

faith
that speaks

published by TWR-Asia

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foreword

Since 1977, TWR has been broadcasting Christian programming across Asia. In that time, we have had the blessing to receive many inspiring testimonies from both our listeners and our staff in the mission field.

Here is a small collection of ten such stories, culled from numerous letters received from listeners, as well as reports from staff and volunteers in the field.

These stories have been edited for length, and details have been omitted where necessary to safeguard both the listener and the ministry.

We've also included some questions for your contemplation—some food for thought, if you will.

We hope that you will be blessed as you read these stories and reflect on what God is doing in your life, and how you are responding to Him.

Rejoice with us as we witness God's Hand and work in Asia, through TWR and our core values.

All Scripture is God-breathed
and is useful for teaching, rebuking,
correcting and training in righteousness,
so that the servant of God may be
thoroughly equipped for
every good work.

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

Am I conformed to the norms of this world, or am I being “transformed daily” by the Word?

It's one of the easiest things is to lose track of ourselves. It's easy to just go with the flow, and believe that if everyone does it, then it must be 'okay.' That's how it was for Satish.

Satish belonged to a tribal community, and it was culturally acceptable for men to drink in large amounts. While he thought nothing of it, his frequent drinking soon escalated to addiction.

Frustrated, one day Satish was changing radio stations when he came upon our program.

“It was obviously a Christian program, and I did not like Christianity... but I listened carefully because the preacher was speaking on some issues that I was facing. And for the first time, I came to know that I was sinning against God.”

Disturbed, Satish changed the station and refused to listen to the program for almost a week. However, his spirit was restless, and in the end he gave in and tuned the radio back to the station.

“This time, the preacher was speaking about the temple of God... For the first time, I heard that my heart is a temple of God and I should not spoil it!

I wanted to hear more. Every day, I awaited the opportunity to listen to the broadcast. In time, God convicted me of my sins, and I repented.”

Personal reflection

How have I applied the teachings of the Bible (both the Old and New Testaments) in my life?

“Call to me and I will
answer you and tell you great
and unsearchable things
you do not know.”

JEREMIAH 33:3



What do I pray for?

Women in Asia are confronted with challenges daily, sometimes in horrible circumstances.

TWR's ministry to women, Project Hannah, organizes men and women worldwide through monthly prayer calendars. These prayer partners intercede daily for the plight of women, and also for production teams around the world—covering each broadcast in every language with prayer.

Through local prayer groups, women are being ministered to. Prayer is an essential component of their spiritual walk in the midst of their struggles.

“I am a believer, but my husband is against my faith.

One day when I was at church, he came, pulled me out by my hair and beat me. Although I was in pain, I felt peace in my heart. I did not cry at all. All the things that he has done—again and again—could never prevent me from worshiping God!

I did not fight back because I listen regularly to your program. I had received the precious teaching from Ephesians 4:32, to rid my heart of bitterness.

Now my husband does not prevent me from going to church, even though he is still against my faith. I continue to pray for his salvation.

Through my experiences, I can relate to the plight of women elsewhere. I can identify with their struggle... Using Project Hannah's global prayer calendar, I pray for women around the world...”

Personal reflection

When I pray, do I depend on the Lord and His timing? What must I do to align my life and commit to His direction?

prayer & faith

Because of my integrity
You uphold me and set me
in Your presence forever.

PSALM 41:12



Does my walk match my talk ?

*"My name is Phanit, and I am ten years old.
I like to listen to your program..."*

Thank you for the story of Zaccheus. This story showed me that I need to be kind to others, to not be greedy and to show love one to another. Before I listened to this story, I always wanted things for myself and did not want to share with others.

*Now I know that when I believe in Jesus,
He wants me to share with others."*

It's one thing to share Bible stories to children, it's another to let them see us live out the values we try to impart to them.

In Cambodia, we have had the opportunity to minister to a community of people who call a garbage dump their home.

Praise God that we had this opportunity to demonstrate Jesus' love and share the gospel. Cooking a big pot of curry, we managed to distribute a bag of curry and half a loaf of bread to each child.

That day, a Christlike act of kindness brought smiles and hope to the faces of those children. We found that we, too, were blessed in return: the children's responses warmed our hearts and encouraged us on many levels.

May our daily interactions reflect what God is doing in our lives!

Personal reflection

Does my life tell people about what Christ is doing in me? Or does it tell a different story altogether?

Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of His body, which is the church.

COLOSSIANS 1:24



Does Christ dwell and reign in me?

