

building, the congregation stagnates. Laymembers suffer defeat, feeling like second-class citizens. Dr. Wathanga from Nairobi, Kenya, sees the scriptural path.

*Dr. Wathanga:* We don't want them just to draw converts to Christ. We want people to be transformed to the likeness of Christ. We want them to be mature Christians.

*Narrator:* He advises thousands of young people, most of whom will not enter paid Christian service, to surrender their life, time, money, family work, talents, and leisure to Jesus Christ.

*Dr. Wathanga:* Then as they go out, they ask themselves such questions as, "Where is God sending me?" And wherever they go to work, they are not just professionals who happen to be Christians, but are Christians who happen to be professionals—first and foremost, ambassadors to the Lord Jesus Christ.

## LAY MINISTRY TESTIMONY

### Miltinne Yih

*Q.* Miltinne, I understand you became a Christian through some school teachers in Germany during a period of marital stress. What happened?

*A.* I had never felt the need for anyone, outside of myself, until I had been married for one year. It was the first time I felt I couldn't cope with everything happening in my life. Then God brought a Christian couple into our lives that exhibited something I knew I needed. I had only known them for about two weeks and I couldn't stand it, I finally asked them, "What is it about you two that makes you so different?" I still remember their answer. They said, "We have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ." I was flabbergasted. I said, "What else."

*Q.* Thank God for school teachers who know Jesus. You and your husband Lee have an autistic child, what does that mean?

*A.* Autism is a severe form of mental retardation. Our son was born several years after my husband and I became Christians. Many people asked us why would God allow something like that to happen. And I myself asked, "Why would God do something like this? Why to me? Why to my family? Why to my little son?" But as I asked why, I realized I was asking the question. The question is not *why*, it's *who*? Who is in charge? And as I began to understand *God* was in charge, I no longer had to know *why*. God has used this little boy in my life, in my husband's life, and in the lives of many people.

*Q.* How are you involved with seekers and non-believers in Hong Kong?

*A.* I used to think if I got involved with non-Christians they would weaken my faith. But I realized if I was willing, God would use me. And the way he uses me is through natural contacts I have through common interests. For instance, my life at home with my husband and my children provide natural bridges to people.

*Q.* I understand you get acquainted with many parents by helping them with their troubled children. You even did that in Beijing recently. Tell us about that.

*A.* Because of my son, I'm involved in the Hong Kong Association for the Mentally Handicapped. Last summer there was a special education conference in Beijing, and I was invited to attend as one of their members. I wanted to attend because the keynote

speaker was Dung Pu Pang, who is Chairman Dung Chao Pang's son. During the Cultural Revolution, he was thrown from a balcony. He became paralyzed and is in a wheelchair. Because his father is Chairman, he was placed in charge of all the handicapped services.

I began to pray that perhaps God would in some way use an article I had written about our son and how God has used him in our lives. At the conference, as I sat in the Great Hall of the People listening to Dung Pu Pang speak, I felt strongly that I should go up and try to give him a copy of the article.

In the moments before I approached him, I flashed back to ten years earlier when I first heard that my son was handicapped. I remembered asking why this was happening. I could have never imagined that ten years later I would be sitting in Beijing poised to give the son of the chairman an article about Jesus Christ.

God allowed me to give him the article. Later I found out that he lives with his father and his entire family, and they share and talk about everything. I don't know if anything happened, we just do what we can, and God does the rest.

*Q.* A final question: Do you believe that you're where God wants you though you're not a professional Christian worker or, as some say, you haven't been called to full-time Christian ministry?

*A.* Every Christian is in full-time Christian work. Actually, I know many people who avoid vocational Christian workers because they're afraid of being proselytized. Because I am the wife of a stock broker, they do not feel they are in danger when they talk to me or get close to me. With the layman, they can let their guard down. I may not look like it, but I assure you I am "dangerous."

## VIDEO PRESENTATION

# Working— Past, Present, and as Worship

Producer: Cheryl Settoon

Each day, all over the globe, modern Jobs, Lydias, and Josephs are busy at work. They are current reminders that 75 percent of the better-known men and women of the Bible held full-time secular jobs, yet were called and used by God. They are the laity, as important in today's world as in biblical times, since each one of us has a special calling on our lives. Stuart Chen is one such layman who is eager to fulfill his mission. As a businessman from Taipei, he sees the financial growth of his country as an open door for sharing the gospel. He uses business to share his faith in Christ with other countrymen, often from Buddhist backgrounds.

*Stuart Chen:* Taiwan is growing at a tremendous speed economically and materially, so people feel more and more hungry in their spirit. They are searching for something that satisfies the heart.

*Narrator:* In Lima, Peru, Elena and Cesar Pando provide another example of effective laity. Both have their own business. Elena offers spiritual as well as physical food at her restaurant. Her husband, Cesar, gives Bibles to his employees at the fish cannery, and supports a Bible study there. His decision to follow Christ affects even the way he conducts business.

*Cesar Pando:* In business there are always opportunities to cheat, bribe, and swindle, but I learned you don't have to stoop to those activities to conduct business successfully. You can conduct business in a wholesome manner and be satisfied.

*Narrator:* In a remote area of the Philippines, Dr. Sarmiento uses his medical skills to bring light to his part of the world. The doctor treats physical and spiritual needs. While some might be put off by this rugged terrain, Dr. Sarmiento finds great satisfaction working in these mountains.

*Dr. Sarmiento:* After all, the secret of the joy of life is to live for the Lord and to live for other people.

*Narrator:* Concern for their classmates who might never hear of Jesus spurs these Thai students to action. If all Christians reached out to people they come into contact with in their neighborhoods or on the job, half of the world's population would hear the gospel! But that will never happen until the clergy realize that their work is God's plan for them