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MONTHLY REPORT

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AUGUST 2021

Mother of the House Churches - Part 1

Marie Monsen, a single Lutheran missionary from Norway, was the unlikely vessel used by God to bring powerful revival to many parts of China in the 1920s and 1930s. Such was the impact of this softly spoken woman that today, many believers in China respectfully call her the 'mother of the house churches'.

The Norwegian Lutheran China Mission sent ten new missionaries to China in 1901–02 to reinforce their work. One of the new recruits was a single woman named Marie Monsen. Nobody would have believed that this small, humble figure would have such an impact over the next 30 years.

Full Surrender

Monsen was trained as a schoolteacher and had just completed a year studying nursing when she felt a strong call from God to become a missionary. Just a month after arriving in China, Monsen fell down an iron staircase and lay unconscious for several days with concussion. She was afflicted with severe headaches for six years, which ended only after she received special prayer and anointing for healing.

The doctor who was responsible for overseeing Monsen's recovery strictly forbade her from both language study and teaching for two years. This was a huge blow to the fledgling missionary. Every worker she knew had been devoted to language study in order to communicate with the people, and the other deep desire in her life, teaching, had also been denied. She felt extremely frustrated—but God had other plans for this disciple.



Monsen had a tumultuous start to her missionary career when she contracted malaria. The fever took her close to death, and the agony she experienced in body, soul and mind broke her. At the time she could see only Satan in these attacks, but years later she realized that God had allowed these afflictions so she would value this life less than eternity and would become a broken

and humble vessel in His hands.

Eventually, Marie reached a point where she was able to truly surrender her future to God's will. She was healed from malaria that day, and her temperature returned to normal.

A Godly Discontentment

Toward the end of her first term of seven years in China, she felt deeply discouraged about the poor results of her work, and the lack of power in her own ministry. She found a clue as to why the missionaries were so ineffective when the faith of an elderly, uneducated Chinese woman challenged her to the core. The old sister had moved into a room right next to hers,

and the paper-thin walls meant that Marie could hear all of her prayers and petitions to God. The woman prayed loudly and frequently, and was never afraid to ask her Heavenly Father for things the Norwegian didn't dare to request because of her conservative Lutheran upbringing. She later recalled:

In this issue

- *Page 1: Mother of the House Churches - Part 1*
- *Page 2: A Beautiful Gift*
- *Page 3: Projects in Focus*
- *Page 4: Prayer Calendar*

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Mother of the House Churches - Part 1...

*"I could hear everything she prayed about, and could watch how her prayers were answered. There seemed to be a great difference between the result of her prayers and mine. More than once when I heard her pray, I thought, 'That will never happen,' but just 'that' did happen. It took some time for me to discover the explanation. She had a living, childlike faith, and to her God, difficulties were not difficulties. I had more doubt than faith, so to me difficulties were so tremendous that it would have to take time for God to answer. That is to say, **I discovered that I was an unbelieving believer!**"*

In 1907, news of the tremendous revival that was sweeping the Korean Peninsula reached Marie, and something clicked inside her heart. Here was New Testament Christianity being demonstrated, with similar results! She longed to travel to Korea and experience the revival for herself.

The Holy Spirit began to stir the diminutive Norwegian, and both Christians and non-believers were astonished by the power and authority with which she shared the Gospel with them. The power was spiritual in nature, for her voice was always soft and calm, and she never shouted or bellowed out her message. All traces of the fear of man left her, and Marie desired only to know Christ and to stand up for truth and for the purity of the Church.

Monsen was deeply troubled by the compromised lifestyles of many missionaries and Chinese church

leaders, and she challenged them strongly. The question: **"Have you ever really been born-again?"** burned throughout many parts of China as God expanded her ministry and made it nationwide. When their faith was held up to the searching light of God's Word, many professing Christians realized that they had never truly been born-again. Christianity may have been pasted over their lives as a veneer, but they had never been thoroughly converted to Christ, nor had they forsaken their sins.