In the midst of our hustle and bustle, our service in ministry can easily become yet another job to do.

Enhui is a ministry leader and instructor with our radio seminary program to China. Her trips take her to areas where there is a lack of Bibles, Bible study resources and Christian literature. This is a tale of a recent trip which encouraged her spirit.

"It was a long journey to the small village, and the heavy snowfall made the roads slippery and difficult to traverse. I took a bus to my destination, carrying my teaching material for equipping the local church leaders.

In the near-zero degree weather, I conducted classes for thirty-odd local seminary students over two days. They were eager to learn, and very polite."

Enhui learned a bit about her students, and was especially moved by the testimony of a couple who were already slated to serve in missions abroad.

"I was supposed to continue my teaching on the third day, but word came that we had to leave ahead of schedule. All I could do was pass on the training materials and CDs of our seminary program.

Even though the time we had together was cut short, I still remember their faces, their devotion to the Lord, and their passion to reach out to the lost..."

Such were the deep impressions that inspired her to press on in her service and faith—to help meet the needs of spiritually hungry leaders in the land.

Personal reflection

In what ways can my testimony and service be further strengthened to build His church?

Finally, brothers and sisters,
whatever is true, whatever is noble,
whatever is right, whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is
admirable — if anything is excellent
or praiseworthy — think about
such things.

PHILIPPIANS 4:8



How far am I willing to go for God?

When your mission field is Nepal, ministering to the lost usually includes a lot of high-altitude trekking.

Simon, a ministry leader, relates an experience that brought him and a few team members to an interior hilly area to conduct a seekers' meeting.

“We departed from our homes around six in the morning, each of us carrying our personal belongings. The trail was so rough... it was so steep and narrow, and as the scorching sun came out, we began to struggle with thirst. We did not encounter any villages until we were seven hours into the journey.

Thankfully a villager was willing to share some of his precious water with us — water he had drawn from a well, two hours' walk from his home.

Ten hours after we started, we arrived at our destination. We met our host who had helped us set up this meeting, and gratefully accepted his provision of water and bananas. Exhausted, we slept soundly on straw mats that had been prepared for us.

The next morning, we held a seekers' meeting for people who wanted to find our more about the gospel. We learned that some of the participants had walked for seven hours just to attend the session. By eleven o' clock, there were 170 people who had gathered to find out more about Jesus.

The people here may have been poor and uneducated farmers, but I saw how hungry they were for the truth. Tears rolled down many faces as they listened to the message of salvation and grace...”

Personal reflection

What are some things I can do to go that extra mile, so as to be a blessing to others and to benefit the community at large?

excellence

For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:21



Given my station and my situation... am I doing right by God and men?

Someone once said that we should live our lives by first planning our eulogies. This makes us less apt to get sidetracked along the way.

Ruth is a private tutor from an unreached people group. She is but four years in the faith, and making the most of her abilities and opportunities.

“Tutoring is my main source of income, but I didn’t have enough students to make ends meet. Friends told me God would provide, but I felt that it was not enough. I worked myself really hard... so hard that I fell sick, but still there were not enough students.

I started reading the Bible every day, seeking encouragement from His Word. Slowly, I understood: God’s plan is not about Him giving us all that we want! I realized that my mindset was not in accord with His Will, but with my own desires...”

With this realization, Ruth’s attitude towards her students began to change. She chose to reach out to her students in love.

“Beyond teaching them English, I began to show care and concern for their souls. I used to accept as many students as possible to maximize my earnings, but now I focus on helping my students, loving them, and praying for guidance on how to do so effectively.

God has now increased the number of my students, and many parents trust me. I have started conducting sessions to counsel these parents on biblical guidelines to raise their children!”

Personal reflection

What must I do to ensure the proper stewardship of the abilities and resources entrusted to me?

accountability

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

ROMANS 12:4-5

What part do superheroes and government offices have in ministry?

“Hello friends, your topics are really cool, especially in the case of emergencies. Continue giving tips regarding what to do during fire, earthquakes and typhoons. More power to you all!!”

Kapitan Tanggol (Captain Defender) is a superhero icon of the Philippines and the insignia of the *Office of Civil Defense for Kids*. He champions the cause of being prepared for emergencies and disasters. First heard on an episode of our children’s radio program, the Captain shares tips on how to detect, as well as how to react to, an emergency.

The Philippines is prone to natural disasters. Recognizing the need for Filipinos, especially Filipino children, to be prepared for these natural disasters, we partner with the country’s *National Disaster Coordinating Council* and the *Office of Civil Defence*.

