



East Gates

Seeing Beyond the Impossible™

INTERNATIONAL

July - August 2020

Dear East Gates partner,

Life in China has not been easy these days. No one in the nation ever thought 2020 would be turning out this way. It seems if it's not one plague, it's another.



Due to heavy rains in China, over 30 rivers have overflowed causing massive flooding.

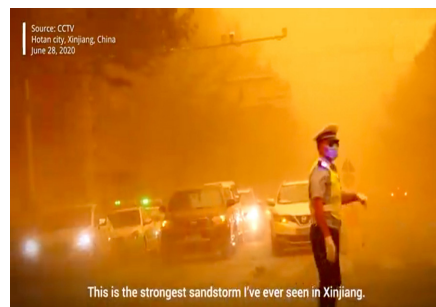


The COVID-19 virus seems to have a life of its own and continues to wreak havoc.



WHEN THINGS ARE
EXTREMELY CHAOTIC,
ORDER MUST BE
RESTORED.

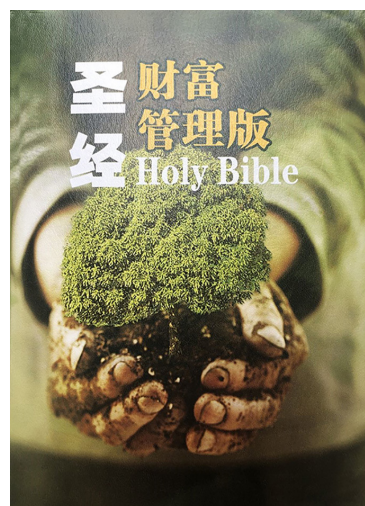
~ The Four Books ~
Zhu Xu



Huge sandstorm hits west Xinjiang province causing great breathing difficulties.



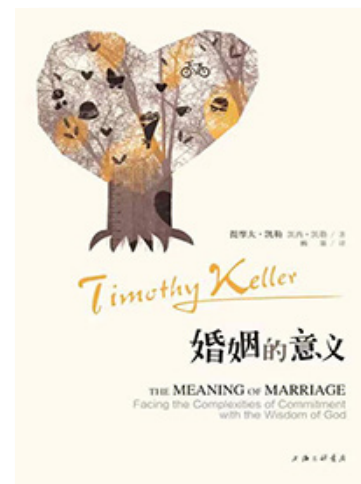
G4 swine flu is proving to be highly infectious. Epidemiologists are concerned and are trying to keep it from becoming another pandemic.



The recently released *Wealth Management Bible* version published by the China Christian Council.

Outside of China's unprecedented man-made and natural disasters, our Chinese brothers and sisters know that their nation and the world's geo-political and socio-economic chaos can only be resolved by living out God's Heavenly Mandate or divine order through the power of God's Holy Spirit and reading of God's Word.

Even though new Bible versions continue to be published, all Christian online exegetical resources have had to be removed. Thankfully, we are still able to fulfill our usual request for Bibles and Christian literature through our networks.



Chinese believers find Christian pastor and apologist, Timothy Keller's books very helpful in their Christian walk.

IN THE END, WE LOVE PEOPLE INTO BELIEF. WE DO NOT ARGUE THEM INTO BELIEF.

~ TIMOTHY KELLER ~

*I*t was only at the end of last year, scenes like these were so common. No masks. Schools and camps were in session. Below are East Gates' co-workers assisting a Youth Care Center with tutorial work and extracurricular activities. Many of these children are handicapped and/or come from disadvantaged homes. It was a great blessing to give them hope and share the love of Christ.



*O*n the other side of the spectrum, the elderly need much attention and affection as well. East Gates' co-workers were able to assist and bless this elderly home with a day of praising, prayer, fun activities and a bountiful supply of produce!



*J*ust before COVID-19 hit, we were able to provide these house church believers in Shandong province with all the Bibles they requested. For many, it was the first Bible he or she ever received.



*W*e supplied these elderly in Hunan province with larger font Bibles so they wouldn't have to strain their eyes. With COVID-19, we still supply and provide. It just takes longer.



PRAYERS FLOWING 24/7 THROUGHOUT CHINA

“...BUT THE SPIRIT INTERCEDES FOR US WITH GROANINGS TOO DEEP FOR WORDS” ~ ROM. 8:26B

“...DEVOTE YOURSELVES TO PRAYER, KEEPING ALERT IN IT, WITH AN ATTITUDE OF THANKSGIVING” ~ COL.4:2

Dear Father, the external circumstances are testing us every day. No matter how old we are, we have to make better preparation in facing the new challenges every day. May You, Heavenly Father, increase our faith and strength, to make us follow God's orders at all costs like how Abraham passed the "Test of Faith"! Today is the first day of "gao-kao" (College Entrance Exam). Brothers and sisters told me their children had the "gao-kao" yesterday and they asked me to pray for their children. Heavenly Father, You gave Daniel and his three friends intelligence and wisdom in Babylon because they had a heart to revere the Lord. Even their reverence was reflected through their daily diet. Your blessings and mercies were on them because of this reason. They were tested by the King of Babylon three years later. They surpassed all the Babylonians tenfold. Even though they lived in Babylon, their hearts were towards God's Kingdom. So as before, may Your grace, Heavenly Father, give our children who revere Your Name, hearts like Daniel and his three friends, so they can responsibly use their life to glorify Your Name. ~ Pastor Xi, Hebei Province

