

# Gate Breaker News Digest

Matthew 16:18 "I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against



## Donkeys for Jesus in China

The situation became tense. I was standing before a house church in Yunnan Province of China, ready to instruct on the baptism of the Holy Spirit, when it happened.

I had shared on the topic of courage. The church gradually got excited. Then some of our team of twelve gave testimonies or taught. Kyle Rooks ended it by talking about the gifts of Holy Spirit, and then he introduced me.

The moment appeared primed for a Holy Spirit encounter when an elder from the mother church, a Chinese government sponsored Three Self church, ran forward.

He was upset and was speaking loudly in Mandarin. He took my translator and they rushed outside to discuss something. I was left standing awkwardly alone in front of the



church without a translator. Fortunately, my years of foreign ministry experiences have given me a sense of levity, and I made a remark to my team about how missions can sometimes produce precarious moments.

Our team from Boise, Idaho, spent a year preparing for our

(Continued on page 2)

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## Your True Identity

By Susanna Fleming

I belong to the incredibly competitive world of collegiate distance running. They like to call us "student-athletes", but anyone who knows anything about college sports knows that the term should be reversed.

So yes, this means that I run by choice. I run for fun.

Okay - I am a y have just l o s t some of you. Feel free to think I'm crazy. I probably

am a little bit. But I hope we can still be friends.

It takes a certain kind of mentality to be a collegiate distance runner. In a world ruled by the clock, many runners will do almost anything to lower their mile time just a few seconds and get an edge on their competition. My team and I put in miles and miles of strenuous running and spend hours a day lifting weights, icing sore muscles, and doing physical therapy. We also have to pay close attention to our physical state; successful runners understand that adequate sleep and nutrition are imperative to success.

In this all-consuming world, it is admittedly easy to

get a little lost. When it comes to racing, runners find themselves in a constant game of comparison, and I have spent countless hours wishing I were as talented or as fast or as successful as someone else.

The problem with this kind of thinking is that it causes my identity to become wrapped up with my failures and my successes - instead of with my Savior.

Let's consider the topic of identity.

I have begun to realize that many Christians today are in a perpetual state of identity crisis. This is because the enemy has launched a huge attack on identity. He knows that if he can keep us confused in this area, he can prevent us from ever grasping our promises as sons and daughters of God (Galatians 4:6-7).

This whole concept isn't new to me, really. I was raised a (Continued on page 2)

### Inside this issue:

Donkeys for Jesus	1
Your True Identity	1
Meet the Fleming Girls	2
The Wonders of Life	3
Kenya Report	3
Pakistan Mission / October	4
Financial Soundness	4



Our team worshipping at a house church: (L-R) Melissa Ward, Jennifer Glover, Ebie Harris, Baylee Barker, Keila Rooks, Zac Hepworth, Kyle Rooks, Kolby Fuller, Liberty Fleming (in back) Ally Foust, Kenrick Barkell, Stan Fleming

## Donkeys for Jesus in China (Continued)

ministry trip in March to serve Revival Christian Ministries International (RCMI). It is an outstanding ministry. Under the leadership of Pastor Dennis Balcombe, RCMI in Hong Kong has been smuggling much needed Bibles and Christian material into China for decades to meet the large need of the millions that are getting converted to Christianity. One of the greatest resources is the *Shepherd's Staff* produced by World MAP in California. This leadership manual for pastors is equipping Christians all over the world. RCMI refers to all of the Bibles and materials as *the bread*.

One of the strategies of RCMI is to get the bread over the border from Hong Kong into Shenzhen and then distribute it throughout China. Our contact at RCMI, who wishes to remain anonymous, did a great job preparing us for our time in HK, and briefed us on how to carry the bread over the border so that we were not apprehended by the border patrol. One of our team mates was stopped, detained, and had the bread taken away. Overall, however, our days were successful, and we got a van load over the border. Another strategy is to take the bread into China on a long trip.

Though our long trip to Yunnan Province was planned, the opportunity to minister in a house church was unexpected. It was a divine appointment. As I stood alone before the congregation, I wondered what was next. When our awesome guide and translator returned from speaking with the elder, she told me that he did not want me to teach on baptism of the Holy Spirit or tongues since the Three Self church does not endorse this.

It was a tense moment because some RCMI leadership wanted me to teach on that subject and I had just felt prompted from the Holy Spirit to teach on the portions of Acts regarding it. So, I did the only thing I could. I spent a moment and asked the Lord what He wanted me to do.

