

Dear friend,

Hi! We wish a very, very Happy New Year to you and your loved ones! May the year of 2016 bring the Lord's abundant blessings in every area of your life!

"Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me,
bless His holy name!
Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:
Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases,
Who redeems your life from destruction,
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,
Who satisfies your mouth with good things,
So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."
(Psalm 103:1-5)

We are claiming all of these benefits for you this year!

We want to thank you again for your love, friendship, and great encouragement for our work here.

We have been in this city for 8 months, and in the beginning, there are always a few struggles and adjustments learning to live in a new environment, make new friends, etc.

All that to say, that a new beginning is not always easy, but the Lord is always with us and He has been helping us in many wonderful ways.

We were able to have 7 Christmas activities this year, 4 of them in our apartment, 1 in a Chinese family home and 1 in a small day school for underprivileged children and 1 in a home of some Brazilians, witnessing to more than 90 people.

Our Christmas season for us started with my (Polly's) own birthday on December 12th, where we invited 6 friends to a birthday party, 3 of whom did not know the Lord yet.

We had already the house fully decorated for Christmas, with a nice Christmas tree and 2 manger scenes, which are always such a good tool for introducing the story of the First Christmas, something that many Chinese have never heard about. I was able to share my personal testimony with Mike translating, and then he explained in Chinese about



the "New Birth", and all 3 new friends received the Lord! (Talking about birthdays was a good way to introduce about being born again, ha!)

On December 19th I, Polly, participated in a Christmas activity for a small day-school for 30 underprivileged children, where (as there were not so many of us) I played all the angels of the Christmas story, plus the innkeeper, ha! We also did Christmas



art projects with these children. They live in the outskirts of the city and are so appreciative of the love and attention given to them.

On December 22nd, we visited a dear Brazilian friend whose mother in law had just arrived from Brazil for a visit. (This Brazilian friend received the Lord with us a few months ago and has been really growing in her faith since then.) The Lord gave us a good opportunity on this evening to share about salvation with our friend's son and mother in law, and they both very gladly received the Lord that night.

On December 24th, we had our young people's party. Here in China Christmas is not a holiday, so some people were not free to come, due to school exams, work next day etc. But several young people were able to attend and we had great fun, watching a powerpoint of the Christmas story, singing Christmas



carols both in English and Chinese, and 3 more new friends received the Lord that night, as we shared with them the real meaning of Christmas!

On December 25th, we invited our younger English students (there are 7 of them, ages 8 & 9) and their parents, to attend a Christmas party. So, it was a full house with 20 guests in total, ha! We started with a flannel graph story of the first Christmas, and the



children helped to put up the pieces. Then we sang Christmas songs both in English and Chinese, one of the songs was "Into My Heart", in English and

Chinese, so we trust that this was a little seed to bring them eventually to Him. It was great fun and the children exchanged Christmas gifts and also received an illustrated booklet in English-Chinese with the story of the first Christmas.

On December 26th we had an Christmas party for some junior high age English students and their families, plus our Chinese teacher and her husband and mother in law, both of whom who recently received the Lord with us. Another precious Chinese friend came with her 83 year old father, who as he



was leaving told us that this was the most meaningful Christmas he had ever had!

On December 27th, we went to visit a dear businessman, whom we have been reaching out to. He has 3 children (one is a newborn) and also he invited another 3 children of his relatives, as we asked him if we could share about Christmas culture with his children. We had a great time, sharing the Christmas story flannel graph with them, singing carols and



watched a very meaningful cartoon story called The Red Boots, which has a very good Gospel message, as well as teaching to give and reach out to others in love. Afterwards the children were discussing between themselves, whether God only has boy children, referring to God sending His only Son to earth. We took the opportunity to explain how they could become God's children too by receiving the Lord into their lives. The 5 of them received the Lord, praise God!

So it was a wonderful Christmas season, we are full of praise to our dear God!

This was all possible because of your partnership with us. So we certainly share in these victories together! We thank you so much for your sacrificial giving to our work here!

Some other news is that for 4 days from December 29th to January 2nd, we participated at a Chinese church in an inner healing course done by Elijah House's (founded by John and Sandra Sandford, two of the most respected inner healing teachers in the body of Christ) Taiwan branch. We learned a lot, and it challenged us to learn new things. Plus the whole course was in all Chinese, and Mike had to be my translator, ha! There were 140 attendees and it was a wonderful opportunity to bond with our Chinese brothers and sisters.

Wishing you a very blessed 2016!

Thank you again for being such an important part of our lives here in China.

With much love, prayers and appreciation,

Polly and Mike