Through this joint effort, Kapitan Tanggol’s message of disaster awareness and readiness is transmitted far and wide to the listeners of “Mumunting Kutitap”, our children’s program in Tagalog that is aired in over 100 FM stations throughout the country.

Both children and adults alike respond well to this program, citing how they like the holistic content: Dramatizations and skits that touch on Christian topics and disaster preparedness, as well as program segments that deal with issues faced by children.

“Over the years, God has used the program to reach out and touch the lives of the young people in the Philippines. The issues addressed resonate with our listeners, who message us via SMS!”

Personal reflection

Am I willing to explore new partnership opportunities for the furtherance of His kingdom?



partnerships

Be devoted to one another
in love. Honor one another
above yourselves.

ROMANS 12:10

Would I lay hands on, and pray for someone diagnosed with the human immuno-deficiency virus (HIV)?

Beyond what the HIV virus does to the body, the disease ravages individuals through the stigma they face in their daily lives.

Charles, a ministry leader, remembers this one elderly lady he visited in one of the HIV-affected villages in China. Most of the villagers had unknowingly contracted HIV through contact with contaminated blood.

He had merely come to pay her a visit. But as he walked towards her, he was surprised to notice that there were tears in her eyes.

It was only later, as he sat and listened to this lady pour out her story, that he finally understood the reason for her tears.

After she was diagnosed to be HIV-positive, her own son left home and thereafter refused to visit her; he was afraid that he would also contract the dreaded disease through their daily interaction.

With the bitter sting of familial rejection echoing in her mind, this lady could not fathom why an absolute stranger — someone who was unrelated to her in any way — would be willing to call on her, visit her, and embrace her.

Personal reflection

How can I treat others as individuals dearly loved by God — sons and daughters called to be His salt and light, regardless of their situation or their station in life?

Serve wholeheartedly,
as if you were serving the Lord,
not people, because you know
that the Lord will reward each one
for whatever good they do,
whether they are slave or free.

EPHESIANS 6:7-8



How far beyond my comfort zone am I willing to go?

Sometimes, a bout of diarrhea can pave the way to minister more effectively.

Pastor Ngyuen can attest to that. His ministry takes him to rural villages, where he has run into various non-standard food hygiene practices.

“It is difficult for us. However, the villagers invite us to join in their meal with a well-meaning heart. If we do not join them, they might think that we don’t like them, so we really have to try.”

And we don’t stop at that — we know that we have to help them to improve their life. So every time we visit them, we bring dried fish, dried shrimp, and salt; we teach them things such as how to prepare food properly, and how to keep their living areas separate from their livestock.”

Pastor Ngyuen and his team also join the villagers in the field: working with them, eating with them, and sharing the gospel with them.

“When we stay with them, we do everything that they do, including walking up the mountains in the heat of the day. It is hard labor, but they are used to it.”

And after being with them, I also am used to it... God gives us the Spirit and strength to journey and walk alongside them.”

Personal reflection

How else can I give of myself, for the benefit of my fellow believers — that they may be better able to impact their communities for Christ?

servant attitude

Declare His glory among
the nations, His marvelous deeds
among all peoples.

PSALM 96:3

What is God doing in my life?

George is a missionary on Guam, where TWR broadcasts Christian programs to distant lands through the use of shortwave technology. However, the shortwave radio transmitters on Guam are over thirty years old, and long overdue for a replacement.

In 2009, George shared the following:

“We don’t necessarily know how God is going to work in our midst, but we do know that He has specific plans for us. My devotional for this week is about being led by the Spirit of God. When your journey of faith begins, you may not have all the answers you would like to have before you take your first steps of faith.”

For instance, when my family moved to this side of the world so many years ago, we knew only a small view of what the Lord had planned for us. But when we took the first step, God gave us the next step. When we obeyed that step, He then gave us the next, and the next, and the next. That’s the way it is for all of us when we walk with the Lord. As wonderful as it would be to see the whole picture before we get started, He usually leads us one step at a time after we get started...”

We see the Lord gently ‘goading’ us in a specific direction. It’s exciting to know that even when things can look impossible to man, these things are great opportunities in the hand of a knowing and loving God who has great plans for His children.”

Today, God has provided the replacement devices that George and the Guam team had been praying for. On top of that, these new transmitters are capable of sending digital signals, which allow for much clearer reception!

Personal reflection

In what ways is God surprising me each day?
How do I express His work in me to others?

innovation

