

Reaching China for Christ!

September 2020

We came to a town via the train, and our host was extremely nervous and afraid. Upon arrival, we immediately went to a fast-food restaurant across the street (KFC) and “hung out” while waiting to see if the coast was clear.

Welcome to China, where I traveled several years ago to do training in church planting. I was not so fearful for myself as much as for the nationals who dared to follow Jesus in that spiritually oppressed political climate.

An American would probably be sent home if caught helping the believers there, but Chinese nationals faced the possibility of arrest, brutality, reeducation camp (prison), torture, or even martyrdom. I have met many Chinese who have experienced these consequences for following Jesus.

Under the cloak of darkness, we traveled by van to a high-rise building where we trained for three days. During that time, I was not allowed outside, or even near the windows, for fear that people would see me as an apparent “foreign devil.” Thankfully, we were not raided or harassed.

Can you imagine following Jesus in such an environment? That is what these brave Chinese must do if they want to be Christians. It is just like the persecuted church around the world since the beginning of Christian history. In China, right now, it is not getting better; it is getting worse. If you follow the news, you probably know about that.

Now for some good news: New Testament Quarter 1 in Simplified Chinese is now on our website!

This Chinese translation is a significant step since the church in China needs biblical discipleship training. On the next page, you can read the story of lives that are being already touched by this translation.



Once again, we thank those who support this ministry and allow us to make such an impact. Our goal is to help every country to fulfill Jesus’ command to “make disciples.”

P.S. Next month, it will be four years since our ministry launched. We’ll celebrate by looking back at some significant milestones.

Making Discipleship Doable,

Dr. Mark Alan Williams
DJJ Founder and President

Meet a Translator: Shulan Yang Achord (Simplified) Chinese

Shulan Achord is a missionary, translator, and teacher through Shifus International (Shifus.org).

Shulan met Dr. Mark Williams when she was translating materials for DCPI (Dynamic Church Planting International). As one of the trainers, she hoped that someday there would be good follow-up materials focusing on discipleship. Now that Mark and the DJJ team have developed discipleship materials through **Discipleship Journeys with Jesus**, Shulan will be a part of a dream fulfilled.

Shulan (along with her husband Johnnie) leads Shifus International, a ministry that trains pastors and church leaders in the underground churches in China. In the summer of 2019, Shifus held a three-week Pastoral Leadership Training Event in Vista, California. Mark shared his vision and discipleship with over a dozen Chinese leaders, resulting in numerous opportunities in the Chinese underground church.



Recently, Shulan used the DJJ lessons to lead a friend to Christ and began discipling her! Now, since the discipleship materials New Testament Quarter 1, Simplified Chinese, are online, Shulan will recommend using the lessons to her weekly audience of over three hundred listeners in China. She will also start a DJJ group on video with young Christian ladies in China.

Prayers for China

- » **Pray for every ministry that is currently navigating the new political leadership in China.** The leadership has outlawed evangelism, discipleship, online Bible studies, house churches, and much more in their attempt to eliminate all Christianity from China and return it to its Marxist core.
- » **Pray for Hong Kong.** Chinese believers have traditionally gone to Hong Kong to attend Bible conferences, seminaries, Bible colleges, etc. New laws set by the Chinese government may lead to the soon elimination of all free expression of religious beliefs. Participants can now be extradited to the mainland for trial and imprisonments for such participation.
- » **Pray for Shifus as we try to determine God's direction for future ministry.**
- » **Pray that perhaps God will provide a large home** where Shifus can bring pastors and church leaders to America year-round to train them here.
- » **Pray that the DJJ materials in Chinese will have a huge impact** in creating disciples around the world using the Chinese language.
- » **Pray for the Chinese translation of the additional New Testament DJJ quarters.**

English Quarter 3 Release and More Translations!

It took us a long time to get the next quarter of New Testament materials in English on our site. However, we feel that this design and these lessons are the best yet!

