running away was normal. And then perhaps, just perhaps, eventually that giant would ...just disappear.

"Run away! Stay safe back in your foxhole! Let someone else who is bigger, more talented, better equipped, more educated, more experienced, or more spiritual deal with this giant of a problem.

Sure, I can show up for the routine battle cry. And sure, I can shout at the enemy and declare the goodness of my God with the best of them. But you'd better not expect anything more than that out of me. Don't ask me to be the one to risk my neck. I've got my own plans and battles to fight back here in my foxhole. And whatever you do, don't ask me to take on something bigger than I am obviously capable of handling!" (continued on back page)

From this first mission trip to the North, sixteen 'Official Church' pastors gave their hearts to the Lord, along with many others! Since last June he has journeyed back to the North three more times for further teaching in other areas.

Because Official Church pastors are servants of the government, some of these pastors had accumulated significant wealth. And because of their new found faith and conviction that Jesus return is imminent and that time is short, many immediately put extra homes and vehicles up for sale, using the proceeds to sponsor further evangelism outreaches throughout North Vietnam!



Pray for this army of new believers and Official Church Pastors who, though understanding the risk and cost, have still dedicated their lives to the Lord's service!

Brother N. could hardly contain his joy as he told me all that had taken place in the past five months since I met with him late November, 2011. Not only has revival broken out in the North, but as word spread, he was also taken out to the mountain tribal areas where there are a great number of persecuted believers and to the far south. There too, where most did not really understand that Jesus is coming back soon, many have now commit their lives to full time service.

Please pray: as God has opened wide this door and message that the Holy Spirit will greatly empower those who are stepping out in faith with love, boldness, authority, and a clear message. Pray for open doors and protection from those who aggressively oppose the Gospel.

From Taiwan: Barnabas reports on taking the Gospel into North Vietnam; Jan. 7, 2012

...I would really like people to be informed about this amazing spreading of the Gospel! It began first from Taiwan among the Vietnamese migrant workers, and is now resulting in 'house churches' being formed back in Northern Vietnam.

Right now we have established 3 house church meetings in [withheld] Province, North Vietnam and from there the gospel is spreading in a speedy manner.

I just talked with the lady leader there, Sister H. whom you met before in Hanoi. She reported that this Christmas they held a Christmas evangelical meeting and there were more than 180 people (including more than 120 recent believers and the rest are non-believers) came to attend. In that meeting alone 14 people got saved!

I was surprised how amazing the work of the Holy Spirit is there; among the believers in that group there are teachers, former Communist Party members, engineers, and people who work in different professional fields. Even a former policeman and his family got saved!

At the Christmas meeting a couple who are teachers at a university in the province came to learn about the Gospel. The reason they came is that they have a son who was addicted to drugs, and his behavior had some serious problems. Then this son met the people of the Christian group and was exposed to the Gospel. The believers prayed for him and helped him to understand the faith in Christ. As a result he is getting better. So the parent came to visit the church to listen to the Gospel message.

This growing Christian community is also continually being strengthened with more and more believers who have been trained here in Taiwan and are presently returning to that area in North Vietnam.

The Taipei Vietnamese Church here has been supporting the key leader back in Vietnam with 150USD a month for the last one and half years. But presently we can not continue this because the group here itself does not have strength to do that anymore.

Most of the believers here are new believers while the ones who have been trained up here are continuing to return to Vietnam. As a result our own activities in Taiwan are getting more and more in need.

You can GO!



Sign up now for the next exciting

2 week Bible Courier Mission trip to Hong Kong and China!

April 7 - 21, 2012

Includes several days in Vietnam!

Trip cost: \$2495.00 (not including \$350.00 for food & sightseeing)

Contact Go Forth Ministry for details.

Sign up Deadline: February 4, 2012

NOTE: Seventeen people are already signed up for this trip!
Space is limited to first come basis! Sign up ASAP if you want to join!

For the last 3 or 4 months we were not able to send her any support. So I am in the difficulty on this issue. I've managed to take off from our monthly fund for the ministry here which is very limited in order to continue the support the other key workers in North Vietnam these last four months. This is an issue that we are praying about at present.

We pray that we could have some separate fund to support the growing work in Northern Vietnam; especially because the situation right now is that we have such a good chance to enlarge the work of training new leaders and establishing new house churches there.

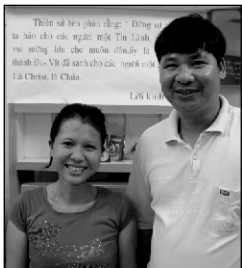
It would greatly help the Northern Vietnamese people who have returned back from Taiwan to maintain the evangelical Spirit which they had in Taiwan.



Many of these Vietnamese Christian leaders in training in Taiwan will soon return to North Vietnam to serve the Lord.

