



East Gates

INTERNATIONAL

Seeing Beyond the Impossible™

November - December 2017

Dear East Gates partners,

We enter a very wonderful time of the year as Thanksgiving is here and our eyes can feast on the glorious colors of Fall. It's as if God designed creation to build for the autumn harvest so we could not only feast on His goodness but also so our senses could delight in His beauty. The glory of Fall is in such contrast to the starkness of winter when the land is at rest until Spring. Perhaps our life's journey for Him should follow the same pattern. Our latter days for the Lord should be far greater than the former (Haggai 2:9). We share with our Chinese brothers and sisters that since we serve the one true God who alone has resurrection power, in the spiritual sense we should think of not retiring but reFIREing! With eternity before us, we are all very young!



Today, the majority of Chinese believers in China are elderly and despite their hard life, many of them are living into their 80s and 90s. They're also just discovering that there is a God who loves them and created them before the foundations of the world. He has a special name for them in His family. They realize it's not how you start but how you finish. The Bible was once a great mystery to them but no more...



East Gates works with a church in China that has a heart for providing Bibles to the Miao and Buyi minority tribes in Yunnan Province (left & right photos). At present, they only have two kinds of Bibles. One type is copied by hand and the other type can only be bought in limited supply by traveling hours to the capital city of Kunming. East Gates now provides them quality Bibles, locally.



“THE LATTER GLORY OF THIS HOUSE WILL BE GREATER THAN THE FORMER,” SAYS THE LORD OF HOSTS, “AND IN THIS PLACE I WILL GIVE PEACE,”
DECLARES THE LORD OF HOSTS. ~ HAGGAI 2:9

From Genesis to Revelation, God has always desired to dwell or tabernacle with His children.



The Tabernacle in the Wilderness and the Pillar of Fire.



God's Holy City coming down to earth.

It started in the Garden of Eden, when God asked,
“Where are you?” *Genesis 3:9*

...to the Exodus where He freed the Israelites and the nations from captivity so they could be released to abide and worship Him.

“Let them construct a tabernacle for Me that I might dwell with them.” Exodus 25:8

...to a time when He would encompass the earth with His glory.

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God...” Rev. 21:3

When we place a Bible in the hands of new Chinese believers, we share with them that the most amazing thing about our Creator is that He chose to become flesh and **dwell** among us (John 1:14) unlike any of the other gods that mankind has put their trust and faith in. On the contrary, they wanted to live in the realm of the gods and set themselves apart.

The original Greek word for “dwelt” is *skenoo*. It’s connected to the idea of living in a temporary tent or tabernacle. So when the Apostle John was writing, “*And the Word became flesh, and **dwelt** (tabernacled) among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father...*” he was purposely making a direct link between Yeshua HaMashiach (Jesus the Messiah) and the Tabernacle in the Wilderness which his readers and listeners would all have known.

So from this one scripture among many, our students have begun to see that all of God’s Words in the Old Testament point to the New Testament and vice-versa. A perfect example of this is God’s intention to not only dwell or tabernacle with us but **IN** us!

Through the beauty of the Hebrew and Greek language, our students are beginning to see how God chose to come down to earth for a brief season. He grew in the tabernacle of Mary’s womb and became flesh, a covering and tabernacle for his His Spirit, soul and body. He was born in a manger in a small tabernacle/tent since there was no room at the local inns (Luke 2:7) due to the Fall harvest season when thousands upon thousands of people flowed to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. The wealthy would have occupied all the inns and the poor, like Joseph and Mary, would have had to dwell in tabernacles or sukkahs. Little did they know that the ultimate tabernacle for all mankind was being born in their midst to eventually redeem them from sin so He could dwell within them forever!

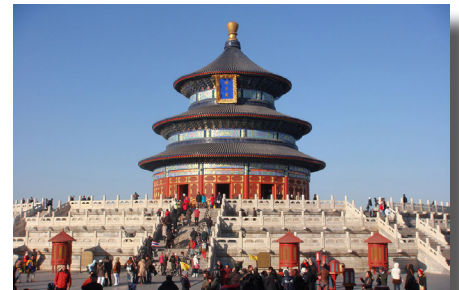


We share with our Chinese students that nothing is a coincidence in God's inspired Word. There was a profound reason why the Son of God was a carpenter and the Apostle Paul a tentmaker. Given their chosen trade, they would have been able to understand and share the greater spiritual and physical truths surrounding the tabernacle in ways others could not.

We help the believers in the villages that have never stepped outside their farming communities realize that China can build anything. Some of the tallest skyscrapers in the world can be seen in Shanghai. The Great Wall. The Heavenly Temple. Humanity loves to build.



Recently in Guangdong, China, Christina (left) and her translator, Hannah, taught about God's tabernacle, past, present and future and how we are fearfully and wonderfully made to be His ultimate temple.



But can humanity build a Holy Temple within the human soul where the Living God would want to dwell in eternal love, peace and harmony? No. Only a person who invites God into his **heart** or Holy of Holies can, where God's Spirit can do its miraculous work in concert with God's Word. The Holy of Holies was the innermost sanctum of the Tabernacle where the Ten Commandments (Heb. *Aseret HaDibrot* or "Ten Sayings") dwelt within the Ark of the Covenant. King David said, "Your word I have treasured and stored in my **heart**, that I may not sin against You" (Psalm 119:11). See the connection?

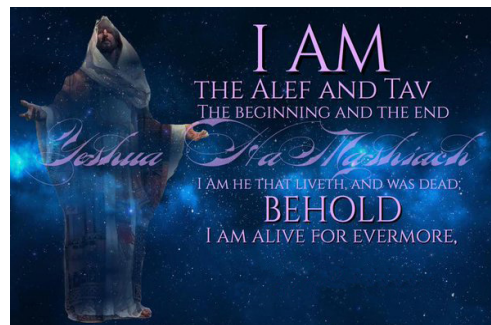


"Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, 'I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.'" II Corinthians 6:16

"Put me like a seal over your **heart**, like a seal on your arm. For love is as strong as death...Its flashes are flashes of fire, the very flame of the LORD." Song of Solomon 8:6

WHAT BETTER WAY FOR GOD TO DWELL AMONG US THAN TO MAKE HIS DWELLING IN US.

As we enter 2018, East Gates will continue to work with our amazing Chinese brothers and sisters in whom we are all being built together into a dwelling (tabernacle) of God in the Spirit (Ephesians 2:2). The I AM's generosity and profound love for the Church in China will enable us to continue to provide for their genuine needs -- Bibles, Christian resources, funds for church renovations, discipleship training, pastoral / lay leader counseling, intercessory prayer and much more.



SOWING ALL GOOD THINGS INTO THE CHURCH IN CHINA THAT GOD CAN WORK WITH...



Providing Bibles to a Teenage Bible Camp ~ Shandong



Meeting the continual need for God's Word and training.

WALK IN THE LIGHT



Teaching believers how to pray for China, Israel and the nations.



We show our students how the Hanukkah menorah has a center candle called the "servant" (Heb. *shamash*) which is used to light all the other candles. They immediately thought of Yeshua HaMashiach or Jesus the Messiah.



We assist churches and meeting points with purchases and renovations. A brother anoints the entrances of their new tabernacle! ~ Shandong

WE FIGHT
WITH LIGHT.
Jewish Rabbi

With each and every passing day, our Chinese brothers and sisters are getting to know what it means to be the tabernacle or temple of the Holy Spirit. A key scripture East Gates will be focusing on in 2018 is I John 1:7: "*But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*"

May the Light of the World shine on you brightly in the coming year. Let us Praise His Name together!

 Christina

Ned and Christina Graham