A Lutheran missionary described Monsen's methods in detail:

"Her plan was first to destroy the false security of the church members. She spoke of the various kinds of patches the unsaved used to hide behind when they tried to persuade themselves they were saved. She then spoke of sin, one sin at a time. It had cost her several days of prayerful struggle before she became willing, as she expressed it, to 'descend into the miry cesspool of sin' in connection with the sixth commandment, against adultery. It turned out that one of Satan's nearly impregnable strongholds was at last broken into when this particular sin was brought out into the open."

Excerpt from the book 'HENAN: Inside the Greatest Christian Revival in History' available at www.AsiaHarvest.org Used by permission of Asia Harvest

Watch for Part 2 in next month's MO Report.

A Beautiful Gift

In China where day after day all that is heard about is COVID and persecution, a Christian worker remembers a powerful story of the effect of one Bible on one hungry believer.

"There is an elderly pastor who I will never forget. He spends his days distributing Bibles in the years since his release after nearly 30 years in prison and labour camp for his faith.

As I entered his apartment with heavy bags of Bibles, he told me that a man was waiting for me in his living room. The man had travelled 24 hours by train from northern China. He even needed to sell some of his possessions in order to pay for the train ticket.

The pastor told me that this man had been a believer for more than 10 years but had never owned a Bible! It was simply impossible to obtain one in the area where he lived.

The man had heard that the pastor had Bibles available and so he travelled a very long distance in the hope of obtaining a copy of his own. Two days before my arrival, he reached the home of the pastor and his wife. To his great

disappointment, they had no Bibles available. However, he was told that I would be arriving with Bibles in two days.

I was led to the living room where I met the man and gave him a Bible. I have never seen such joy and happiness. He took the Bible and held it tightly and danced around the room, alternately crying and laughing. Then, he knelt down and started praising the Lord that he finally had been able to obtain his own copy of God's precious Word. I will never forget that man and the joy it brought him to receive a Bible.

This is the testimony of many believers all over rural China – such hunger for the Word and such joy when they receive their very own Bible!

With the pandemic the need of Bibles has increased. We receive so many urgent requests from our contacts, "When will you come back? When will you supply us with the much needed Bibles again?" And we don't know when, but we do know the tremendous need and we are doing all we can to be ready to deliver more Bibles - the most important and most needed item in this world."

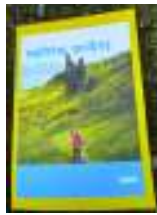


"But (Abraham) did not doubt or waver in unbelief concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong and empowered by faith, giving glory to God, being fully convinced that God had the power to do what He had promised." Romans 4:20-21 (AMP)

CURRENT PROJECTS

NEPAL GOSPEL TRACTS - URGENT (NEW)

The team in Nepal are working hard to get medical supplies to those who need them. During their visits they find their love and help opens doors to their hearts and they want to know more about the Lord. As a result Samuel and the team would like to offer the gospel tract 'The Golden Message' Please prayerfully consider helping us support this small, short term project.



Total Project: \$2,800

DISASTER RELIEF - URGENT APPEAL

Nepal Medical Supplies:

The second wave of Coronavirus has created a desperate need for aid and medical supplies especially in Nepal, Pakistan and India. Our contacts in Nepal plan to provide oxygen, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers and tents for shelter & isolation.



The need is huge, so we are reaching out to you to help us help the people of Nepal.

Total Project: \$40,000 Balance Needed: \$10,800

FEED THE HUNGRY:

Nepal - Pakistan - India - Philippines

The poor are the greater sufferers of Coronavirus so our heart is to respond to their desperate need by giving gifts to our contacts in these countries to buy food etc. Please help us help them!



Urdu Bibles

This year we are working with our new Pakistan Partners to provide much needed Bibles. Their need is for 330 bibles each month at \$8 per Bible. We would love to be able to help them with this, and invite you to prayerfully consider supporting this project.



