



Tribute to a Man of God - Dr. T

AN ANNIVERSARY ISSUE TO COMMEMORATE DR. JAMES HUDSON TAYLOR III

Dr. James Hudson Taylor III succumbed to liver cancer and went to be with the Lord at the age of 79 in Hong Kong on March 20, 2009. Dr. Taylor was China Inland Mission (CIM) Founder and the great grandson of Hudson Taylor, the world-renown British missionary to China. Five generations of the Taylor's family have devoted their lives to serve humbly and without reservation in

China for the cause of Christ for almost two centuries. In 1994, when Dr. Taylor was already 65, he founded Medical Services International (MSI) with a Chinese American Professor of Pediatrics and a businessman from Hong Kong. At the 7th CCCOWE Conference held in Macau in 2006, Dr. Taylor had said that he hoped to also die in China. Thousands in the audience

shed tears and stood up to give a standing ovation for his love and commitment to China and the Chinese people. His son, Jamie Taylor, once said if he needs to describe his father in one sentence, it is that "He lived to make a difference". Dr. Taylor had lived a life full of true humility and service. His legacy will live on through the lives that he had touched and inspired.



DR. TAYLOR WITH SON JAMIE AND GRANDSON JT IN JANUARY 2009



DR. TAYLOR NEXT TO A CALLIGRAPHY WRITTEN BY PREMIER WEN AFTER THE SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE IN 2008



DR. TAYLOR WAS NAMED HONORARY CITIZEN BY ZHAOJUE COUNTY IN 2007

In memory of Dr. James H. Taylor III.

I first met Dr. Taylor in 1995 at the beginning of an MSI short term medical trip. With the little I know of Dr. Taylor at the time, I was touched by his genuine love for people around him. His compassion and care for others was simply infectious. Over the years, I have met Dr. Taylor several more times and he left me an ineffaceable impression as an inspiration and a friend. In memory of Dr. Taylor, I would like to share several aspects of his life.

First, Dr. Taylor is a man of vision. Shortly after the communist took over China in 1949, foreign missionaries left the country and churches closed their doors. Dr. Taylor said "some had thought that it was the end of the Chinese church...Yet His thoughts are not our thoughts...His ways are higher than ours." Isaiah 55: 8-9. In 1994, he, along with Dr. Reggie Tsang and Mr. Richard Chen, co-founded MSI. He saw a window of opportunity to channel professionals to serve in China - first in medical, followed by other areas like English teaching and business administration. Dr. Taylor inspired Christian professionals to surrender their lives, not by giving up their professions, but by giving their professions for service. Thanks to his vision and foresight, over 3000 overseas Christians have served in Sichuan and Yunnan, and there are over 60 MSI long-termers making an impact for Christ in China.

Second, he is a man of action. In 2007, when he was 78 years old, he wrote "We only desire that all our strength and all our days will be used for His glory and the extension of His kingdom." Although battling cancer over the last five years, he continued to labor tirelessly, selflessly, and joyfully - in teaching, preaching, testifying, writing, and consulting. In 2008, he twice went to the frontline to visit the Sichuan earthquake zones despite his illness. What an encouragement to the young students and relief workers alike! What a moving and shining testimony!



Dr. David Wong, wife Gloria, children Justin and Alison with Dr. & Mrs. Taylor in 2004 in Toronto

Third, he is a man of love. His great grandfather, Dr. Hudson Taylor once said "If I had a thousand lives China should have them." I believe this statement would also accurately reflect Dr. Taylor's passion and burden. At the 2006 CCCOWE meeting in Macau, he said "I love China. It is my home. Here I was born. Here I grew up. And here I will die." The Lord granted his wish. He loved the Chinese and gave his life serving them with humility and joy to the very end.

In 2004, we had the privilege of having Dr. and Mrs. Taylor stay at our home during a church conference. Despite his busy schedule, he took the time to chat with my children and tell them personal stories that are fondly remembered. It is sad to say goodbye to a dear friend and a mentor. Yet this is also an occasion to celebrate, for he has lived a purposeful, impactful life. He has joined the great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, including forerunners in China like his great grandfather and Robert Morrison. His words, his deeds, and now his death, have left indelible marks in our hearts and will continue to inspire many to follow and emulate. 2 Timothy 4: 7 said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Indeed, these words are a fitting tribute to Dr. Taylor.

