

## Adventure's for Jesus!

Since 2003 I have been a missionary in Africa, as part of Dynamis World Ministries. The term missionary can often give the wrong impression that I am someone who is forced by God to surrender the comforts of life, to suffer with people who are worse off. However I write to testify that my life is far from that.

During my three months winter break from Africa, I was offered the chance to travel to Asia for a mission's trip. The country I travelled to I will not mention by name for security reasons but I can ensure you it was not a place for a holiday!!!!

From the capital we flew to another more rural city. Our hotel was situated less than 100m from where the aeroplane landed, right in the city centre! Well not really a city like you imagine, horses and bikes are more common than cars. As we stepped out of the aeroplane onto the runway a security officer approached us, demanded our passports.

My Pastor and I came to speak at a pastor/leaders conference run alongside a Gospel crusade. It was organised by the Dynamis team but as far as the security police were concerned, it was Christmas celebration being held by the local churches. The police are more lenient to 'Christmas celebrations', than pastor's conferences and 'gospel crusades'!

Dynamis World Ministries has a team of over 100 Pastors/church planters. Having planted more than 60 churches across the country, this December's conference was a time to come together for training, encouragement and envisioning for Pastors who are literally on the frontline! They face daily opposition from government authorities and other religions but these frustrations do not stop the work of God.

I like how Paul writes to Timothy. 'And because I preach this Good News, I am suffering and have been chained like a criminal. But **the word of God cannot be chained.**'<sup>NLT</sup> 2 Timothy 2:9

Many of the Christians I spoke to were formerly Buddhists and told stories of being rejected by their families as they chose to follow Christ. The strength of their faith, and perseverance in following Christ was an inspiration to me. Some worked in rural villages where they were the only Christians and faced much opposition from governing authorities and Buddhists. They survived on very little financial support but pursued steadfastly the call of God, to GO and preach the gospel.

For five evenings our outdoor gospel crusade was held in the grounds of a Baptist church. Attendance was very good in relation to the spiritual and political climate of the country, however the crowd was quite small compared to what we see in Africa. On the last evening I was given the opportunity to preach. While preaching I related the giving of Christmas gifts to the gift of eternal life that is offered to us in Jesus. I was so excited to see hundreds of people responding and coming forward to receive Jesus. Nothing is more fulfilling than seeing someone make Jesus Lord of their lives. Following the preaching we prayed for people to be healed and God performed numerous miracles amongst the people. Even the hard-hearted secret police could not doubt that the power of God was present.

In many ways we risked our own safety to go and preach the Gospel to these people. However when you reflect on the numbers of people who are lost without Jesus, it is compelling to 'Go' and do what God has commanded us to do, make disciples of all nations.

After only one week amongst such loving open hearted people, I found it difficult to leave but I had to return to my home in Scotland, for Christmas. There is a huge contrast between the lives of these people to our western life here in Scotland. Although the people are oppressed by the government regime and many are poor and struggling, those who find Christ find the true meaning of freedom. People here in the west think they have life sorted; the job, the car, the family and the degree, but these things don't really satisfy and never bring freedom. Freedom is only found in Jesus.

Before I became a missionary I worked in a hospital as a physiotherapist. I had a good pay, a house, a car, a good church, lots of friends and many hobbies, in worldly terms I had success! However I was not truly happy, I knew that God had something more for me. So I gave it all up to follow the will of God for my life.

If you have read any missionary biography's you will notice in them the many testimonies of how God provides for their needs. I am no exception. God is so faithful to his promise 'And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus' Phil 4v19

If you love God and desire to serve God, don't seek your own will, but seek his will for your life. Put him first and all other things shall be added to you. Life with God is full of excitement, fulfilment and adventure. Live an adventure for Jesus!

God bless you and thank you for your prayers and support.

Love Janey

*If you would like full details of Janey's visit to Asia please get in touch with our church secretary.*