

Dear friend,

Here in China we are in the midst of the period of Chinese New Year celebrations for the new year of 2020! As we enter this new decade, we are full of praise and thanksgiving to our Lord and Creator for His Faithfulness and Goodness!

“But let all those that put their trust in You rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them: let them also that love Your name be joyful in You. For You, LORD, will bless the righteous; with favor You will surround him as with a shield.” (Psalm 5:11,12)

First of all, we want to let you know that Mike and I are well, as you might be hearing news of the “Corona virus” in China. Although Polly has been battling with a cough and low fevers during this month of January, thank God it is not this new virus, praise the Lord! We’d be very thankful for your prayers for her immune system to be stronger and recover completely from this cough, thank you so much!

We were here in China in 2003-2004 during the SARS epidemic, and the Lord kept us and our friends, so we are sure that He will keep us through this crisis too. “No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling.” Psalm 91:10

### Visa Work Submitted For the Coming Year

We submitted our visa paper work on January 10<sup>th</sup>, but due to the Chinese New Year holidays, which are from Jan 24-31, we will only hear any news about it sometime in the first part of February, so we’d be grateful for your prayers for our visas to be approved and that everything goes smoothly, thank you so much!

### Mike’s Trip to Taiwan

Thank you for much for your prayers for Mike’s trip to Taiwan, it went very well and he was able to minister to, encourage and share the Word with many of our Taiwanese friends (we lived in Taiwan for 2 ½ years, and try to go back once a year to minister to some of the ones we led to the Lord or had been witnessing to there). On his trip back to China, the Lord had some wonderful surprises for him, as he met 3 different people who received the Lord with him.

On his 50-minute taxi ride to the Taiwan airport, Mike shared about the Lord with the Buddhist taxi driver. As they were nearing the end of the ride, the driver said to Mike, “You know, your words have really touched my heart!” Mike got a check to then share more about how to receive the Lord and what it meant, and the driver was very eager to pray for the Lord to come into his heart.

Mike flew first to Hong Kong, crossed into China by bus, and spent the night at the house of a local friend and her husband in a nearby city where we used to live. This friend is a private English teacher, and one of the students that she tutors, a 17 year-old girl, has had a difficult home situation, and has tried to commit suicide twice. Our friend invited this student to come to dinner and spend the evening with her and Mike, and during that time Mike was able to

make friends with the student and talk to her and encourage her about her life and talk about the Lord’s love for her. She was very thankful to receive the



A 17 year old student who received the Lord

secure social media. What a precious opportunity to help someone with the Lord’s love!

Finally, the next day, on the way home on the plane, Mike sat next to a Chinese woman who was accompanying her elderly father on a tour around different cities of China. She was telling Mike about a city where there were some Buddhist grottoes and temples, and she was saying how she so liked it that these people had a religion, whereas she didn’t. So Mike said, “I have a religion, would you like to know about it?” She was so excited to hear about the Lord, and then Mike showed her on his phone the Christmas slide show (which tells not only the Christmas story but the whole story of salvation) that we have made. The whole time she was exclaiming over parts of the slide show with comments like, “Oh, so that’s how it is!” At the end of the slide show she



A woman on plane who received the Lord

was so happy to pray the prayer with Mike to receive the Lord into her heart, and was thankful to accept a 16-page booklet that explains the basics of Christianity for new believers. It’s amazing how when we are travelling, the Lord will bring some special people across our path that are so ready to receive the Lord with us.

### Christmas Activities!

This year, the restrictions for Christmas activities continued to increase, there was no putting up of Christmas decorations in shops, malls, restaurants allowed, also no Christmas parties in schools, or Christmas celebrations in underground churches. For more information, see the following link:

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/christmas-ban-12242019134209.html>,

Despite the restrictions, we felt led to have 6 different Christmas activities with our friends. Since Christmas is not a holiday here, people have to work as usual, we used the weekend before Christmas and the weekend after Christmas to have some activities with our friends.

Actually, we didn't feel led to hold any activity on Christmas Eve, as this could draw attention to us. We did have a dinner with some of our Bible students (quite a few of them had to work) on December 25<sup>th</sup>, as we felt we could get away with some party noise that day. Most of the other activities were held in the homes of different Chinese friends.

Mike prepared a slide show to teach about the amazing fulfillment of Biblical prophecies about the



Mike presenting a slide show on Bible prophecies about Jesus

coming and the life of Jesus, which our friends liked very much!

During this Christmas season we visited: a dear



Visiting a friend who has MS in the hospital

friend in the hospital with MS, visited a family whose



Visiting a family whose husband's health was much improved after prayer

husband's health improved much after our prayers, we had a young professional couple, who had

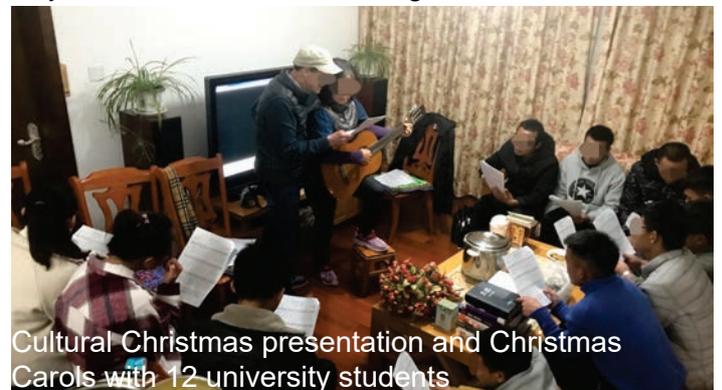


A dinner and personal talk with a young couple who recently received the Lord

recently received the Lord with us, for dinner and a personal talk, and another Christmas Bible study with some of our other Bible students.