Then I had it. I asked the congregation to read Acts 1:8 about the power of the Holy Spirit but did not get into the subject of baptism and tongues. The team came forward, and I invited people for prayer who wanted more courage, more power, or healing. People streamed to the front. My powerhouse team was praying prophetic prayers. People got healed, delivered, and even filled with the Holy Spirit.

Later that same night, we ministered at a youth service at the Mother church and many people got touched by God. On our way out of that church, the elder who had

been upset during the day, thanked us for coming and seemed pleased.

Eventually, we learned that we were the first western team with a large group to be invited to do ministry in a Three Self church in that area of China. We were amazed!

The whole experience with RCMI was awesome and gave us a heart for the people of China. I think that many teams should come to help RCMI carry the bread into China. It is a wonderful opportunity to minister, see China, and pray for the people.

## Meet the Fleming Girls



Liberty (left) and Susanna (right) both wrote articles for this news digest.

Susanna is 21 and just graduated with an associates degree from Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Oregon. Liberty is 19 and just finished a two-year intern program from Capital Christian Center. Both will be attending Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, Idaho this Fall.

Both of them are highly motivated and interested in missions. This photo was taken of them in England a couple years ago. Congratulations to both of you.

## Your True Identity (Continued)

pastor's daughter. I fell in love with Jesus when I was three years old, and my passion for him burns deeper the more I come to understand his glory and grace. I know that Jesus loves me, that He created me unique to His heart, and that I live for His glory. These things have been ingrained in my head since birth. But I STILL struggle with identity. And not just when it comes to running. I have to remind myself on a daily basis that my identity has nothing to do with how smart I am or how many

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friends I have or even how often I serve at church. And if I struggle with this, I wouldn't be surprised if others of you struggle as well.

If you think about it, we find our identities in the silliest things. In such a driven, work-oriented society, many people allow themselves to be defined by their chosen professions. The idea that identity is found in vocation is embedded into the American mentality. "What do you want to be when you grow up?" is a common question asked in our society, when in fact it should be: "What do you want to do when you grow up?" There is huge difference between the two. "I am a doctor" or "I am a pastor" can become much more than labels if we aren't careful.

We also often find our identities in the things in which we are successful. As a goal-oriented person, I constantly find myself striving toward perfection. I am pleased with myself if I achieve my goals. Alternatively, if I fail, I consider myself a failure. Both situations are equally destructive, however, because in both cases *I am making it about me*.

If I find my identity in success, I am glorifying myself. And the reality is that no one succeeds all the time. So this type of thinking just leads to pride and disappointment. If I find my identity in my failures, I fail (for lack of a better word) to acknowledge God's grace – and I lose sight of the fact that in my weakness, God is made strong (2 Corinthians 12:9).

I recently had a race of which I am not too proud. The following day, I woke up completely miserable and disappointed. I felt like a failure. But I was quickly reminded that God's love for me hadn't changed, and that, win or lose, I run for His glory.

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*The problem is, if we as Christians are not purposefully finding our identity in the love of God, we will accidentally find it somewhere else.*

It will be found in relationships. Or in profession and salary. Or in performance.

None of these things are bad on their own. Relationships are a gift from God. He wants us to work diligently. And, He wants us to do everything whole-heartedly. But when we find our identity in these things, they turn into idols.

So, instead of dwelling on our failures or our successes, we are supposed to dwell in Jesus' love for us. In John 15:9, "abide" literally means to "dwell". When our identity abides in the love of God, we allow him to work through us. Also, He loves us despite our failures. Despite our selfish pride. There is nothing that we can do to make Him love us any more or any less! It is only in His love that striving ceases. It is only in His love that there is peace.

# The Wonders of Everyday Life Kenya Report

By Liberty Fleming

I believe I can speak for the general public when I say that there is a certain excitement level that is inextricably connected to new things. Even for those who are partial to routine and afraid of change, they would agree that with a new experience comes an extent of fulfillment and joy which counteracts the fear.

Have you ever gone on a vacation where suddenly everything you see is the newest (and therefore coolest) thing you've ever seen? This is how my experience in China was. Things that are seemingly ordinary here in Idaho somehow appeared extraordinary when I was in a different country. Looking back, I realize some things were only exciting for the simple fact that I was in China doing them...because let's be honest, riding a train for over 2 hours everyday and eating chicken feet ARE NOT actually thrilling, contrary to popular belief.

