



Voices of the Rainbow

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Rainbow Connections

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In 2006, Katie began sponsoring the then 15 year old Qing Hai* at the Chongqing School for the Blind. They corresponded through letters, sent once every three months. Though Qing Hai was quite reserved at first, soon enough, he opened up and a friendship began to blossom.

This connection between Qing Hai and Katie extended beyond financial sponsorship. Qing Hai noted that Katie has been his pillar of support financially, emotionally and spiritually. With each letter exchanged, Qing Hai's spirits were uplifted by Katie's love and confidence in him.

Receiving His Grace

After Qing Hai left the school to attend university, whereby Katie was no longer his sponsor, she unexpectedly received the first e-mail from him which she said "caused me to be so happy that I cried." However, after a few phone conversations, she sensed that perhaps something was wrong when finally, he spoke of the intense pain in his eyes.

Katie soon contacted Rainbow Missions which then found Dr. Chen*, a Seattle based optometrist who frequently traveled to Sichuan to conduct surgeries for those in need. Rainbow Missions arranged for Qing Hai to travel to Sichuan to have Dr. Chen examine and operate on his eyes.

At the hospital in Sichuan, Qing Hai learned that he suffered from glaucoma and the operation to fully remove his eyes was immediately conducted. While Dr. Chen's services were complimentary for Qing Hai, Katie took care of the hospital fees and travel costs. Qing Hai expressed his thankfulness for Katie's help and that "the outcome of the surgery was very good."

At One End of the Rainbow

After Qing Hai, Katie has continued sponsoring children through Rainbow Missions. She is now sponsoring her third child. She said that she chooses to be a sponsor "because I feel called to do so. When there is a need, you are made aware of it, and are then moved by it- that is a calling."

And as for Qing Hai, she still communicates with him frequently and even hopes to visit him in China when he graduates from university in two years. She explains her continued

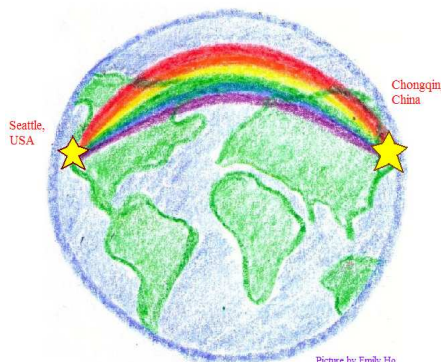
interest and involvement in his life by saying very matter-of-factly that "I have communicated with him thus long and have already established a relationship."

The Other End of the Rainbow

Pain-free and equipped with prosthetic eyes, Qing Hai is now continuing his studies in Chinese medicine at Changchun University. He describes life as well as school as "immensely good."

He truly looks forward to the

possibility of Katie visiting him. When asked further about their relationship, he said, "The friendship and deep connection that I share with Auntie Katie defies the boundaries of age and distance. Even though Auntie Katie's words are brief, her words of encouragement always strengthen me during critical points in my life." He adds, "No matter where I go and whether or not she continues to support me, I will always keep in touch with her."



Picture by Emily Ho

Special thanks to Rainbow Missions sponsors who so generously support and encourage the underprivileged children!

How you can sponsor a child:

Each year, Rainbow Missions' sponsorship program provides an opportunity for a disabled child or youth to attend Chongqing School for the Blind or Angel House beginning from September through June. For as little as \$40 every month, you can provide an opportunity for a disabled youth to live his or her dream of attaining an education while encouraging them along the way. For more information please contact us at 206-734-7000 or rainbows@therainbows.org.

Announcements

- We have changed our mailing address to PO Box 1526, Renton, WA 98057. Please direct all your correspondence and donations to this address with immediate effect. Thank you.
- We thank God for your generous contributions and presence at Rainbow Missions reunion dinner on June 19, 2010. 152 people showed up at the event to help raise over \$12,000. It was a memorable night of fellowship for the Rainbow Missions community where we could praise God for his grace and providence to continue His work in transforming the lives of youth and families of the underprivileged and disabled in China.
- Since March 2010 we have begun the process of planning Rainbow Missions' five year growth. We are excited to share the details of the plan by the third quarter of this year. We thank God for the commitment and insights from the board members, staff, volunteers and partners.

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Called to Witness

Ming's* Story

A shove. Falling. Rock, rock pounding, scraping, gashing skin. Another shove. Panic. Shriill blasts from cars, cars on all sides whizzing by and dragging the air. Only in such limited ways can we imagine what it must have felt for Ming to be shoved down a steep hill and later, into the middle of a busy intersection. By her own parents.

