

CHINA MISSION NEWSLETTER**MISSIONARY:**

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Dear brethren:

The most important decision you will ever make in this life is whether or not to become a Christian, for your decision will determine where you spend eternity. Only one of two eternal outcomes await our departure from this life: either ascend into heaven or be cast into hell, "where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:48). Both outcomes are eternal, are immutable after death, and when contemplated juxtaposed, they exhibit the greatest disparity imaginable. Perhaps the second most important decision you will ever make is whom you will marry, for as with the first, where you will spend eternity may hang in the balance. For better or worse, your spouse will be an immense, and possibly even the most decisive spiritual influence upon you and your children. Marry one whose Father is God, not one whose father is the devil. Marry in the Lord. Nevertheless, to marry in the Lord is not always easy, especially not in a foreign mission field where the congregations of our Lord are few, usually small in membership and distantly scattered from each other. Counter to these obstacles stand the providence of God, prayer and our faith in both to guide us to a suitable matrimonial mate.

Several years ago we converted a young lady. She exhibited a pronounced change in her life. Accompanied by a real hunger and thirst for the Word, she grew rapidly in faith and understanding of the Scriptures. She has always been very conscientious and uncompromising even when inconvenient and demanding upon her personally or in her familial and social relationships, She was steadfast. And she was single.

Our sister wanted to marry a Christian, a true child of God, and not just someone who was merely a nominal Christian, but one who was as zealous for the truth as she. She had been introduced to several eligible men who, by worldly standards, were very desirable choices. Some even claimed to be "Christian," of the denominational variety. She would not compromise; she knew what she wanted and learned to wait on the Lord. Finally, she met and married a very dedicated brother in Singapore where they now both live. They have been happily married now for about a year and a half. They are both very zealous for the faith and very active in the Lord's church in both Singapore and Malaysia. Over the recent holidays, they were in Taiwan to visit family. I invited him to preach the last two Sundays of the year. They were excellent and timely lessons, and delivered well. We also spent a good amount of time discussing Bible and the church.

Remaining single has its own set of advantages for service, as the apostle Paul both stated and exemplified, each being a different gift from the Lord. Nevertheless, strong families, where husband and wife are united in the Lord, are very important for the church. From them come the elders who are appointed to oversee the flock and watch for the souls in a way that only elders can. From couples united in the Lord flows a synergistic effect as when our lord sent the disciples out two by two, though not in a familial context. I am pleased that the mission efforts here not only yielded another sister in Christ, but also a fine Christian wife for a fine Christian man. Inasmuch as you share in our labors, I hope you will find all this as encouraging as do I.

Usually, when we accrue another full month's worth of missed support, I report it in the next monthly letter. Lately, I have not been doing so for lack of space. Over the last calendar year, we fell behind an amount equivalent to four month's support for the entire year. We have chosen to make do with what we have rather than spend time raising support. We trust our Lord provides what He, in His infinite wisdom determines we need, even if not what we budget. We are grateful for each of you who support our work with prayers and contributions. We pray for all of you daily.

Your servant in Christ,

Eugene F. Brzozowski