Over the next few weeks, we plan to have Q1 in Russian, Hindi, Luganda, and possibly Swahili on the website. We are also anticipating the release of English Quarter 4 and a revision on English Quarter 2!

Please pray for the many tasks, including the children's curriculum, a mobile app, and some resources for those who are pre-believers and brand-new Christians. If you are not receiving email updates, please sign up on our website!



Ministry Value Two: Ministry to the Most Spiritually Needy

One of the infrastructure projects we have been working on during COVID-19 is our Ministry Values. We have found six foundational values, which we are sharing in these ministry update letters. Last month we talked about **Value One: Strategic Partnerships. We provide a resource for strategic partners to multiply disciples.**

Here is the second:

Value Two: Ministry to the most spiritually needy: We focus on providing free digital materials where they are most needed.

What this means: Christians in America and the developed world have extensive Bible study and discipleship materials to use and enjoy. But in many languages, there are little or no resources for discipleship and Christian growth. This “discipleship materials famine” is due to 1. Expense. 2. Translation 3. Lack of awareness.

So, our priority is to feed the most spiritually hungry. That is why we emphasize reaching countries with a great need for discipleship materials such as China, and we prioritize translations for those with scant materials in their language.

Sometimes we are asked: Are you doing anything to alleviate human suffering? The answer is that there are several ways we help.

First, the most significant human suffering is an eternity without Christ in the place the Bible calls hell. Thus, we are working hard to lead people to eternal life through Christ. Second, as we multiply true disciples worldwide, they help alleviate human suffering through orphanages, schools, feeding the hungry, etc. Third, while our specific calling is to discipleship, we partner with ministries that work directly to alleviate human suffering, such as **Reaching the Hungry.**

Disciple Report


We love celebrating the stories of lives transformed because of discipling through the DJJ materials.

If you have a story to share, send it to:
service@djjministry.org.

Send a picture-preferably with DJJ materials or your certificate in hand. We may feature your discipleship story next!

Testimonies of lives changed through DJJ discipleship

Disciple's name: **Bwabye Derrick**
Discipler: **Pastor Kasaga Edward**
Jesus Christ Center of Healing
City/Country: **Mukonoa, Uganda**



My Name is Bwabye Derrick. Through the DJJ training, I learned that Jesus' Great Commission is to make disciples, and this will, in turn, expand God's Kingdom to all nations. According to Matthew 28:18-20. I am given all the authority in heaven and earth. This authority permits me, therefore, to go to all nations and make disciples.

I have also known that a person doing discipleship is always with God to the end of the age.

Pastor Michael James Breen says that there are struggles in churches because Ministers of God have not done discipleship. He said, "if you make disciples, you will always get the church. But if you try to build the church, you will rarely get disciples".

Therefore, I should make disciples and get both the church and the disciples.

I am going to make other disciples, so that is to be a devoted follower of Jesus to expand the Kingdom of God.

Bwabye Derrick
Mukono
Uganda, Africa

Other Ministry Prayers:

- » Pray for the completion of many ongoing projects, including an app in development that will also speak the lessons and Scripture to those who cannot read or have eyesight issues.
- » **Thank God for the faithfulness of our DJJ donors.**
- » Thank God for the people in 85 countries that have downloaded the materials!
- » **Pray for the vision and creation of the children's materials and for writers who can collaborate on the DJJ4K project.**
- » Pray for wisdom to know how to hold 2021 Partnership Trainings and meet potential staff around the world when we are not able to travel due to the pandemic. We are training our Partnership Team on September 11th, which will also start the Ambassador program.
- » **Pray for the opportunity that has opened for Jason Resende (Latin America Rep.) to hold weekly DJJ discipleship lessons on the radio.**

Ways To Donate on our website:

djjministry.org and use the "donate" button to set up a donation.

Links for PayPal and stock donations available.

Mail a donation to:

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