Monthly Need: \$2,640

Bibles for China

In honour and memory of the 40 years since Project Pearl, we wish to help fund more Chinese Bibles as their need for the Word of God is so great. MO has committed to raise funds for at least 3000 bibles at a cost of approx. \$3.00 each. We invite you to join us in helping our brothers and sisters in China.



Total Project: \$9,000 Balance needed: \$8,000

Tibetan Leaders

This nation is closed off to foreigners, but the Lord is faithful and gives his people strategies for getting the Word and help to His people. Thank you that we have been able to support one leader for a year and nine leaders for one month. We would love to be able to sponsor more and with your help we can.

Monthly support per Pastor: \$75

One year support per Pastor: \$900

(Used by Permission from Asia Harvest)

CMTC Bible College - Monthly commitment \$1600

Nepal Radio Ministry - Monthly commitment \$850

RESPONSE COUPON

AUGUST 2021

Name:

Address:

..... Post Code:

Email:

Phone or Mobile:

Nepal

Radio Programme (NEPRAD) \$.....

CMTC Bible College (NPBC) \$.....

Gospel Tracts (NPGT) \$.....

Disaster Relief from Coronavirus

Nepal Medical Supplies (MEDNEP) \$.....

Nepal Feed the Hungry (FTHNEP) \$.....

Pakistan Feed the Hungry (FTHPAK) \$.....

India Feed the Hungry (FTHIND) \$.....

Philippines Feed the Hungry (FTHPHL) \$.....

Urdu Bibles (URDBBL) \$.....

Tibetan Leaders Support (TIBLDRAH) \$.....

China Pastors (CHPSTR) \$.....

China Bibles (CHBBL) \$.....

Where Most Needed: (WMN) \$.....

Payments can now be made from our website at: nzmo.org or via online banking to our BNZ bank Account number: 02 0466 0034018 00. Please specify your preferred project or funds will be allocated to 'Where Most Needed'.

GLOBAL YOUTH

1 Pray for people, especially young, who are suicidal. Declare breakthrough, healing, hope and divine encounters with the love of God. Pray for repentance and freedom from exposure to toxic input, and freedom from all deception and bondage, so they can embrace the love and purposes of God.

GLOBAL CHURCH

2 Pray for a breaking up of the stoney, fallow ground of hearts, that they have hearts of flesh and are responsive, yielded and obedient to the Lord. Pray for restoration of our First Love - Jesus Christ, and restoration of our identity in Him. Pray for a sharpening and effectiveness in taking the Word to the lost and for refining Fire on the church to make us ready for our Groom.

3 Pray that the Church arise, depend upon the Lord in greater measure, and believe God for greater things. Pray that faith would arise, labourers would be sent out to harvest.

4 Continue to pray for teams ministering on frontlines to be covered by Jesus Blood for protection from Coronavirus so they can be most effective. Pray again for miracle multiplication for provisions as they reach out and for open hearts to receive truth.

PAKISTAN

5 Pray for blessing on Bible distribution, feeding and medical supplies, and for protection from COVID. Pray for filling with peace like an oasis for others. Open doors to reach Muslims, open their ears to hear the truth that Jesus is alive and working miracles, and He is God of love.

AFGHANISTAN

6 Five things are very evident in Afghan culture at this time: fear, violence, death, corruption and betrayal. Please pray that in the midst of this dark moment in Afghan history, Christians will stand strong by faith, and trust only in the promises in God's Word.

7 & 8 Pray for a Christian man and his family, as he stands accused of proselytizing, as he could face the death penalty. Pray for him to stand in confidence in the Lord, for peace, love and angelic protection over him and his family. Pray that truth and justice will prevail, and this man be freed from prison. Pray his accusers and court officials would receive a revelation of the One True Judge.

