

## JANUARY 2018 NEWS

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### AMAZING PERSONAL TESTIMONIES FROM THE ISLAND OF TAIWAN WITH BRIAN AND CHRISTINA

#### INTRO FROM JERRY:

*Well, these testimonies are fantastic and inspiring and the result of all our prayers for fruit. Brian and Christina (who is from a country near China) have long been involved in missions in China and nearby. They now live in Taiwan. You can see their profile on our web site under the 'Our Missionaries' tab.*

*There are actually a lot of people in this part of the world who have suffered enormously like the man (S.) in the first story. I know your love and prayers and support are directly helping mission teams to reach and meet these people often! God bless you!*

#### "I WAS RAISED IN HATE, NOW I'M LEARNING TO LOVE."

Christina has been seeking opportunities to witness to anyone who needs the Lord's salvation. She saw a senior gentleman (S.) a few times on the community bus she takes regularly the last 6 years, but the opportunity to become acquainted didn't arise until two months ago when the only vacant seat on the bus was the one next to her.

He asked her if he could sit there. She said, "Of course!" Immediately he asked her where she was from, as he could recognize her accent. From there, Christina has learned he's from the same town her mother came from. **He told her he couldn't see properly, as he suffered a stroke a year ago and it affected his eyesight. Christina asked if he'd like her to pray for him, he said yes right away. The Holy Spirit nudged her to ask him if he'd like to pray and receive Jesus as His Saviour and "best friend" in life also. He eagerly said yes. Thus in this short 15 minutes ride, he prayed with Christina to receive Jesus into his life. She also laid her hand on his head for his healing as well.**

After that, the Lord has arranged for them to meet again twice on the community bus. He told Christina his life story, which is really heart breaking. Two major political parties in his former country were fighting to be in power. S.'s family was fighting for one of the parties, and sad to say, their party lost. After that, their family and friends suffered waves of persecution, his father fled with the leader and army of their party to a new land. The remaining followers were executed, tortured or committed suicide to avoid such fate, his grandfather and mother were some of these poor folks.

S. was a teenager at the time, and vowed to revenge, so he joined the secret espionage service and carried out many dangerous missions, much like James Bond. Years later, after he married and had children and thought everything was fine, persecution happened again. He had to divorce his wife to keep his family safe from persecution, then he fled with 7 friends to the border. They hid in a forest near a beach for a week without food or water, waiting for an opportunity to swim across the 1,200 meters wide river.



Mr. S with Christina, happy to fellowship at a local church

One night their opportunity came, they crawled through the narrow sand beach into the water. However, not long after they were in the water, a guard found their mark on the sand, shot up a flare to locate them, and started to shoot at them. Most of them started diving, and kept swimming across. S. made it safely, he waited for days at the appointed place, hoping to meet with his friends, but none of them showed up. With grief, he carried on his work. He often had to suffer hunger, cold, and would just learn whatever job needed to be done to make a living.

Finally, he had a chance to settle in a new country, remarry and have children, and start a business, and he became rich and successful. His (former) party approached him to help with intelligence work again. Thus he used his business opportunities to tour around to carry on many missions for the government of his new land.

A few decades later, he is now retired, enjoying wealth and a wonderful family with children and grandchildren. 10 years ago, when he was 70 years old, tragedy struck again. His wife got involved in a Taoist sect, where the sect-master promoted wicked, illegal and licentious acts to "improve their health". Many women fell for it, and one even forced their own 11-year-old girl to have such a relationship. Later the master and the mother were incarcerated and most members fled. S's wife, out of shame, divorced him.

Since the four apartments they had bought, along with the company they founded, were all in the ex-wife's name, S. was stripped of almost everything. His wife did give him one small apartment to live in, and a small monthly allowance. S. told his adult children to "swallow their tears" and keep going. He's learned to live happily by himself, and continues to make friends.

After becoming friends, he's been quite interested in the Lord. Since his eyesight is blurry, we can't study the Bible together, so I brought him to a local church that I associate with. He really likes the warm atmosphere and the love that everyone has shown him.

Later he exclaimed, "If I had found Jesus when I was a young, I wouldn't have been involved in a war and killing people, I would have shown love instead." He feels really bad about what he did. I've shown him Romans 3:23 and Romans 6:23, that we're all sinners, that's why Jesus died for us, to save our souls from sins. Then I prayed with him for God's forgiveness for his sins.

It seems the Lord is giving me a chance to minister to him so that he'll have a chance to know about the Lord before he goes to his Heavenly home (he's 80 year old now). Since he got saved and went with me to the local church, the doctors have diagnosed his heart as getting weaker due to aging, and he also has breathing difficulties. He may need to go slower and receive more care. I'm very thankful the Lord has given me a chance to minister to him. I plan to meet him from time to time to share God's Word with him.

## MINISTERING THE WORD OF GOD TO TAIWAN DIPLOMATS, A. AND J.

**A. was a diplomat for Taiwan for over 20 years**, her family and she had gone to different parts of Europe and Africa. J., her husband, was the second highest ranked journalist for the Central Division of Taiwan. They've moved at least 40 times during their 20 years of service!