Written by Dr. David Wong in 2009

In 2004, we were privilege to host Dr. & Mrs. Taylor in our home during a mission conference in Toronto. Although our time together was brief and their schedule was packed, Dr. & Mrs. Taylor still kindly gave us undistracted, agenda-free time of fellowship. In our sharing which wrapped with laughters, gentleness and grace, Dr. Taylor encouraged us to commit to the centrality of Christ in our lives. We were challenged to reflect on questions like, how do we spend our time? Where



Jeffrey & Alvina Kung with Dr. & Mrs. Taylor

are our treasures? What do we allow to shape our thoughts, attitudes and convictions? These probing questions left a profound imprint in us.

How do you say farewell to a statesman for Christ like Dr. Taylor? Maybe you don't. You say thank you. Thanks for the inspiration and the memories; and the distinguished footsteps that Dr. Taylor had left behind. His legacy lives on and Heaven is looking sweeter with him smiling down on us.



Dr. James Taylor III---Some Good Memory of a Servant Leader (Written by Wichai Tumtaweetikul. Picture with Dr. Taylor, and his wife Wande and daughter Warancha)

The first time I met Dr. Taylor was in 2004 when he visited Thailand. Because of his calibre, he must have met so many people around the world including senior Christian leaders of significant

organizations during that visit. As a result, I did not expect him to remember or recognize me if we would meet again. But I was wrong. In January 2009, when Dr. Taylor spotted me at a conference in Hong Kong, he walked right up to me and extended his hand to shake my hand. And he said he remembered me!

Dr. Taylor was a great servant leader who genuinely cared for everyone including the everyday layman.



I still remember the first time I met Dr. Taylor at the old HK airport in 1998. I was totally distressed by all the stuff that I am bringing into China. I wasn't sure whether they will be detained by the custom officers. I was also distressed by the change of three members in my team to Gulin. I was not able to have Wendy, another pediatrician, to provide me the support I need to do my lecture in Chinese. I was distressed by my insomnia on the flight and still have to greet multiple new faces. I was distressed by chaotic crowdedness at the old airport and still tried to look for the orange ribbon (the marker) on the team members' Luggage. When I was



Dr. Richard Wong

introduced to Dr. Taylor by Po Kee, he said to me, " I have been praying for you and your wife Elaine since the first day that we got your application." It was a simple statement but it was so calming and reassuring when the words came from his mouth. They reflected the spiritual discipline of Dr. Taylor as he served faithfully for God's great commission in China. They are the words of a leader that sought after God's own heart and righteousness. I will surely remember what Dr. Taylor's life was all about. I will always treasure the partnership in serving God with Dr. Taylor. May his passion continue to infect us as we serve our Lord in the MSI ministries. Amen.



Walter Chu with his wife Irene and daughter Agnes



Walter Chu with Dr. Taylor at the Sichuan earthquake site in 2008

WALTER CHU

拋磚引玉 TO ATTRACT JADE BY LAYING BRICKS

THIS IDIOM IS A POLITE EXPRESSION OFTEN USED WHEN GIVING AN OPINION OR DELIVERING A SPEECH. IT MEANS THAT WHAT ONE IS OFFERING IS SOMEHOW LACKING, AND ONE IS IN HOPES THAT OTHERS WILL, SEEING IT, OFFER SOMETHING THAT IS BETTER.

IT WAS ONE OF THE CHINESE IDIOMS THAT DR. TAYLOR USED TO ENCOURAGE US WHEN HE VISITED SICHUAN EARTHQUAKE AREA IN 2008. DR. TAYLOR USED NEHEMIAH AS AN EXAMPLE AND TAUGHT US TO PRAY EARNESTLY; BE PRESENCE AMONG THE PEOPLE AND LOVE IN ACTION WITH A HOLISTIC APPROACH. DR. TAYLOR ALSO REMINDED US TO “拋磚引玉”: IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO INVOLVE OURSELVES BUT WE ALSO NEED TO LAY A “BRICK” – WITHOUT HOLDING BACK AND SETTING AN EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS IN ORDER TO ATTRACT “THE JADE”. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO MOBILIZE MANY MORE LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE. THIS IDIOM KEEPS ECHOING IN MY MIND...

DR. STEPHEN HOH

WHAT HUDSON TAYLOR AND THE TAYLOR FAMILY IN SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS HAVE DONE FOR CHINA AND THE CHINESE PEOPLE HAS NO PARALLEL IN HISTORY. DR. JAMES H. TAYLOR III HAS NOT ONLY CARRIED ON THIS GREAT TRADITION WHICH SPANS ALMOST TWO CENTURIES, BUT ALSO OPENED NEW FRONTIERS FOR THE FUTURE. HE HAS TRULY, AS WE SAY IN CHINESE, 承先启后, 继往开来.



Unit 501, 5920 Iona Drive, Vancouver, BC V6T 1J6 Tel: 604 728-7102 Fax: 604 225-5986

email: info@msicanada.org

website: www.msicanada.org