



# East Gates

*Seeing Beyond the Impossible™*

INTERNATIONAL

September - October 2020

Dear East Gates partner,

Have you ever been invited to a wedding that never had a wedding rehearsal? We haven't. Imagine if one was not planned. We think the groom and bride would be a little unprepared to know what to expect!

Right now, we're entering an amazing season, known biblically as the Fall Festivals. Starting on the evening of September 18 with the Feast of Trumpets (Leviticus 23:23-32) we celebrate the soon-coming return of our Lord and Savior, Yeshua HaMasiach - Jesus the Messiah which scripture says will be announced with the sound of the shofar! (I Thessalonians 4:16) Every year, it's a *holy rehearsal*, in preparation and great anticipation for the actual miraculous event. On this day, thousands of shofars will be blown, resounding throughout the world starting from Jerusalem.



Given what we're experiencing around the world, this Rosh Hashanah ("Head of the Year" in Hebrew) will be especially meaningful as the different shofar blasts that will be traditionally sounded, represent a time to 1) awaken and arise out of one's lethargic slumber, 2) repent and get into alignment with God's nature and life-giving ways and 3) celebrate the future triumphal return of our Messiah! As biblical prophetic events play out in our day and age, it's amazing to realize that there will come a time when our holy rehearsals will actually become a reality! Will we be ready?



Believers know that only God can restore divine order into their lives, families, churches and the nation. Prayer rooms have been open 24/7 like this one in Zhejiang Province.

ARISE!  
REPENT AND BE CLEANSed!  
CELEBRATE!



Recently, a close brother and his assistant baptized a new believer in Shandong Province. She was one of many that day.



Every year, Chinese believers flock to Jerusalem to celebrate the biblical Fall Festivals. Of course, this year they will not but as the common saying goes, "Next year, Jerusalem!"

# GOD'S DESTINY FOR CHINA

## THE TRUE HEAVENLY MANDATE

Since the beginning of 2020 when COVID-19 became a pandemic, we've noticed one article on our web site that has received the most hits. It's entitled, *God's Destiny for China ~ The True Heavenly Mandate* and can be found in our 20th East Gates anniversary magazine. Actually, it doesn't surprise us since time immemorial, the Chinese have had a deep sense that the heavens and the earth were somehow inextricably connected in a very profound and mysterious way. Even today, in this world of information technology and artificial intelligence, the Chinese have an innate sense that the spiritual and physical realms are somehow intimately tied together. With all the chaos that has hit their nation, they're truly wondering what is the true Heavenly Mandate for China because human governments certainly don't seem to have the answer!

As we've shared before in our newsletter, there was a time in China's history (2nd millennium BC) when China was monotheistic and believed in one supreme God - Shang-Di, 上帝. All the emperors were considered *tianzi*, 天子, or "sons of heaven." Heaven, *tian*, was referred to as the "great whole." In actuality, they were far closer to the true reality than they are now.

When we share God's Word in China, we bring our students a Hebraic worldview and the true Heavenly Mandate their emperors and rulers all longed for but could never define. We reveal to them the true Shang-Di, who came forth in the fullness of time (Galatians 4:4) as Jesus Christ (*Yeshua* in Hebrew), to reveal the Kingdom of God. He is our Creator and our King who can live within us now. He is the one who breathed into us His breath of life and divine intellect. Unlike any other creature on the planet, humans were created to be "praying beings." Only we can develop an intimate relationship with our Creator. He gave us His instruction book, the Holy Bible, so we could learn of His nature, life-giving patterns, rhythm and moral order to life. That's what we've been sharing with our Chinese disciples online today.

The Chinese have always yearned for immortality. Given the onslaught of challenges facing China today ~ epic flooding, COVID-19, sandstorms, swine flu and economic woes...millions of Chinese are wondering deep down inside, why are the gods so angry? We point them to the one and only true God and feed them the right answers through God's Word.



East Gates has had a long-term relationship with Baoshan's Christian Training Center. The center has now reopened with COVID-19 protocols in place such as sitting 6-feet apart.



## EAST GATES CONTINUES TO EQUIP AND ASSIST IN EVERY WAY WE CAN THROUGHOUT CHINA, SOWING KINGDOM SEEDS WHEREVER WE GO.

*G*iven these present tense times in China, many Chinese ministries have temporarily left and have encouraged us to do the same. Through much prayer and consultation with our overseas staff, we have decided to continue serving and supporting our Chinese brothers and sisters with wisdom, Godly trust and faith. Our motto has always been “Seeing Beyond the Impossible” (Luke 1:37) and we believe God will never ever leave us or forsake us even during these most challenging and momentous times.

### ~ ASSISTING CHINESE MISSIONARIES ~



Brother Han and his family. We had to protect their identities therefore the coverage of their faces.

*B*rother Han and his wife are missionaries that were serving in Guangzhou after coming back from North Africa. They went to Henan Province for mission work over two years ago, together with their son and daughter. Brother Han's wife suffered a miscarriage during their transition of moving from Guangzhou to Henan Province. East Gates provided Brother Han and his family 5000 RMB or US\$750 to help with their annual children's school fees and nursery costs. Life for Chinese missionaries is difficult these days so East Gates assists whenever we can.

### ~ EQUIPPING THE FAITHFUL FLOCK ~



In Liaoning Province (NE coast of China), a small village church of about 50 members has been preaching the gospel to different provinces. In 10 years of evangelization, over 1000 people have come to Christ. They could not afford to give Bibles to seekers or those who accepted Christ as their Savior so we gave them a generous supply of free Bibles.



We provided Bibles to believers in Anhui Province where there was a great need due to massive flooding.



## IN GREAT HONOR AND TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL TSENG

1954-2020

*O*ur deeply loyal and faithful East Gates staff member of 30 years, Michael Tseng (66) went to be with the Lord on August 29, 2020. We celebrate his life and the invaluable contributions he made to the Church in China over his three decades of service. We will greatly miss him but know we will all be reunited once again. What a homecoming that will be!



Michael (far right) knew almost every major House church leader and would travel alongside them ministering throughout China.



Michael (far left) truly enjoyed becoming “one” with the local brethren. Here he is having a meal with Christian brothers in Yunnan Province.



Michael (center) had a talent for sensing the spiritual and physical needs of a church. Pastors often called upon our East Gates team to counsel them in these areas.



Michael (front row, second from the right) had many gifts, one of which was ministering to the deaf and mute believers. He was often called upon to teach and mentor them.



*M*ichael loved the Word of God and he wielded his double-edged sword well (Hebrews 4:12). His legacy continues through all of us as the Body of Christ in China continues to bear eternal fruit. Abraham Lincoln once stated, “It’s not the years in your life but the LIFE in your years that count.” That was certainly true for Michael. Please keep us in your prayers as we keep you in ours!

*Ned and Christina*

Ned and Christina Graham