

Praise the Lord for His Great Deeds



We welcomed over 150 new mainland students at the beginning of this school year. By the end of the school year, 15 of them had accepted the Lord, and so far seven of them have followed the Lord in baptism. The following is one student, "Em's", testimony:

"Before knowing Jesus, my life was painful and hopeless. My father had a concept of "male chauvinism." Therefore, when his "having a son" wish was made impossible by China's "one child" policy and my mother's social status and salary are much higher than his, he would sometimes beat me during my mom's absence. This was his outlet for his repressed and discontented emotions. When I did something wrong or what I did could not live up to his expectations, he would shout those bitter words at me: 'You're not good enough, stupid,' 'You are doomed to be a loser', etc. When he beat me, I would weep silently and endure the pain alone. My mom would sometimes notice (bruises) on my skin and feel sorry and guilty for me, as neither she (nor my relatives) could change my father's temper. Thus, almost every summer or winter vacation (up to high school), mom either took me to travel when she attended conferences at different cities, or let me stay at her good friend's house, studying and playing with her friend's children. Besides, mom tried her best to let me have a well-rounded education, as she wanted to prove her

daughter would grow up even better than boys. When my grades dropped down at the second year of junior high school, my head teacher told my parents that I was not clever. I felt hopeless and desperate to face my parents, especially my mom. I intended to give up and even (thought about) suicide. Just at that moment, one of my mom's friends came to visit us and noticed my blue mood. I didn't know why I would like to share my sufferings with her, but I did. Then, this auntie, who is an authentic Christian, asked me not to give up, but to hold on to hope, to believe there is a God to help us, and shared some words with me. Then she taught me how to pray. When something unpleasant happens and I needed to ask for help, then God, this heavenly Father, would definitely listen to and answer my prayers.

Guess what, after my appeal to God, my dad's temper became better, and he got a job promotion. My studies improved, too. At the age of 16, I took part in an English summer camp in Hubei Province. I didn't expect that all the American teachers would be Christians, and surprisingly found that my roommate was also a Christian. That summer camp experience positively changed my attitude, to be more optimistic, hopeful and active."

Eventually, Em came to our University and we had the privilege of discipling her. What a joy to just be a part of God's work in these students' lives. Her story can be repeated many times over. Most of these students come to us with almost no understanding of who God is. Yet, they are hungry to find out about what it is all about. Their whole school career they are indoctrinated with atheism and the concept that only ignorant people believe. However, most of them come to us seeing that atheism is a failed belief that only gives despair.

Please pray as we are now planning for next year's crop of new students; for an increase in fruit as our older students take more and more leadership in evangelism and discipling.

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