

OUR CHRISTMAS POEM FOR YOU

There's lots of reasons that we'd like,
To be with you at Christmas time,
And as this thought now comes to me,
It's inspiring this Christmas rhyme!

I guess, to most, Christmas is
The most special time of year,
And you're so special, too, you know,
Your voice we'd like to hear!

And we could sing together,
And praise our Saviour's birth,
So thankful we can share this love,
That He brought down to earth!

For without the birth of God's own Son,
Who grew up in Galilee,
There'd be no Christmas anywhere,
Why put up a Christmas tree?

Why eat and drink, and decorate?
Or rejoice for gifts received?
Why, we can't really celebrate,
If actually we don't believe!

Just His birth has taught so much,
As we remember how He came,
So quiet, simple, and tenderly
But Mary knew His name!

God's simple Truth came down to earth,
And simply was revealed,
And with a silent shining star,
The mystery was concealed!

So that all those who seek can find,
If they follow in its light,
If we only venture out into,
The stillness of this night!

And if one knelt beside a manger,
They shouldn't be surprised,
If they'd see the love of God,
In a baby's eyes!

And one would walk away from there,
Knowing they'd been changed,
For there inside a dirty stable—
This place that God arranged—

Was born a King, The King of Kings!
You can imagine how,
God loved His newborn Son that night
His plan to free us now!

And, oh, such love we're here before,
Or ever since, has been,
The day God sent His only Son,
To be born and dwell with men!

We're so thankful of this one thing,
That this year we can share,
Whether near, or very far away,
This baby, tender, fair!

Who, born in both your heart and mine,
Unites us especially now,
So that we feel so close to you,
Like you were here somehow!

Merry Christmas, let's shout and sing,
And awake the living dead!
And let them know this time of year,
God's love we're here to spread!

And like the hosts of angels,
To shepherds did rejoice,
Let's remind the world once more,
Through us they'll hear God's voice!

Proclaiming that His Son is born!
And peace for men on earth!
Oh, Jesus, you're alive and live!
We've found in you rebirth!

—by Seek

BRIGHTEST AND BEST OF THE SONS OF THE MORNING

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us Thine aid!

Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid!

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;

Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.

A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

There was a little Baby once
Born upon Christmas Day;
The oxen loved His lullabye
As in His crib He lay;
His tree, it was a lonely tree;
That stood upon a hill,
Its candles were the mighty stars
That shine upon us still;
His toys were flocks of little lambs,
He loved to see them play;
It is for Him we are so glad,
Now upon Christmas Day.

—by Christine Chandler

A Fare-Free Visa Venture!

MIRACULOUS PROVISION OF FOOD, HOUSING, BUS & PLANE FARES ON LONG VISA TRIP!

From Silas & Faith; S.E. Asia:

GRAY: WHY I WANT TO GIVE YOU THE LATEST NEWS FROM THIS FIELD, as well as tell you about some mighty miracles the Lord did for us & thru us.

WITNESSING & WITNESSING in surrounding towns has been very inspiring & fruitful. Recently the Lord provided all our needs on two trips to surrounding towns where we were able to feed many sheep. Altogether we gave out over 20,000 pieces of lit, & the mail response from those towns has been great because they were never hit before.

ALSO, THE LORD DID LOTS OF MIRACLES FOR US when our visas were up & we had to make a 3,600 km. journey to get them renewed. As our last visa trip had been quite exhausting with long bus rides, money stolen, etc., we prayed for an extra easy trip this time.

ON THE WAY TO THE BORDER WE STOPPED TO SEE & ENCOURAGE A SWEET GIRL who had fallen in love with us 2 years ago in another town. She was so happy to see us & jumped for joy that we still love her & care about her. We told her how Jesus, the good shepherd, never loses his sheep, even if they are somewhat stray, & that He'll get them back in the end.

SHE WAS VERY TOUCHED BY THIS & WANTS TO READ THE BIBLE & LETTERS MORE. GBH! While staying in this town we also were able to hit the morning market & get our 5,000 pieces of lit, as well as lead a sweet lady to the Lord. The Lord provided all our food & a beautiful hotel room.

OH, I FORGOT TO MENTION THAT WHEN WE LEFT OUR HOME we only had enough money to get to this first town, but

we were clinging to the Lord's promises. From there the Lord provided free bus fares to the capital city where we arrived just in time for Sunday fellowship.

WE SAW MANY BELOVED FACES which was a big blessing for us, as we don't get to see the brethren very often. One of the Homes gladly took us in & fed us, GBH, and the next morning we were in desperate prayer for a solution to our financial problem. We received that we should step out by faith & provision a flight from this country's air force to the border, as they have regular flights going there.

