

Remember Mongolia



PRAYER BULLETS:

- *Pray that all four of us will maintain a consistent and passionate walk with Jesus*
- *Pray the daily routine of school and language learning (Galatians 6:9)*
- *Pray for the leadership training class every Thursday night in our home*
- *Pray for the girls Bible study that Renee' is holding for the girls of our church every other Saturday.*
- *Pray for the raising up of Godly men who will be servant leaders in the Church.*
- *Pray for God's provision, leading and timing for a Ministry Center in Ulaanbaatar.*
- *God's provision in our vehicle fund*
- *Wisdom for us and our Field Leadership Team as we will soon be clarifying our ministry assignment*

What a Difference a Day Makes

It was nice while it lasted. For just over two weeks the police force had a reprieve. Crime, especially theft, was down. Traffic accidents were down. Domestic violence was down. For us, it meant less time sitting in traffic and shorter lines at the grocery store. If you read our holiday blog, you may have a clue, but even if you did, you may still be scratching your head as to what we are talking about.

On New Year's Eve about a dozen people died and over a hundred were hospitalized for alcohol poisoning. The government took quick and swift action. By New Year's afternoon all alcohol sales were stopped – indefinitely. Until there was a thorough investigation of how the vodka was poisoned, they weren't taking any chances.

Then, as quickly as it disappeared, it returned and it was quickly evident. For two

weeks we didn't have to hold our breath while watching drunks stagger across the busy highway. We didn't have to continually divert our eyes while they relieved themselves on the sidewalks. Now all the bars are open again and we didn't realize how much traffic they created. Cori stood in line at the store for 15 minutes to pay for a coke and a head of lettuce. Two days before she could have gone straight to the front of the line.

This week, ironically, we learned a new Mongolian phrase which means "place of relaxation." The two examples for this phrase are discos and bars.

So, why is this the topic of our newsletter? There is a sense in which alcohol is to Mongolia what AIDS is to Africa. It is the problem that left unchecked could destroy the nation.

Of History, Men and Mongolia

This past Saturday we went to Bernie's teacher's home for the traditional Tsagaan Tsar meal. The government was recommending that Mongolians not use vodka in their celebrations this year. Vodka was available on the table but the traditional toasts were not done. This may be because our host is a police officer and he had an up close and personal look at what life is like without it. The two week prohibition was almost like a vacation for him.

Our intent here is not to enlighten you on the consequences of alcohol. We've told you about corpses found every year of men (and women) who fall into the snow, too intoxicated to get up, thus freezing to death.

There are beggars in the city who are missing appendages because of frostbite received while in an intoxicated stupor. Some of you know firsthand other destructive consequences of alcohol addiction.

What we want to do is to help you understand the history of Mongolia and why this is not only a societal problem, but a church problem and a problem relating

directly to the men of Mongolia.

When Russia entered Mongolia in 1921, the communist regime used vodka as a weapon. Mongolians have always liked to drink, but their liquor was very mild and vomiting would most likely precede overly-extreme intoxication. The Russians, however, plied the men with vodka as a method of submission. Drunkenness doesn't promote a threatening coup d'état.

Before the Russians, the Chinese took a more subtle approach. Tibetan Buddhist monks were sent into the land. Soon a majority of Mongolian men became lamas. They don't harm insects, much less anything else. It takes men out of the workplace, as well. Over the years, women have pretty much done it all. Even now, except at the very top tiers of government, most white collar workers are women. Men drive taxis and lay brick. It has been told to us that various curses have been placed on the men here as well.

From an evangelistic standpoint, believers here have much work before them. The challenge goes beyond breaking intoxication. The Gospel must break strongholds that have held the men of Mongolia in their grip for centuries. Pray for the men of Mongolia.





CALLING FAITHFUL MEN:

*Come and join the reapers
All the kingdom seekers
Laying down your life
To find it in the end
Come and share the harvest
Help to light the darkness
For the Lord is calling
Faithful men*

Ten years ago, this Twila Paris song was released and made it's way into the Missions Conferences of many Alliance churches. It was a fitting way to close several days of meeting together to hear of God's work in foreign lands.