MUSLIM WORLD

9 Today or tomorrow (moon dependant) marks the beginning of the Islamic New Year. Pray that the One True God would reveal Himself to Muslims as they reflect, and may they resolve to follow Christ.

10 Rebuke the father of lies and declare that truth will abound in Muslim nations. Pray for a change, a turning point where the nations turn to Jesus.

IRAN

11 Three Christian men have been charged for talking about their faith, and were denied a legal defence. They face possible prison or heavy fines. Pray for encouragement, boldness and justice for these men and so many others like them.

12 Pray that the Living Word would get into the hands of those who are hungry, desperate and hopeless, so that they are rescued and restored to the Father. Pray for whole families to come to Christ. Pray for effective discipleship of new believers.

13 Pray for anointing, boldness and joy on new evangelists, that as they share and distribute Bibles, their ministry would be fruitful. Pray for sensitivity to Holy Spirit's leading.

NEPAL

14 & 15 This year's monsoon season has begun all across Nepal. Many districts have had landslides and flooding and many people have died or become homeless. Many things have been destroyed and roads are blocked by landslides. Pray for God's grace and mercy to be upon this nation, for healing, provision and restoration.

16 Continue to pray for Samuel and teams distributing essential supplies for encouragement, rest and refreshment. Pray for divine strategies, protection from COVID and boldness to share. Pray that the ears of recipients would be open and that families and communities are saved.

17 Pray for those in isolation (eg. In tents) that in these places they would find the Lord with them drawing them to Himself.

18 Praise God for the book 'First Love' by Geoff Woodcock now translated into Nepali which has had a good response from the young people. Pray for the further distribution of this book and that the message would transform and ignite many lives for Christ.

INDIA

19 So many families have lost their main income earners either through lockdowns or death from COVID. Christians also face loss of livelihood and are also denied medical care because they are Christian. Pray for grace on families and divine provision and healing, that the Lord Himself would fight for them. Pray that Christians would have strength to overcome all, to rise up with boldness and a strong testimony of Christ to other needy families.

MYANMAR

20 Pray for elderly pastors who got arrested for a peace gathering and are now facing prison. Stand in prayer against those who oppose peace. Pray for justice and release. Pray that authorities would see the Spirit upon these pastors.

LAOS

21 & 22 Pray for JH, a faithful missionary in Laos, for protection from COVID, a supernatural grace in learning the language. Praise God for new opportunities and pray that the Word sown would bring many salvations. Pray for abundant provision of food, finances, revelation, wisdom, connections, and a fresh touch of Holy Spirit daily.

CHINA

23 Praise God for how he used Marie Monsen to produce authentic passionate believers in China that was the foundation for revival. Pray that God would grant repentance to His Church for any deception or religiousness that has taken the place of true passionate love for Jesus.

24 Pray for blessing and favour, acceleration and multiplication on all Bible distribution operations throughout China. Pray for a covering on all those involved.

PERSECUTED CHURCH

25 Pray for the encouragement of persecuted believers. Pray for mercy, grace, miracle visitations and the tangible Presence of God with them.

26 Pray that believers would trust God and not give in to fear and that they would be graced to love and bless those who persecute them.

27 Pray that believers would stand firm in their faith with their eyes always on Jesus, receive grace to persevere and not grow weary or lose heart.

NORTH KOREA

28 & 29 Pray that God would touch the heart of Kim Jong-un, that he would be transformed into an example of grace, as the apostle Paul, that the people would be set free. Declare healing and reconciliation between the North & South.

NZ

30 Pray for a willingness to humble ourselves and throw off everything that hinders and look to Jesus. Pray for unity, forgiveness and healing.

31 Pray for revival, and a revelation that we are not satisfied apart from God. Pray we would not sit but run with the fire of God to spread His glory far and wide.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to those who have sent through updated personal details.

If you still need to do this, please send to info@nzmo.org or by mail to PO Box 506 Tauranga 3144



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