SO, EXPECTING MIRACLES WE WENT TO SEE THE CAPTAIN IN CHARGE OF THE FLIGHTS, & a real fight of faith began. He really got fascinated by the Spirit & wanted to help us, but said he would have to ask higher officials first; and since they were not there he told us to come back later.

THE LORD TOLD US: "All things are yours in Christ Jesus," & we continued to stand there expectantly when the captain suddenly said, "Okay, you come tomorrow & I'll give you 2 seats!" Hallelujah! A real miracle!

THE NIGHT BEFORE WE HAD ALSO ASKED THE LORD TO SUPPLY a certain amount of money which we figured we needed for the last part of our journey, & walking into a shop & asking for help, the Lord opened the hearts of the manager who gave us exactly what we prayed for.

OUR FLIGHT LASTED ONLY 3 HOURS compared to the 16-hour trip it would have taken us to go by train. As soon as we landed we went to see the captain in charge of the flight back, & he was glad to help us

& give us the dates for the planes to leave, letting us decide when we wanted to return. Hallelujah!

SO FROM THERE IT WAS JUST A 4-HOUR BUS RIDE TO THE BORDER where the Lord did another miracle. You are usually not allowed to enter the neighbouring country without a lot of money, but since we just didn't have it the Lord touched the heart of the head of immigration who let us in without it. TTL!

THE SAME EVENING WE ARRIVED IN A TOWN WHERE SOME CHRISTIANS whom we had met before invited us to stay with them for the next 3 days. It was lots of fun, especially for the children, staying in their beautiful house with a nearby playground.

WHEN WE CROSSED THE BORDER AGAIN & returned to the town where we were to catch our flight, we provisioned a room at the fanciest hotel in town. Then, having to wait 2 more days for the plane back, a sweet Buddhist couple whom we met provisioning food invited us to stay at their house. And during our stay there we were able to witness a lot to them. They were amazed at the loving behaviour of our children & GBH, the fact that our oldest, Gabi, speaks quite a bit of the local language. They really fell in love with us.

WHEN OUR FLIGHT LANDED BACK AT THE CAPITAL, there was a big storm which flooded the streets & made it impossible for us to go to one of the Homes. But the Lord provided a hotel for us to stay in. The next day we provisioned our fare back as well as a ukelele for Gabi, & we headed for home. Hallelujah! So the Lord certainly answers prayer & takes care of his own. PHH! Amen! GBH! He never fails—if we trust!

More On SINGAPORE!

Responses to the article "Island Secret Confirmed" in Mag 41!

From Shem & Zael, VSE in SEA:

Dearest Dad, Maria & Peter:

DAD, YOUR LETTER "ISLAND SECRET" SPEAKS FOR ITSELF & gives a clear & concise picture of the spirit of the city & methods we should use in reaching it. We don't feel that Corny & Nekoda's letter "confirms" your dream or will "help you understand it", as their interpretations & opinions are misleading & inaccurate. They may not feel led to be there & perhaps feel it is "hard to be a missionary here". However, this doesn't mean the field is unfruitful.

SINGAPORE IS A VERY EXCITING & INTERESTING FIELD for those who feel called to reach this "Gem of Asia". We thought some quotes from the Letter "Go Ye" about Monte Carlo & Geneva could also very well apply to the situation in Singapore:

"DON'T FORGET THAT THE RICH PEOPLE ARE A PITIFUL MISSION FIELD TOO & there are only certain kinds of people that can reach them. I think to take a top Ffer away from the Monte Carlo ministry for example & stick her out in the jungle singing to the Hottentots would be a little bit ridiculous, that's my opinion. These are very important fields, especially the type of people we're reaching now thru FF'ing. (Maria: They've had tremendous success there & they're also getting tremendous support, not only success in souls but success monetarily, also...)" ("Go Ye" No. 806:1,3.)

METHODS OF OPERATION IN SINGAPORE INCLUDE DTD, underground witnessing, mail ministry follow-up, singing with children, & FF'ing—of which escorting is one part. FF'ing is good here & escorting has proven very fruitful in souls, friends & funds—which have been used to support not only a lot of the work in Singapore, but also brethren & LIT-PICs in poorer fields in SEA.

SINGAPORE SERVES AS A BORDER BASE for brethren renewing their visas, purchasing needed supplies & raising funds to take back to their respective fields. One point we want to bring up is that CBN's mentioning specifics such as the name of the escort agency is unwise & could cause problems.

ESCORTING IS VERY FRUITFUL ON THE WHOLE, & the sisters involved are trying to witness & go according to the Letters. I personally have done some escorting in Singapore & Thailand & found it fruitful & inspiring generally.

WE DO LOVE CORNY & NEKODA & did work closely with them when they first came to Singapore from Nigeria. We pray that they learn to work more closely with others.