Due to a severe fever, Ming became blind at the age of two whereupon her parents despised her existence and tried to dispose of her. Janice Wong*, Rainbow Missions' long term service worker then reviewing applications for student acceptance and sponsorship at the Chongqing School for the Blind, heard the 14 year-old girl outside her office weeping and demanding to go to school. Janice listened to her story.

Let God be God

Despite the long trek from her remote village, because her parents refused to sign the emergency release forms, Ming could not attend the school. Outrage and anguish ignited and crackled within Janice. Impassioned, she stirred to do some-

thing, anything. Instead, Principal Grace* reminded Janice that she must first placate her own righteous hate and anger. Did Janice want to do all these things on behalf of the girl or herself? She could do nothing. This was not her battle.

Briefly before Ming's return to the village, Janice could only share words of peace and hope with this evidently bright and sweet child. Yet, she still could not help but feel so utterly inadequate. She railed against God, "Why did You bring her all the way from her remote village only to tear her away from the safety and warmth of the school? Why?" As she watched the girl leave she felt the Holy Spirit respond clearly and simply: Let God be God.

Where does my help come from?

During one of Janice and Ming's frequent telephone chats, Janice learned that Ming's parents had arranged for the girl to marry a deaf-mute. Filled with concern, Janice hastened to Ming's village. Upon arriving, she learned of one other marriage alternative which she worried would be equally, if not more so, disastrous.

Once again, outrage and anguish whipped within her. Yet, once again, she felt God speak to her, calming and subduing her passionate desires and impulse for action. However, she continued to smolder, "if I cannot help, why would You send me here?"

That Sunday she

“ God could easily send anybody else, [but] I would be missing an opportunity to personally witness and proclaim His almighty power. ”

sang songs with the village children at the crest of the rice terraces surrounded by the panorama of mountains. She was reminded of Psalm 121:1-2 "I lift my eyes to the hills- where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth." She surrendered to the Lord. She then understood that "He had sent me here to witness His mercy in this

particular girl's life." Janice left the village where some of Ming's relatives were deeply touched by her visit. Ming's future remained uncertain however.

Janice's Conclusions

Three days after Janice left, the matchmaker brought over a young man to whom Ming is now very happily married to. Ming describes her marriage as "so very romantic" and her life as brimming with love and hope.

Janice reflects that she learned to trust that God loves Ming enough and that His blood was shed equally for her as well. She also learned that when she is no longer acting on behalf of herself, God transforms and utilizes the passionate and assertive propensities that he invested in her.

She quickly and humbly admits that though she prefers to live in Seattle, God's calling for her to serve is simply too strong to resist. She concludes that "though it may seem easy to shrug it off by saying that God could easily send anybody else, I would be missing an opportunity to personally witness and proclaim His almighty power."

You can make a difference to support Rainbow Missions long term field workers

Since 2008, Rainbow Missions has had field workers in China who are called to serve the underprivileged and disabled youth as well as their families. In China, they work in close partnership with Chongqing School for the Blind and Angel House in Nanning in overseeing the sponsorship program, providing consultation, and coordinating training sessions to equip teachers with tools in counseling, rehabilitation and special education. We ask for your continued prayer and financial support to our long term field workers in China. If you are called to give to support our long term field worker, you can write a check to Rainbow Missions, indicate 'LTST' on the back of the check, and mail it to the address below or visit our website at www.therainbows.org to make an online gift.

Upcoming Events

26 September, Sunday 12.45pm, CBC Fellowship Hall
Public sharing of summer STST by the Walker family.

2 October, Saturday 10am - 5pm, Yammie's Home RM Fall Garage Sale 10828 NE 142nd Street, Kirkland, WA, 98034

19-31 December Rainbow Missions' STST trip to Chongqing School for the Blind

*Where indicated in the newsletter, aliases have been used.

Thanks to Emily Ho, our summer intern, for writing and editing this newsletter.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for volunteer leaders with willing hearts to be involved in the witnessing and sponsorship team.
- Pray for God's provision of \$38,000 to support the general operations of Rainbow Missions & the long term service workers for the year.
- Pray for God's guidance and grace for the team members of December 2010 STST as they prepare to serve in China.
- Pray for God to provide midterm as well as long-term counselors, caretakers, and teachers.
- Pray for good health, wisdom and blessings to all the staff, volunteers, board members, and partners in the Rainbow Missions community.
- Pray for good health and blessings to all the youth and families that we serve in China.

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