



Eagles Mount Adventures
Changing Lives, Challenging Attitudes.

October 2017

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you all! Well, this year is just rushing ahead, so much so that as we were cycling through the streets this week, people were jumping out waving papers advertising their delicious **moon cakes** at us. This can only mean that we are almost at the Mid-autumn festival. Mid-autumn! Wow! Where did summer go?

Our summer was a haze of activity and many, many miles of travel as we spent it in England catching up with some family and friends. It was good to see folk and to have opportunity to share some of the work here. Thank you to everyone we managed to see for your encouragement and support.

Mid-Autumn Festival is one of the four most important Chinese festivals, where families gather to 'moon watch'. Mooncakes are shared. They are made from thin pastry with a sweet filling and traditionally have a whole salted egg in the centre as a symbol of the full moon.



We want to especially thank you all for your prs over the past months for John's family. We were able to spend some quality time with his mum and share about HIS great love for her. After struggling through a difficult period of cancer his mother appeared to find her peace with her Maker and we were very grateful to have been at her bedside as she peacefully passed away. We were thankful to have been there at this time and able to support John's father and family through a difficult time. We would value your ongoing prs for his father as he now lives alone. Also for my parents as they all grow older, sometimes it is not easy being so far away.

Ben and Rachel gradually warmed to England! They were able to attend an excellent camp in the Lake District with their cousin, Pip. They loved the activities but we were very encouraged as they both shared how much they enjoyed the Sptual input. They enjoyed spending time with their grandparents and had many fun outings. They also learnt to sail and now hope to find somewhere here that they can continue; however, our area is not known for sailing! Still with Gd all things are possible. ☺

Since returning home to China they have settled down to online school again in preparation for their iGCSEs this year. Please remember them as it is not always easy to sit alone and be motivated for study. Ben, in particular struggles with written English, but we are pleased he is now getting extra support through the school.

I am preparing to share at a national Ch conference for counsellors. The theme for this year's 10th anniversary is 'Soul Connection'. I will be training on 'Sandtray therapy' and although I am prepared I still feel a little anxious that it is well received and would value your prs for good communication skills.

There will be over 300 people attending. Please pr for protection and safety as so many likeminded counsellors, Pstrs, Drs and therapists gather - the vast majority being local.

After training, I attend 3 final weeks of my counselling course with 'Living Wholeness' (LWTP) and hopefully graduate in November. EMA team member Doreen is currently half way through the same course and is learning lots of new skills as well being able to sit with brothers and sisters and journey with them through their difficulties. Please remember Doreen as she studies, language is sometimes not easy for her as she works in Mandarin and English but with a Cantonese brain (being from Hong Kong)!

Once again EMA have been invited to run a Marriage Enrichment course for the local Ch. Many couples are realising the need for leaning skills on how to survive, thrive; to have joy and laughter in the relationship as well as continued love each other and for Him. This is an area we feel passionate about, although not necessarily the most equipped to teach in another language. Our Pr is to have a small group of local couples who we can train to take these courses over. Pr for His leading on this.

Xiao Bo, Caryn's foster boy, is doing well and gaining weight. He is now 4 months old. Please Pr total healing of his thalassemia and that he can quickly find an overseas adoption family.

We now have an "official" Deaf support team at Ch! This means we oversee arranging interpreters each meeting and for implementing more sign language courses for other Ch members. Yesterday we had a Ch picnic and we were encouraged that 5 new Deaf friends joined us. Then in the evening another Deaf young man attended. Please Pr for the Deaf community. My Brazilian friend, Pollyanna, has commenced a self-defence course for the Deaf which has proved very popular and after sessions they get to share great stories of strong giants or men with long hair who lost their strength when they lost their focus! Those attending love the stories just as much as the defence lessons! All seed sowing. PTL!

Over the past two weeks I have been helping Meng Qiu Yu, the mother of the two Deaf boys, come to the city for medical treatment. She has a large kidney stone that is blocking her ureter and causing great pain. She has now had 2 treatments of ultrasound and the stone appears to be breaking. Our pr is it will breakdown enough to be passed, if not she will need expensive laser treatment. So, we all hope the stone will be rolled away! Please Pr for her.



She has also been told that as Jia Cheng is now 8 yrs. Old, he may not be able to continue at his current school. There are very few options available to him so please Pr for guidance on this, whether to attend a totally Deaf school or try in a normal school setting.

As we return home here in China we also are led again to think about what is our role here now. Over the years, we have seen so many changes. One big one for us is the change in attitude to camp work. When we started over 20 yrs. ago locals could not understand why we would bother teaching the children to play, "it is not important" was the cry! We frequently heard, "more maths, Chinese and English lessons is what children require".

Since those days, the Chinese education system has realised how important it is for children's overall development that they get to play and explore and learn through mediums, camps being one of them. Years ago, we were the only ones running camps.

Now most schools and other NGOs hold their own camp programmes and we have had the joy of **training** many in how to implement camp programmes for their groups, Chs, Sunday schools, NGOs etc. Over the summer the EMA assisted some camps for other NGOs who have been trained and just needed someone to be there to assist and critic in order to improve. It has been so humbling to witness them taking small steps and growing in confidence to becoming awesome camp leaders. PTL.

So now, where does that leave us? We are still working alongside groups to assist their camp programmes. We are meeting locals and oversea Mssn workers on a one on one for counselling and Sptl direction.

Much of our focus during this important year is also on our own children. We feel that Ben and Rachel have taken a backseat over years of Mnsty and now they need help with schooling we should be here for them. Next year we also must make more decisions on their further education.

Hua is working with the Deaf community in a great way. Doreen is improving her counselling skills and has a heart for bringing the lost into her home for fellowship. We are looking at whether to open a 'consultancy office', which would basically mean we do what we are doing: Training; camp support; village visitations; assisting medical needs for minority groups; Deaf awareness; counselling; Pr and Sptl direction for all, but we would have a stronger base to work from.

The Gvnt is again bringing new restrictions on overseas workers, one of the main ones is being able to access funds from overseas. Again, we do not worry but continue to seek Him for leading and guiding.

With much thanks for your pr support. Please continue to pr for

- **John's father and health of aging parents**
- **Ben and Rachel's studies and future options**
- **The National Counselling Conference**
- **Claire's completion and graduation of LWTP (Counselling course)**
- **Doreen as she studies LWTP as she starts her practical assignments**
- **Marriage enrichment course**
- **Meng Qiu Yu (Kidney Stone)**
- **Xiao Bo (Healing from thalassemia and overseas adoption)**
- **The work with the deaf community (Led by Hua)**
- **Future direction or EMA**

Claire and the EMA team