主啊! 求你让我们有好行为, 不是出于勉强, 乃是出于甘心。不是出于贪财, 乃是出于乐意。求神让我们以谦卑束腰, 彼此顺服, 因为神阻挡骄傲的人赐恩给谦卑的人。我们要学会将忧虑卸给神, 依靠神的大能面对我们所处的环境。也许现在我们有弟兄姊妹处在恶劣的环境中, 求神给我们坚固的信心战胜环境, 相信那赐百般恩典的神在基督里召我们, 得享他永远的荣耀, 等我们暂受苦难之后, 必要亲自成全我们, 坚固我们, 赐力量给我们。愿权能荣耀颂赞都归给我们的父神, 直到永永远远。以上的祷告奉主耶稣基督的名求, 阿门!

~ 群里东北朝鲜族青年同工朴姐妹带领的晚祷

O Lord! Please let us do good deeds, not out of reluctance, but out of willingness. Not out of greed, but out of pleasure. We pray that God will girdle our waist with humility so we may submit to each other because God hates the proud and gives grace to the humble. We must learn to shed our worries to God and rely on the power of God to face our situation. We now have brothers and sisters in harsh situations and ask God to give us strong confidence to overcome them. After we suffer temporarily, we believe that the God of all grace calls us in Christ to enjoy His eternal glory. This brief period of suffering is necessary to make us whole and strengthen us. May the glory and praise of power go to our Father God forever and ever. The above prayer is in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

~ Sister Po leading an evening prayer among a young Korean ethnic group in northeast China.

天父：在这天灾人祸的时间，我们向你祈求，怜悯我们，赐给我们一颗祈祷的心，为灾难中的人群呼唤，使沉睡的心灵向你醒来，并悔转向神，直到你的救恩成全在归正的人身上，得以完全。使赞美您的歌声响彻整个地球，奉耶稣基督的名祷告。阿们！

~ 群里江西青年同工义生弟兄带领的早祷

Heavenly Father: We pray and ask You to have mercy on us during this time of natural and man-made disasters. Give us a prayer's heart so we can call people out from disaster, to wake up their spirit which is fast asleep and make them repent and turn back to God. Your salvation will fall on them until they have returned to You so that they are able to be completed in You. May voices that sing praise to You resound throughout the whole earth. Praying in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen!

~ A young co-worker, Brother Yi-sheng, leading morning prayers in Jiangxi province.

“...MAKING THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY FOR THE DAYS ARE EVIL” ~ EPHESIANS 5:16

As churches in China start opening up slowly like this one in Zhangzhou, China, every national epidemic prevention and control requirements are being taken. Early in the morning, volunteers go to church to open the windows and turn on the fans to keep the sanctuary ventilated. All members participate in registration, proper disinfection procedures and have their temperature taken. Everyone is required to wear a mask, keep a social distance of one meter between one another and enter the church in an orderly manner.

Although the epidemic has isolated the physical distance between people, as one church leader stated, “it cannot separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:39). With a respectful and humble heart, by the grace of the Lord, we come to the Throne of Grace without fear. We sit in our church with melodious songs of praise in our ears and like a deer by the stream.”

The church pastor presided over the three services, one after another. Everyone’s earnest prayers caused the church family to shed tears of gratitude. Just before the end of the second church service, due to typhoon *Parrot*, the torrential rains fell and the church family accepted the pastor’s blessing. “Thank you, Lord. Although we’re crying in the night hours, we’ll be cheerful in the morning” (Psalm 30:5). Although we’ve experienced wind and rain, we’ll see the rainbow covenant even more. The church in Zhangzhou is being restored to order. Brothers and sisters can live their faithful lives in church unity. May the Lord bless all the churches so the gospel may prosper. Bless all the brothers and sisters so they may be healthy and strong. Bless our country with great prosperity!”

Please keep the Chinese pastors and believers in your prayers as more Chinese are turning to the church for Truth and answers to life during these tumultuous times.



Stand firm IN YOUR FAITH
ON GOD’S WORD **stand firm**.
Stand firm AGAINST FEAR.
ON HIS PROMISES **stand firm**.
Stand firm AGAINST EVIL.
IN SERVING **stand firm**.
Stand firm IN TRIALS.
IN HIS POWER **stand firm**.
Stand firm on GOD’S LOVE.

Deep gratitude for praying and thinking
about East Gates during these most
challenging times as well.

 *Christina*
Ned and Christina Graham