A few years ago, J. had a stroke while in Europe, subsequently his lungs were filled with water, and his eyes were affected. He underwent four operations. Thank God he survived! However, he needs to visit the doctor every day. The medication for treating his heart has caused all his hair to fall out. After all these traumatic experiences, he's gone from being an extrovert, to becoming quite introverted.



J. (right) is teaching Brian some ping pong skill

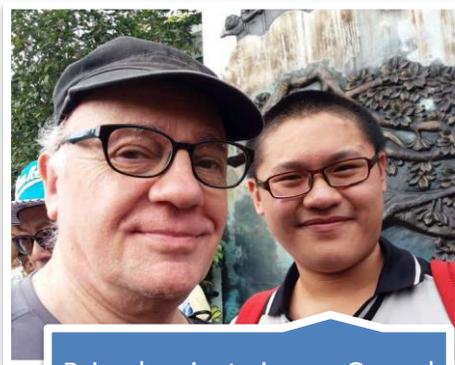
A., who is a Catholic, is quite desperate for her husband's health, but more importantly, she's concerned for his eternal salvation, as J. is an atheist and proudly follows the Chinese tradition of ancestor-worship. She reached out to us a couple of years ago. On our first visit, it went all right, but J. didn't respond to our invitation to receive Jesus into his life.

A. was discouraged and we didn't end up visiting each other for a couple of years. But the Lord remembers J., and has heard all of A's and our prayers. He arranged me (Christina) to meet them on a bus. We chatted quite a bit, I encouraged them to take little tours, as I've learned that sightseeing can cheer people up. It seems to cheer J. up. A. was delighted, and invited us to visit them again.

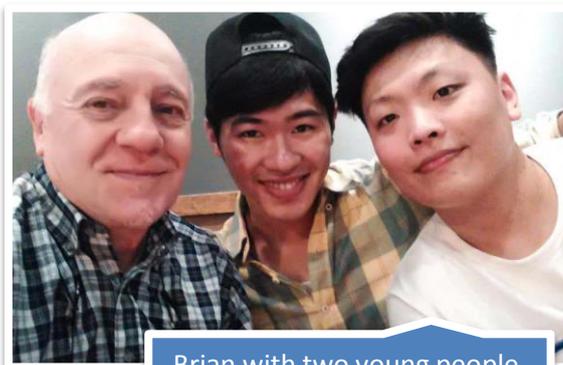
We've bought a book on God's encouraging messages from a bookstore and gave it to them. They really liked it, especially the part about God's healing touch. **J. shared he'd read before that there's real energy from people's hands that can heal people. I was able to share with him how Jesus and the disciples laid hands on people,** and God's power flowed from their hands to heal people. From there, I was able to share with him the latest findings from science, confirming Einstein was right about different universes or dimensions may appear simultaneously in the same place. This shows that Heaven and the Spirit world may exist. In fact, they may coexist with our present physical world. J. believes in science, he's heard about these latest scientific findings. The religion of his parents is Taoism that also believes on the existence of the spirit world. This finding helps him to want to open his heart, **so he prayed with us right then and there to receive the Lord! Thank God!**

He's still in a withdrawn state, it seems right now we need help him to gain confidence that he can continue to live an active and fruitful life. We noticed there are many, many trophies in their apartment, and upon inquiry, we've learned he was a ping-pong champion in many competitions in the past. Brian asked J. to play with him. He needed to rest a bit during the first game, but after that, he's been playing fine, and has even taught Brian some new moves. He is looking better and better.

I've given a copy of 'Proof of Heaven' to A. & J. to read and I just sent them the link to the Chinese translation of Purpose Driven Life from Rick Warren. I pray these two books will help them to learn more about God and Heaven, and find a new purpose in the life that the Lord has given back to J. They've been power houses for their country in the past, I believe now that they are retired, the Lord has a new purpose for them, so they can benefit many others who cross paths with them. They plan to sell their house in Europe and use the proceeds to start a tutor school for students, and have even asked us to help them to be teachers there!



Brian has just given a Gospel tract to this young student



Brian with two young people, Wayne and Leo, that he's met and led to the Lord

## AND FINALLY!

**BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND YOU SHALL BE SAVED, AND YOUR FAMILY**

As we've mentioned before, Christina was the first person who had gotten saved in her family. For years after that, she's received a lot of opposition from her parents. Her sister and youngest brother have gotten saved

with Christina around the time that she was saved, but they were forbidden from their parents to know more about the Lord after that.

Many lies were shared about Christina and her faith, so for many years, she and her family were quite distanced from each other. This has been very discouraging for Christina, but Brian has been encouraging her with what it says in the Bible, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved, and your house." (Acts 16:31) So they'll often pray for the salvation and well-being of their folks.

Christina's mother got saved around 20 years ago, and after her death, the spiritual dynamics in her family changed drastically. Her remaining brother has since gotten saved with a church near his house, and has become super on-fire for the Lord! Not only has he invited the pastor of his church to lead the father to the Lord, but he's introduced their youngest brother and his family to the church nearby them. They really enjoy it and have been baptized, both of the brothers are helping their churches in some capacity. Truly the Lord's Word will never return void, but God will always fulfil what He's promised to us, if we'll just believe.



Christina, front right, with her brothers and sister after their youngest brother performance at a Christian music concert.

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