



MONGOLIAN MISSION TEAM REPORT FOR MAY 2015



This is not going to be an ordinary report! The month of May was filled with so many things that deserve to be told. I could write about the young man accepting Christ and being baptized at Rich Heart, or the two young girls baptized at Chingeltei Church. I could tell about the great visit that we had with Brother Jim Brasseal from Denver, or write about our trip into China to purchase clothing for our NGO project at the alcohol hospital. Through perseverance our translation team has completed the Pentateuch (1st five books of OT). Our English classes concluded another successful year and our Bible School completed their 10th year of classes. All of these and more should get at least a paragraph. But something happened at our Bible School closing that I must tell you all about. It is what makes serving our great God so amazing and enjoyable.

In order to tell you what happened I must first go back to the year 2006. To a small 18 foot round ger (yurt) out in the middle of nowhere, some 12 kilometers outside of Chore. This was 3 years before we ever had a church there. This little ger was the home to a very short and feisty woman named Badamkhand. She was in her mid to late 70's and had just accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior and with tears rolling down her cheeks she told us how she had asked Jesus to forgive her and that now Jesus was her God. She traveled to UB to be baptized and become a member of Rich Heart NT Baptist Church. In the coming years we would visit with her most every time we went to Chore, and without fail she would ask us to pray for the salvation of her children. She never did fully understand all it meant to be part of the Lord's Church but she read her Bible everyday and prayed for her children. She passed away 4 years ago and was the first person in Chore to have what would be termed a Christian burial; one without a Buddhist lama present. They held her funeral at the Rich Heart Altai Baptist Church in Chore where she had been a member.

This story is about her son, Sainbayar. He never did make a profession of faith but through the witness of his mother, Badamkhand, his wife, daughter and son all believed and became members of the church at Chore. This last summer Sainbayar, who was a truck driver, was taking a load down to the border of China. As I understand the story, he rounded a corner startling an oncoming truck driver. 25 year old Enkhbayar was the driver of this truck and he was drunk. In a panic he locked up the wheels on his rig causing it to jackknife directly into the path of Sainbayar. According to reports Sainbayar's death was instant and horrific. This was a tragic loss to the family and they all gathered to the family home in Chore. Their extended family and friends in Chore pressured them, using long held superstitions, to use the local Buddhist lama. The eldest sister of Sainbayar, who was now the matriarch of the family, came and tried to take over the planning of his funeral. It was at this time that Sainbayar's son, Saranbaatar, 21 years of age, stood up to the head of the

family and forcefully said, "my father will have a Christian funeral and my pastor is going to preach it." As I have stated before. Mongolia is very much a matriarchal society. This was an amazing act of faith on this young man's part; standing up for Christ. This is not all he did. A few days later the driver of the other truck called and asked to come and speak to the family. When he arrived the matriarch began to scream at him, telling him how much he is hated and that he should die. As it was related to me, Saranbaatar got up in the middle of his aunt's ranting and pulled the driver and his family outside. There he told them that he, his mother, and his sister have peace and do not hate him because they are Christians. He told him that not only had they forgiven him but they also love him. The man and his family stood in silence as Saranbaatar explained how and why they can do this. He then witnessed to them about Jesus' death and payment for their sins.

Over the next year there were many difficult times for this family but they remained faithful in service to God. The wife, Byamba, had to come to UB and testify twice at this young man's trial. Before the court she testified of the family's forgiveness of this young man and why they had forgiven him. Enkhbayar was sentenced to 3½ years in prison. I don't have space to explain how bad a Mongolian prison is. The judge explained to the young man that because of Byamba's testimony of the family's forgiveness, his sentence would be suspended as long as he is never caught drunk again.

Now this brings us to what happened at our Bible School closing. This young man's father came to our service because he wanted to see what kind of religion could cause people to do what Byamba and her family had done. We ended our service with testimonials. Towards the end of our service Byamba got up and testified of how difficult this year was, but she was so thankful for Christ, her Church and the Bible School here in UB. She then recounted the loss of her husband and began to talk directly to the father of the young man who had killed her husband. She explained again to him that she does not hate him or his family and it is because of her faith in God. She had been sitting next to him the entire service and as she sat down he got up and expressed his amazement and thankfulness for her family's forgiveness. He also stated how he had no idea that Christianity was like this.

What a thrill it was to be in such a service, and see how Christ in a person's heart can have such a great impact. Keep these two families in prayer, especially for the salvation of Enkhbayar and his family as they have seen the true love of God.

In 2006, in a small ger out in the middle of nowhere, Sister Badamkhand had no idea how great of an impact her surrender to Christ would have on her family, and an entire community.