One of the highlights of our Christmas season was an activity with one of our closest friends, a university professor whom we led to the Lord 3 years ago and is one of our weekly Bible students, who has a real heart for evangelization. She invited 12 of her university students over to her house, mostly from ethnic minorities and even a Muslim student. The government is very protective of the minorities and also university students, so having the party in her house with her students was perfect.

Mike put together a power point "cultural presentation" of Christmas, which covered Christmas celebration traditions of the Western world, such as Christmas trees, stockings, lights etc, as well as the true story of St. Nicolas and his helping of the poor, and his transformation in the early 1800s into "Santa Claus". Then the PPT covered manger scenes and the true story of Jesus' birth at Bethlehem, and very briefly Jesus' ministry and the subsequent spread of Christianity. After that were slides with groups of portraits of the world's greatest artists, composers and scientists who were devout Christians. The students were very interested, so much so, that they asked if we could hold another activity the week after, ha! Plus our friend prepared some good food for the students, and I, Polly, baked a big chocolate birthday cake for Jesus and many cookies! After watching the Christmas culture power point, the students were very enthusiastic when we sang some of the



Cultural Christmas presentation and Christmas Carols with 12 university students

traditional Christmas carols, as they now understood the meaning of the Christmas story! It was awesome!

### Tightening continues

We heard recently that there is now a monetary reward to denounce people who hear group singing from neighboring apartments, so we are trying to be careful with our noise volume when we hold our Bible studies. Even in our small-group Sunday fellowship of mainly foreigners that we attend, we felt led to not sing aloud and have very soft worship and praise to the Lord instead. (We used to attend a very inspiring International Fellowship until last year in April when it was closed by the government.)

We also heard that yet another Christian family was recently asked to leave China on short notice (72 hours), in the same apartment complex where we have our small-group fellowship.

2020 is the year when the full implementation of is planned for the “social credit system” (where each person in Chinese society is evaluated by their credit record and also by the content of what they post on the internet, social media etc.), and the full installation of the facial recognition network in all public areas (the goal is to add 400 million more cameras this year to the 200 million now in place) but we pray that despite these tighter security measures, the Lord will continue to open mighty doors for us here.

### **Prayer Request for Protection**

Also, as we mentioned about above, the “Coronavirus” outbreak here in China is affecting our daily life quite a bit now for the last week or so. Thank the Lord, our city only has 24 reported cases as of today (there are over 9,700 cases in all of China with 213 deaths so far, 204 of these deaths have been in Hubei, the province where the outbreak started), though of course the number is expected to go up. The Chinese government has extended the Chinese New Year’s holiday till February 2<sup>nd</sup>, to try to slow the spread of the disease.

We went yesterday and today to supermarkets to try to stock up on some food so as to avoid having to go to crowded places for a while, the places were packed with people and some of the shelves were already bare, with the food items sold out. Thank the Lord, we were able to get the food items we needed.

We’d be very thankful if you could pray with us for the Lord to bless the efforts of the government to control the spread of the disease, and also for the

Lord to do miracles to supernaturally cause the disease to die out quickly and for complete protection of our friends and all the precious people of China, and ourselves. We have a mighty God and we are claiming the promises of Psalm 91, “Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and from the deadly pestilence.(v.3)”

### **The Next Few Days...**

Most of our friends are away at their hometowns for the moment to visit their families and relatives, so though we’ve been pretty busy up until now, in a day or so God willing we will have a chance to have a few days of rest and extra time in communion with the Lord, to seek the Lord more for the current situation, and also seek the Lord for His guidance for our next year.

### **Thank You for Your Love, Prayers and Help!**

Thank you so very much for your prayers, support and friendship! We appreciate you very greatly and can’t thank you enough, especially in times like this.

We do love to hear from you, so if you have a chance, please write us and let us know how you are. And please let us know of any prayer requests, as we pray daily for you!

Much love, appreciation and prayers,

Mike and Polly

*God bless you, until next month, Love  
Jerry*

*A huge thank you.*

*God sees, and he will more than repay!*

1. Donate directly via paypal on this email: ammc@cryptoheaven.com
2. via our web site. Just click on the donate button. <https://www.missionarychristian.org/>
3. by going to any bank on the UK (or online) and depositing in our banking which is :

#### **BANKING:**

NAME OF BANK: ‘NAT WEST’ BANK UK.

ACCOUNT NAME: ASSOCIATION OF MISSIONARY-MINDED CHRISTIANS

SORT CODE: 60-11-06

ACCOUNT NUMBER 16393015

BRANCH OFFICE: HINCKLEY, LEICS. ENGLAND, UK.

IBAN: GB65 NWBK 6011 0616 3930 15

SWIFT: NWBK GB 2L



<https://missionarychristian.org/>