Kingdom Investment: The Holy Spirit is moving powerfully among the Vietnamese in Taiwan. From there it is expanding rapidly into the ripened fields of North Vietnam. As a result, there are significant financial needs that must be addressed immediately in order to simply maintain what has already been established.

Would you or your church consider financially supporting this unique ministry through the 'Barnabas Fund' that is advancing into one of the worlds most challenging closed nations?



Mrs. G. and her husband

Healed of Cancer!

All hope was gone for Mrs. G. as cancer had spread through her body and her face was covered with large tumors.

Some Brothers heard about her situation and God led them to traveled some distance from Saigon to pray for her. At that time she received the Lord Jesus, but no

healing. The Brothers left rejoicing with the thought that she would soon be in heaven and free of her suffering.

Two and a half years passed before those Brothers ever found out that Mrs. G. had not died. Instead she had been totally, miraculously healed a few days later. She is now joyfully serving the Lord along with her husband.



愿你的国降临；
愿你的旨意
行在地上！

THE REVOLUTIONARY POWER OF GOD'S WORD IN CHINA

It has been stated that "every Christian in China is an evangelist." Generally this is true.

Many China ministries believe that an average of two to three people come to faith in Jesus Christ for every Bible in China.

One major mission group that GFM has associated with over the years maintained that at least five people experience salvation for every Chinese Bible.

Regardless of which number is more accurate, if one Chinese Bible results in 2 - 5 people coming to faith and needing a Bible, the problem of providing Bibles can never be fully met while the church is in revival!

In an effort to determine in a more accurate way how great the need really is for Bibles among the house churches in China, one mission organization, Asia Harvest, asked many leaders of house church networks in China to survey their members and tell them of their needs.

"The result was staggering," reported Paul Hattaway. Added together, the house churches throughout China urgently needs 34 million Bibles, just to provide the Word of God to all of their members. It would take many millions more Bibles if enquirers are considered, but our priority is to provide Bibles to as many believers as possible."

"We have received numerous letters from church leaders telling us how they used to have 500 believers in their area, for example, but after we delivered a shipment of Bibles they grew to two or three times."

The church is now split into three movements in China: There is the Three-Self Patriotic Movement church, which is the official, state-sanctioned church. Chinese can participate in Christian church services, but that is under the control of the Chinese government.

The second church is the unregistered house church movement. These are churches that have grown up in the rural areas of China which represents about 80% of China's population. Each groups has about five to 50 members, worshipping and fellowshiping together in homes.

Then there's the new rising third church. This has grown up in the urban areas of China and is comprised of professionals, educated people, university graduates, business people - and more recently a rapidly growing number of government officials. This third church is renown for its boldness in proclaiming its faith and meeting publicly inside China in the urban areas."

As the church in China continues to rapidly expand, some movements continue to experience heavier persecution than others. This is due, in part, to local officials interpretation of government policy as well as personal attitudes towards Christians in general.

China party official warns members over religion (Dec. 19, 2011, AP)

Religious practice among Chinese Communist Party members is increasing and threatens its unity and national leadership, a top party official said in remarks reported Monday. Party members are required to be atheists and must not believe in religion or engage in religious practice, said Zhu Weiqun, a member of the party's Central Committee and executive vice director of its United Front Work Department in charge of dealings with nonparty groups. Religious practice is a growing trend, especially in areas inhabited by ethnic minorities, and must not be tolerated, Zhu said in comments published in the latest edition of the main party theoretical journal, Qiushi, and reported by the official Xinhua News Agency. While it no longer actively works to eradicate religion as it did under Mao Zedong, the party remains deeply suspicious of religious practice and strictly controls when and where it can take place.

Without a doubt, from the best minds to the least, every soldier in Israel's army continued to analyze and strategize for a way to deal with this Goliath. But eventually conversations would become routine empty exercises, speculated solutions only to be quickly thrown on a growing heap of rejected remedies when viewed in the light of the obvious insurmountable realities.

The fact was, the army of Israel was already defeated! Another giant, the giant of Fear had already invaded their camp and he had very quickly destroyed whatever faith and courage they once had in themselves and in their God.

So, where did this giant of Fear come from? How had he so quickly immobilized the army of Israel - the army that had fought for and carried the Name of Almighty God - the army whose rich history was steeped in tales of how the "Land of Giants" had been transformed into God's 'Promise Land'?

1. Goliath dictated the rules of warfare to Israel. (Sam. 17:8-9)

Israel had no obligation whatsoever to fight for their own nation by the rules laid out by Goliath! They could have ignored the challenge of Goliath and simply attacked the Philistines immediately and in full force! So why didn't they?

Out of fear Saul came into agreement with Goliath's terms of warfare! Goliath offered a very logical, low cost, 'one on one' solution! But in reality it was a clever distraction from the real issue which was that Israel had been invaded by an army whose only agenda was to overrun and occupy the nation.

