

Dear Friends and Intercessors,

The word ‘gospel’ means ‘good news’ or ‘good story’. It is not a news flash for a day that is quickly superseded by more up-to-date events. Nor is it a fictional tale to entertain. Rather, it is the true story of God’s love that continues every day, changing us and changing things around us. It is His Story, which began before time and will continue through eternity. Here are a few tidbits from His story, which we have had the privilege to watch unfold.

MIRACLE BABY – Frank came to Joyful Harvest at the start of the Renewing Life course. His wife, Mei Ling, soon dropped out, but Frank continued to come. At the right times, he shared with her what he learned. Gradually, she agreed to reading the *Picture Bible* with him each night. Frank’s faith grew and he joined a homegroup and the worship team. Although Mei Ling could not come to church, Frank kept sharing what he learned. Mei Ling had difficulty conceiving before, but in this period, she became pregnant. Mei Ling needed bed rest for most of the time and there were a few close calls, but prayers of the body helped pull her through. As Mei Ling’s faith grew, she shared what she learned with her mom and even boldly shared the gospel with others in the hospital. A woman who wanted to abort twins changed her mind after Mei Ling prayed for her and she was healed of a womb problem. On the same night, Mei Ling and her mom decided to formally invite Jesus into their hearts. On June 30, in an emergency Caesarian, baby Mark was born, weighing in at 2.8 kg. As Mark grew in the womb, his mom grew in her faith – and both new births were days apart. Now, Mei Ling promises she will come to church together with Frank.



A BIBLE IN THE RUBBLE – Our team of seven were among the first to respond to the Sichuan earthquake. They went to some of the hardest hit areas and felt frequent tremors wherever they went. They brought in tents and provisions, purchased supplies for a makeshift school and accompanied a medical team to remote mountainous areas. They played games with the children and taught them songs to give them hope. Everywhere they walked, they blessed the land. In the photo above, they miraculously fished through the rubble to help a woman, one of 3 Christians in her village, to find her most precious belonging – her Bible.

HISTORY MAKING IN SOUTHERN CHINA – The youth-oriented History Maker church in Singapore had their first Hong Kong conference at Joyful Harvest. One evening we had street evangelism, followed by a hip meeting at a nearby community centre. The next night we worshiped at the Apex, 78 floors up, in the second tallest building in Hong Kong. The last night, we worshiped with 300 believers in a Three-Self church outside Shenzhen. The passion of the youth and their discipline (getting up at 5 am to pray) made a big impact on us. Later this month, 2 of our teenagers will spend 3 weeks with History Maker in Singapore.



MARRIAGES REVIVED IN NORTHERN CHINA –

On the first night of the 3-day marriage camp that we conducted, 3 of the naughtiest husbands wanted to leave. Fortunately, they stayed because at the end they and three others repented of their alcoholism, unfaithfulness and rebellion and were baptized before taking communion with their wives and exchanging marriage vows. In China, they just got married in a legal ceremony and never said vows. Several of the couples went back to their villages and cities and taught what they learned about making 'love deposits' and forgiveness, and now 30 couples are asking when the next camp will be. One woman reported that her husband changed 180° and now always goes to church.



The Holy Spirit brought much conviction and repentance, especially among the men.



Some couples danced together for the first time. It was a joyful sight. I think angels danced among us.

OUTREACH IN JORDAN – Twice a month, area churches meet at Joyful Harvest and we worship together, do street evangelism and visit families.



Thank you for caring about us and praying for us. We are still learning and growing and face many struggles. If you remember us, we would appreciate prayer for:

- ◇ unity
- ◇ protection
- ◇ discernment and insight
- ◇ priorities and strategy
- ◇ marriages
- ◇ building up of youth and children
- ◇ leaders and leadership training
- ◇ new believers to fit in and be built up
- ◇ people would follow Jesus in every area of their lives

"Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." Mark 16:15

Blessing you to tell the good story of His love and goodness every day,

With thanks and praise, *David and Diana*