Why is it that as everything seems full of life and unfamiliar on mission trips or vacations, every routine task at home suddenly becomes mundane and pointless? I've come to the realization that it comes down to one simple idea: wonder. The dictionary definition of wonder is "to be filled with admiration, amazement, or awe." It is easy when one is out of their routine lifestyle and experiencing something new to see the amazement in their surroundings and to be more observant than usual. Why is it though that we tend to fail to find this same wonder in our everyday activities? Isn't the same God who produces miracles and speaks on mission trips also the one who set you up at your workplace and in your circle of influence? If God is unchangeable, which He undoubtedly is, it seems reasonable to say that it is entirely our perspective that is inconsistent.

Coming back from China was not an easy transition for me, mainly because I did not understand this concept yet...and to be honest it is a continual learning process. All I wanted to do was go back to traveling and missions because it was all that "made

sense" to me, and I found no wonder in what I was called to in Boise. It wasn't until two weeks of this self pity (including a lot of aggravated conversations with the Lord) that the Holy Spirit put me in check and revealed the following to me: maybe we must find significance and success in the average in order to experience the extraordinary. Maybe the key is digging out the *extra* in the *ordinary*. Maybe the only difference between full time missions and ministry and a week at school and work is the mindset going into it. Maybe if we expect God to move in the same way in math class as He does in an orphanage in Africa nothing will seem average and routine. Maybe God puts us in ordinary situations to stretch our faith in expecting something extraordinary from it. If we believe God can take an ordinary person and cause them to do extraordinary things for the kingdom of heaven, why wouldn't He be able to take an ordinary day and make it a day full of wonder?

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I have come to a conclusion that the mission field is simply a state of mind- not necessarily a tangible place. It's a matter of God's power,

our faith, our heart and God's love for people...it is NOT a matter of a specific country, a people group, or a schedule. Therefore, I am a full time missionary already. I will relentlessly pursue God's will and God's people full time, whether I feel like it or not, because this is my career. My commission is the unexplainable joy that comes when someone gives their life to the Lord, my vacation time comes with resting in God, my benefits include perfect love and every fruit of the spirit, and my retirement plan is that of eternity surrounded by millions of people I worked with (coworkers and clients), all loving the same person, desiring the same thing. On earth I will have jobs, school, projects, travel and opportunities, but my career is full time throughout all of it. I am a missionary for the kingdom of heaven and nothing could be more fulfilling.

The biggest things that I have learned from China are that life is beautiful, everyone is seeking truth, and there is a huge call on

Kenya College of Ministry outside of Nairobi is now in its fourth year. Kcom started in 2009 as a vision of various members of Capital Christian Center in Meridian, Idaho. They enlisted my aid, and so GBM and CCC joined forces to accomplish this mammoth task.

As the academic dean and one of the founders, I normally travel to Kenya three times a year to teach and administrate. We have close to eighty pastors that are being impacted. Since my doctoral program was heavy on the practical ministry end, I have incorporated both theology and practical ministry into the program. You can visit the website and have a look around. It is <http://www.kcomonline.org>.

Last December, we had our first graduation of fifteen pastors. They received diplomas, but now they have all entered into a thesis program to earn a degree.

The impact is not just on pastors but on their congregations which amounts to thousands of people. The reason for the impact is because of the practical ministry aspect of the program. Like other Bible colleges, Kcom requires a high level of theological study and understanding, but unlike most other Bible colleges, Kcom requires pastors to apply what they are learning to their churches. For instance, each course requires a completed project. The pastor can choose from three options. In way of example, one of the options of the world missions course, is to create a mission's program at their church. The practical approach is transforming their churches and bringing about vision, salvations, and impact to communities. Please pray for the success of Kcom and for me because there is a lot of work associated with Kcom.



December, 2012, graduation. I am on the far right. Dr. Evans Baiya is on the far left. Dr. Bill Graybill, Pastor Ken Wilde, and Harun Baiya are also present.

(Continued on Page 4)

# Pakistan Mission Trip in October



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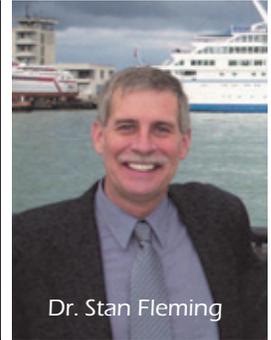
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Questions: For inquiries regarding articles and topics of interest, please email me.

Prayer requests: Send us your need and we will pray for it.