Saul demonstrated that he had come under the spell of this 'religious spirit' when he tried to impose his own rules of warfare on David. (1 Sam 17:38-39)

Had David come into agreement and tried to carry out God's call on his life within Saul's 'rules and methods' framework, I think David's story would have had a very tragic ending that day!

2. Goliath also told the Army of Israel who he perceived them to be as he observed them from his lofty nine foot vantage point. But it was a lie! By agreeing with his words, the army received a 'lying spirit' who launched an attack right in the 'safety' of their own foxholes.

It didn't take long before that 'lying spirit' had convinced the Army of Israel that "Goliath is right. We are insignificant. We can't win this battle." Before long that lying spirit had found his home within the camp and under the pretense of spiritual insight the brothers were soon speaking similar derogatory, divisive, and false things to each other! (1 Sam. 17:28-30)

What this all boils down to is that Fear immobilized the Army of Israel because they allowed themselves to be influence by what they saw and heard with their physical senses, processing that information only by human logic. David, on the other hand, received in his heart what God had revealed and spoken by the Spirit. That resulted in Courage, Faith, and Action!

Every one of us must face our own giants that mock and taunt us. They have names like Anger, Unbelief, Bitterness, Pride, Addiction, Fear, Secret sin and so on. These giant live in our mind, distorting our perspective of the reality of who God says we are, who the real enemy

is, how big God really is, and what our real mission is!

These giants that have paralyzed so many, if not most of God's soldiers, keeping them in a habitual routine of simply showing up each Sunday morning to raise their tarnished swords and shout at the enemy. Then, as if on que, turning tail, they retreat back to the sanctuary of their comfortable foxholes for another week of 'staying safe'.

Today you and I stand together in another Army of God. It is called 'the Church'. That army stands on a worldwide battlefield. One of the great battles we face is called 'The Great Commission'. Like the giant Goliath, the giants on this battlefield also confront us, diverting our attention from the real mission by intimidating, mocking and taunting God's soldiers into a state of numbness.

Immobilized by a mindful of fears, many of God's people have accommodated the habit of simply showing up for the routine battle cry each week and seldom address the real issue that are holding back this potentially tremendous force; a church that is united and focused on co-missioning with Jesus Christ and his mission!

The fact is, overall, we do not really know our true identity!

Can we really believe this; I am a child of the Most High God. He is my Father! I am equipped with incredible promises spoken to me from God's own mouth. I am empowered and led by His Holy Spirit to ensure the reality of those promises according to God's timing and purposes. I'm filled with the same Power that raised Jesus from the grave!

Can I really believe I am standing side by side in a battle with my Brother Jesus Christ who has all power and all authority. His love and commitment to me has no limit. He is with me always!

Available to us right now is the same Spirit that enabled young David, against all logic and odds, to see the same battle as the rest of the army (but through the eyes of the Spirit), and then courageously attack the giants of religious rules, lies, fear - and Goliath, and win!

Today giants mock us and defy our identity by magnifying our human weaknesses, failures, and sins while diminishing what God says about us. The fact is, our junk is all covered, forgiven and forgotten - IF we believe what God says and we allow Jesus to take possession of our junk. He paid for it with his own blood! If so, that part of our history is forever deleted. Our true identity now is who God says we are!

We have a battle to fight. Jesus has already commanded us to join Him in taking the truth and love of our Father throughout the world. We can only do it by knowing and believing who God says we are and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Throughout history we have celebrate the victory that David won over Goliath. It was an amazing miracle. But there was even a greater miracle that happened that day which mostly goes unnoticed. It was the miracle of the Army of Israel being set free from their fear and immobility. It is the miracle of them rediscovering their true identity -

that they are indeed 'giant killers', resulting in the restoration of courage, unity, and their divine purpose. Once again they were the force that God intended them to be in order to overcome their enemy and glorify God in the 'Land of Promise'.



Thirty radios were provided for the isolated Leper Village enabling 100's of shut-in Christians to tune into Christian programing that's coming from outside Vietnam. This simple gift means so much to them and they want me to express their deepest thanks to you for caring!



2012 gets Go Forth Ministry started off on an exciting new year! We have undergone a lot of changes in the office the past year and a half. I'm going through a lot of changes in my own life too.

With those changes, we anticipate new growth in the already established outreaches in China and Vietnam. But beyond that, it seems that God has been taking us through this transition because He is setting Go Forth Ministry up for 'something more'. I can't say what it is - but as time is winding down, we anticipate activity to increase. We want to position ourselves to be ready and available for the mission God is preparing us for.

Thanks so much for your many forms of encouragement to our Chinese and Vietnamese Family - as well as to us personally!

Thanks for "running to the battle lines"! (1 Sam. 17:22 & 48)

In His service,

Wendell & Daisy Martin