It is a call we now find ourselves making continually here in Mongolia. In 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul exhorts Timothy to entrust his message to faithful men. Here we are in desperate need of such men.

The weak who are strong

Mongolia Needs Men

“(Men) of whom the world is not worthy...” (Hebrews 11:38) Every time I read Hebrews 11, I am inspired. Even though the men and women of this chapter have many backgrounds and experiences, there is one thing they all have in common. These are men and women of faith. They are all heroes not merely because of what they accomplished and how they endured in this life, but because the manner in which they conquered was by faith.

Up until this point in my life, I've always taken the inspiration found in this passage for myself. I want to be a man of faith, so I read this with personal application in mind. And while this doesn't change really, I am now reading this passage with a greater longing. I long for Mongolians who will grow to be faithful men.

My intention here is not to be sexist. But I am intentionally saying “faithful men” and not “faithful men and women”. The Mongolian church has many Godly and faithful women serving the body of Christ, for which I thank God and I pray they grow and abound.

But the reality is that the Mongolian church is in desperate need of faithful men. Men who will see Jesus as a greater king than Gengis Kahn. Men who will treasure Jesus more than sex and alcohol. I pray for men who will learn to be lovers of God and His Word. That these same men will think deeply about truth and boldly proclaim the Gospel. I pray for courageous men who are willing to follow Jesus down the Calvary Road. Men who are willing to suffer for the sake of the Gospel they proclaim, even to the point of spilling their blood like water for the sake of that which is greater than themselves. I long for

the day when the Mongolian church will be filled with men who show their greatness by serving and who glory in humility; men who always do justly, love mercy and walk humbly with their God (Micah 6:8). I pray for men who are strong and powerful - not because they are able to knock the teeth out of another man - but because they know that strength and power come from outside of themselves; men who know real Holy Spirit power. Men that never quit, even when they sometimes fall, because they have learned that His strength is made perfect in their weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

As I think of men like this, I think of Hudson Taylor's words. “*God uses men who are weak and feeble enough to lean on Him*”.

God grant Mongolia men like this. Faithful men, entrusted with a treasure, who are able to teach others faithfulness. (2 Timothy 2:2)



Partner Page

We are actively seeking individuals, churches and Districts who would like to partner with our ministry and with the C&MA in Mongolia. We believe that partnerships take on many shapes and sizes and we are asking each of you to prayerfully consider what a partnership with Mongolia might look like for you! This page of our newsletter will always contain information and ideas for practical ways you may partner with us or with the field. You may always view all of the Mongolian Field partnership opportunities at www.camamongolia.org.

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Immediate need!

Language School is coming to an end! In June, we are finished. At that time our work in the city will begin. It will soon be very important that we maintain a reliable vehicle. It is also important to have a vehicle that can withstand the rugged nature of roads in Mongolia. Even in the city, roads are often potholed and rough.

Over the next **six to twelve months** we need to raise \$12,000 for a vehicle. Would you pray with us for God's provision for this need? If you feel that God is directing you to give for this, send a designated gift to *Bernie and Renee' Anderson Vehicle Special*. Watch this spot and see how God is providing for this need. We will reveal more of our car as the money is raised! Thank you for your partnership with us!

Amount needed: \$12,000

Amount Raised: \$175



Your regular giving to the Great Commission Fund keeps us along with over 800 other International workers on the field. Thanks for your faithful giving to the GCF!

You can give to each of these by giving through mail, your local C&MA church, or online with the links below using the following designations:

The Christian and Missionary Alliance

PO Box 35000

Colorado Springs, CO 80935

Mark your Donation:

[Bernie and Renee' Anderson Outfit](#) or

[Bernie and Renee' Anderson Work Special](#) or

[Bernie and Renee' Anderson Vehicle](#)

* Monies given to vehicle and outfit will be received for their designations in its entirety. Monies given for Work Special will be assessed a 15% administrative fee prior to coming to the field.



**"... YOUR NAME AND
RENOVN ARE THE DESIRE
OF OUR SOULS"
ISAIAH 26: 8**