



Bible Stories Alive

For all the world

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Kitty Anna Griffiths
Author and Teller of Bible Stories Alive

Dear Friend,

In Psalm 86:10, David says to the Lord, “You are great and do wondrous things.” And I’ve just been thinking of the wondrous way the Lord started our children’s ministry in Asia.

Fifteen years ago my daughter, Myfanwy, and her husband, Michael, were in Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia. They were visiting missionaries belonging to OMF (Overseas Missionary Fellowship). While they were there, Myfanwy met Ellen Blosser, leader of the children’s ministry of Trans World Radio (TWR) in Cambodia.

In the course of a casual conversation, Ellen mentioned to Myfanwy her dream of starting a children’s radio program in Khmer, Cambodia’s national language. Myfanwy then mentioned her mother’s children’s Bible story radio program and gave Ellen the first cassette, *Adam and Eve*.

Myfanwy thought no more of it, except that she was sorry she had parted with her last cassette! She had brought cassettes with her from Toronto to give to the children of the missionaries she and Michael were visiting as Board members of OMF Canada.

However, Ellen Blosser listened to the cassette

and immediately asked TWR in the US to contact A Visit with Mrs. G to ask for permission to translate Bible Stories Alive (BSA) into Khmer for TWR’s new children’s radio program called Happy Children’s Garden. We gladly sent all the 58 books of BSA, and TWR translated them into Khmer and broadcast them over a 10-year weekly cycle. The stories are still being broadcast both on radio and through an electronic device called a “speaker box”.

But that is not the end of the story. Today, in one form or another, TWR broadcasts BSA in south-east Asia in seven other languages in seven countries. And all this has happened through a casual conversation and a cassette! With the psalmist, we praise the Lord: “You are great and do wondrous things!”

And now TWR has asked us for Bible Stories Alive for China. Oh, how gracious God is to give us this great privilege! Let’s ask the Lord to do a great work for the children of China and for His glory in their lives.

Thank you so much for helping.

Yours sincerely,

Kitty Anna Griffiths



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For the children of China

There are over 400 million children and teens under 18 in China today, we are told, and Trans World Radio (TWR) Canada has asked Bible Stories Alive to help the churches in China to tell the Gospel to these precious children and teens.

The problems the churches face

The evangelical churches in China face big challenges in evangelising and discipling children and teens. In his book *China's Christian Millions*, Tony Lambert, Director of China Research for OMF International, quotes letters from church leaders from different parts of China describing the difficulties they face.

Here is the report of one church leader:

Recently the government sought to suppress and wind up our Sunday school. But thanks

to God's great power and the tenacity of our workers we can now continue quietly as long as we do not call it a "Sunday School" but change the name. They [the government] have also tightened control on what materials we can photocopy. Our teachers lack materials so it is very difficult for them to teach the children well. They also lack training.

This letter from north China describes the persecution those running Sunday schools may face:

Several of our church-workers enthusiastically started Sunday school work. But later the local [government] school teachers and even some parents were strongly opposed to it. Then the police made several investigations and persecuted us. Each teacher was fined

200 RMB. So we were forced to wind up the Sunday school.

Another letter says:

This is a very important work [planting a Sunday school] but we lack teaching materials. As it is a new work, we are not gifted in leading it.

Moreover, in China to do Sunday school work is a dangerous enterprise. The law lays down that it is forbidden to lead children under the age of eighteen to faith in Jesus. If they discover us, the lightest punishment is detention and a fine. The heaviest punishment is three years in labour camp.

This Spring Festival we had a sister who was arrested and was forced to confess that she had led three little friends to faith in Jesus. She was detained for four days and fined 1,200 RMB. Ours is a very impoverished region, so most people do not earn that much in a year.

Please pray for us. And please send some materials on how to teach Sunday school.

Our plan to send materials to help

We will edit Mrs. G's radio stories for presentation in Sunday schools, with discussion questions suited for different age groups from 5 to 18 years of age.

As our agents, TWR Canada will

- translate the stories into Mandarin,
- voice the stories, with background music and sound effects,
- place the stories on a SD card or memory stick to be inserted into an electronic device, which TWR generally calls a "speaker box". (In our China project the speaker box may take the form of something like an ipad or a smart phone.)

TWR will have the speaker boxes manufactured, preferably in China, and then they will distribute the speaker boxes to churches for use in Sunday schools and other children's outreaches, and to families and orphanages.

To start with, the speaker boxes will be offered as a gift. If God blesses the Bible stories, the Christians in China will eventually fund the manufacture and distribution of the speaker boxes.

Mrs. G's stories in speaker-box evangelism in Cambodia

God has blessed Mrs. G's stories in "speaker-box" evangelism and teaching in Cambodia. For 14 years, TWR has broadcast Mrs. G's stories every week in Khmer on a radio program called Happy Children's Garden (HCG). Because many people don't have a radio and radio does not reach everywhere, TWR has introduced speaker-box evangelism and teaching. This picture shows how it works.



Bros gives the speaker box to the Sunday school teacher in the village.

Bros is a TWR children's worker (all the workers are young Cambodians). The Sunday school teacher may be the only Sunday school teacher in the village. She is now going to gather children into a listening group in her home or in her church. The speaker box has a memory card with the Happy Children's Program, which includes Christian songs, health lessons, and Mrs. G's Bible stories in Khmer.

God has marvellously blessed Bible Stories Alive in many towns and villages in Cambodia. Hundreds of children, in small groups, have come to listen to the stories from speaker boxes. Most of these children had never heard a Bible story before. Many have been converted and strengthened in their faith.

Two Testimonies



Siyort is 14 years old and in grade 8. Siyort says:

My parents are working as farm workers in Thailand. They come home once a year. I live with my grandma and sisters.

The Sunday school teacher of the church in my village, named Chan, told me that I could learn English at the church so I decided to go and study English. Then Chan invited me to come to visit the church on Sunday to join with the Sunday school class and to listen to the HCG program on a speaker box. The listening group at the church listens to the program every Saturday.

After listening the first time, I found I really liked this program and I wanted to go back and listen to the next story. So, now I go to listen every week. Then I decided to accept Jesus as my personal Saviour, because I believe that He is my Saviour who saved me from sin so I can go to heaven with Him. That time I was in grade 3. Chan led me to pray to accept Jesus.

Kilita is 15 years old and in grade 7. She has a similar story to Siyort's. She came to know of the church through coming to study English with teacher Chan. Chan asked her to come to the Sunday school class to listen to the pastor preaching and to listen to the HCG program on Saturday on a



speaker box. Kilita says,

When I listened to the HCG program for the first time, I really liked the Bible story. It attracted my heart and I wanted to know more and listen more. So I continued coming to listen to this program. After I finished listening to the series of the Christmas story, I decided to accept Jesus as my personal Saviour, because I know that I'm a sinner and only Jesus can save me from sin, and I'll be in heaven with Him one day.

The same evangelism in China

In China, children will listen to Bible Stories Alive in Sunday school, at home, in orphanages, in an electronic device like a speaker box as in Cambodia. The starting costs will be considerable and our responsibility. And we will only be able to proceed as the Lord provides the funds through the donations of His people.

We believe that God is calling us to do this mission, and we ask you please to pray and help, and to enlist the prayers of your friends and your local church. The Lord Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." Let's do this together.

Gerald Griffiths

for the Board of A Visit with Mrs. G Ministries

"Pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honoured [among the children and young people of China]."

(2 Thessalonians 3:1, NIV)