Board Members: Cary Chrisman, Stan Fleming, Ron Hamel, Larry Starke



Dr. Stan Fleming

# Financial Soundness

What does it mean to have financial integrity? One definition of integrity is "adherence to moral principles, honesty". Another idea could be "the integrity of a ship's hull". It's soundness while sailing on the high seas.<sup>1</sup>

In recent years our U.S. economy has been rocked by corporate and government financial scandals, and we have even seen some of this in churches.

Christians, Christian ministries and organizations should have honesty in financial dealings. Our hull - our character - should be sound, above reproach, even when the waves of lack or challenge are swirling around.

I want to take a few moments to share with you about the financial accountability and responsibility of GBM.

When I started Gate Breaker Ministries in 2007, I did so believing that the Lord was calling me to do it. I still believe that today. I am so thankful for the people that financially

support GBM. It is because of these monthly contributions that I am able to run GBM and that GBM was able to establish ministries in Pakistan and Kenya and to impact people in other countries as well as the United States. It is not lost on me that this is a great gift from God.

The financial accountability of GBM has three aspects to it. First, there is an annual review of the contributions and expenses by the board of Gate Breaker Ministries. It is this board that allocates salary and considers the expenditures of ministry activities. Second, each year, a CPA reviews the financial activities of the ministry. Finally, as a non-profit ministry, GBM is required to file a 990 tax form to the government.

Like many ministries, GBM faces financial challenges at times. Yet, we try to extend the resources as far as we can, in accordance with the leading of the Holy Spirit.

GBM sends finances each month to support multiple ministries in Pakistan. We have six GBM PAK Sewing training centers that train over 100 women daily. Most of these are disadvantaged Christian women, but some are Muslim women who are being transformed by the love of Jesus. There is GBM Hope School for slave children in which over 30 children are getting a chance to receive an education. We

have Light City Church that was started in 2011. There are over 150 people, many whom have received the Lord since then. We also support widows and worthwhile ministries there.

Though income from sales of GBM books and DVD's does not amount to much, GBM is sometimes asked to give its resources to people or churches. Also, GBM has been a huge supporter of Kenya College of the Ministry in the past four years by contributing various resources, as well as all of the time that I have been able to teach there.

As eluded to earlier, a ministry's hull - financial character - should be sound. At GBM, we do our best to guide the ministry towards the desired port to which the Lord has called us with what He has provided for us through the contributions of His people. No ministry is perfect, but we press on to accomplish the most we can with what we have received to bring glory to the Lord.

Thanks to all of you who have given to GBM over the years. You are impacting people around the world with your faithful giving. Please remember them in your prayers.

If you have any questions or advice to increase the financial strength of GBM, please let me know. Thank you for caring.

Dr. Stan Fleming

## Endnotes

1. The Free Dictionary by Farlex, [www.thefreedictionary.com](http://www.thefreedictionary.com), [Dictionary.reference.com](http://Dictionary.reference.com)

## The Wonders of Everyday Life (Continued)

each of our every day lives. I am determined to find wonder in the "normal" things of life and to constantly watch God on the move. Everything should be intensely spiritual and perfectly natural, and that's how I intend to live. I cannot wait for future opportunities to travel and see the world but in the meantime I look forward to watch how God is changing lives every single day. I encourage you to take a look around you today and see the wonder that surrounds you...nothing in life can appear ordinary if this becomes a habit.

Would you like your financial investment in Christian ministry to make a real difference in extending the Kingdom of God on the earth? One of the greatest needs in the world today is for the church to bring the light of the Gospel into Muslim cultures.

In October of this year, I will be going for the 3rd time to Lahore, Pakistan. It is the second most Islamic dominated country in the world.

I could really use

your prayers and financial support for the ministry there. The area that I will be ministering in is considered by some mission experts to be the most unreached place per Christian worker in the entire world.

In this region, the Punjab, GBM now has six sewing training centers for disadvantaged women, a school for slave children, a church plant and a growing influence among various churches and leaders.

**Prayers:** Please pray that I am able to obtain my entrance visa, organize all of the ministry, have the strength needed for the mission, have the Lord's anointing and power to minister, and receive the provision to provide for everything necessary.

**Finances:** Please give for the many outreaches, pastor seminars, sewing center graduation / seminar, ministry in the sewing centers and school for slaves, as well as the potential large gatherings for preaching and healing meetings. If finances permit, I will start our 2nd school for slave children.

Thanks so much. God bless you!

## Website

Please visit the website for updates, articles, donation options, book orders, email, and other terrific things.

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