(Well, TTL! GBY all!—Ha! Need more be said? I think that pretty well covers the subject & is certainly an excellent profile of the field that was in question, but no more!—Sorry, C/N, but no one seems to agree with you on Singapore! So let's get on with it!—Amen! TTL!—D.)

From Serena, Ffer in Singapore & childcare helper of Shem & Zael:

I'VE WORKED FOR THE ESCORT AGENCY MENTIONED in CBN's letter for 1½ years off & on between seeing regular fish & friends & working with children, & never in that time have I had to go to bed with anyone I didn't want to. Besides all the good, long-term fish & friends I've met thru the agency, it's been a blessing to keep some lonely guys company & give them some love, & they in turn show their appreciation. GBT.

"If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things?" (1 Cor. 9:11) I'm certainly not "afraid to witness" & in fact, the owner of the agency has nicknamed me "Preacher Woman"!—And he still continues

to give me plenty of bookings, TYJ!

I'D LIKE TO SHARE A COUPLE OF POSITIVE TESTIMONIES of changed lives of men I've met thru escorting: K., a dedicated Muslim was so inspired by & admired our dedication & love for the Lord that he took Mark, me & my son Nathan on a costly visa trip—all for free & has also been a good & faithful supporter since. R., a young Singaporean who owns a toy shop, got saved & has donated toys not only to our Home but also quite a large amount for Indonesia. He's also helping us with our printing jobs now! M., a sweet Malaysian, received Jesus & has been a real blessing to the work financially. He too took Mark & me on all-expenses-paid visa trips.

IN THE ARTICLE "ISLAND SECRET CONFIRMED" IN MAG 41 there was a reference to me, Maresha, stating that I had been in Singapore doing escort work & had gone on to Hong Kong where I had collapsed in the hospital due to gonorrhea. That is not true. I was in Singapore, & I did go to Hong Kong, but I never had gonorrhea much less spend two months in the hospital.

I WAS VERY HURT that one of my brethren would lie so blatantly about me to the whole Family.

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"Island Secret" Nationals Carry On!

BEHIND-THE-SCENES DISCIPLES TRAIN NATIONALS TO CARRY ON THE ABOVE-GROUND WITNESSING!

From Psalms; S.E. Asia:

HEL GBY! WE'VE HAD SOME GREAT VICTORIES HERE ON THIS ISLAND due to the efforts of on-fire nationals. Just 3 days ago a group of teenage nationals (making up 6 teams) paired up to hit a housing estate & a shopping centre. They're all at present on vacation from school.

WITH THE POWER OF PRAYER behind them, the young people went out distributing at a shopping centre all by faith. They attacked & reaped 6 souls including the Muslim security guard! Hal! TYJ! This faithful group of teenage nationals—there are about 15 of them—are part of a core group of shepherds under the leadership of our brother Andrew.

IT ALL STARTED ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO when Andrew decided to take Dad's good advice & drop in—right into the church which he dropped out of about eight years ago. He was in a real dilemma about it, but God blessed his decision. He not only began reaping the souls there, but soon he took over the leadership of the Youth Fellowship & became their shepherd.

FINALLY IT WAS AS IF THE STARVING SHEEP HEARD THE VOICE OF THE TRUE SHEPHERD, & from all the sleepy nooks & corners of the church they came to hear the Word as delivered by Andrew under the Lord's anointing.

THEN ANDREW SUGGESTED THAT I DROP IN TOO, to reinforce the Spirit of David in the church. So then the kids learnt some of the music of the Revolution. Anyway, to cut this long story short, the sheep in the church's bible study quickly grew up & are now shepherding their various groups in faith re-



On-fire national Psalms (left) with Maresha in S.E. Asia. She has reaped more than 50 souls per month for the Lord. TYJ!

A FEW WEEKS AGO SOME OF THE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP LEADERS were invited to a mission school to lead an inspirational time. Andrew & the young people did a Holy Ghost sample which resulted in 9 salvations. 70 baptisms of the Holy Spirit & promises from 120 schoolgirls to pray for a "revival" in their school.

SO, THE NATIONALS ARE FINALLY DOING IT HERE ON THIS SUNNY ISLAND, & it's just one explosion after another. TTL! Our little MWN band of nationals is even making its debut before a church congregation soon. The music ministry is beginning to explode, & the kids are really turned on to the songs of the Revolution. TYJ!

OH YES, LAST WEEK THE LORD GAVE US YET ANOTHER 35 SOULS SAVED. These hearts broken with His love included an Iranian who was about to be deported out of the country. He was desperate, fearing that he may be killed if sent back to Iran—we haven't heard from him, but we know that "the Lord will protect him from all evil" & preserve his soul! TYJ! HALLELUJAH! GBY!

WE EVEN HAVE ONE SISTER, a teacher trainee, who is occasionally sharing with the kids in class instead of teaching their lessons.