# Paston's Pen

Lottie Moon

Grace Harvest has always participated in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and this year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> year of our giving to forging missions. The following is an excerpt from the International Mission Board Lottie served 39 years as a missionary, mostly in China's Shantung province. She taught in a girls' school and often made trips into China's interior to share the good news with women and girls. Lottie Moon was passionate about people knowing Christ. It was in the year 1872 when she set sail for China; Lottie was 32 years old. She had turned down a marriage proposal and left her job, home, and family to follow God's lead. Her path wasn't typical for an educated woman from a wealthy Southern family. God had gripped her with the Chinese peoples' need for a Savior.

For 39 years, Lottie labored, chiefly in Tengchow and P'ingtu. People feared and rejected her, but she refused to leave. The aroma of fresh-baked cookies drew people to her house. She adopted a traditional Chinese dress, and she learned China's language and customs. Lottie didn't just serve the people of China; she identified with them. Many eventually accepted her. And some accepted her Savior.

Lottie wrote letters home detailing China's hunger for truth and the struggle of so few missionaries taking the gospel to the 472 million Chinese in her day. She also shared the urgent need for more workers and Southern Baptists to support them through prayer and giving. She once wrote home to the Foreign Mission Board, "Please say to the [new] missionaries they are coming to a life of hardship, responsibility, and constant self-denial." Disease, turmoil, and lack of co-workers threatened to undo Lottie's work. But she gave herself entirely to God, helping lay the foundation of what would become the modern Chinese church, one of the fastest-growing Christian movements in the world. Lottie Moon died at 72 — ill and in declining health after decades ministering to her beloved Chinese.

But her legacy lives on. And today, when gifts aren't growing as quickly as the number of workers God is calling to the field, her call for sacrificial giving rings with more urgency than ever.

Today's China is a world of rapid change. It's home to 1.4 billion individuals – one-fifth of the world's population. Village dwellers flock to modern megacities with exploding populations. And China holds its own in the world's economy. It's very different from the vast farmland Lottie Moon entered in the 1800s. But one thing hasn't changed: China's need for a Savior.

Every Christmas, we join in giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering that helps carry the gospel not just to China but all over the world. Our goal this year is \$5,500. Please pray about what you can do to help reach that goal. When someone asks you what you want for Christmas, tell them to give to the Lottie Moon offering at GHBC.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Quote of the Week

"Why this strange indifferences to missions? Why these scant contributions? Why does money fail to be forthcoming when approved men and women are asking to be sent to proclaim the 'unsearchable riches of Christ' to the heathen?"

-Lottie Moon

Grace Gems

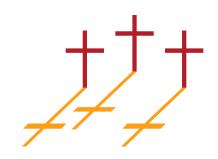
He preached from the bloody tree! (Charles Spurgeon)

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me; because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good news" Isaiah 61:1

"I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent." Luke 4:43

We may profitably note how earnestly our Lord kept to His work. It was His business to preach, and He did preach — He was always preaching! Even His miracles were sermons; they were acted discourses, full of instruction. All of His actions were sermons — He preached by every movement. He preached when He did not speak — His silence was as eloquent as His words! He preached from the bloody tree! With hands and feet fastened there, He delivered the most wonderful discourse . . . on divine justice and on love, on divine vengeance and on grace, on death and on life, on damnation and on salvation — which was ever preached in this poor world!

Oh, yes, He preached — He was always preaching; with all His heart and soul He preached. He wept in secret, that He might the more compassionately preach the gospel which wipes men's tears and sins away. As He walked the streets, He preached as He went along. This was His one calling; and this one calling, He pursued in the power of the eternal Spirit. As our Lord ascended He said, "Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." His charge in brief was — preach, preach even as I have done before you!



Weekly Gatherings



#### **Bible Classes**

New Testament Sunday School Sunday Morning @ 9-9:45 & 10-10:45



## **Weekday Meetings**

Mondays | 7PM Men's Zoom Bible Study



## Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM
Teaching Series (Online Only)



#### **Build the Body Teams**

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



#### **Youth Study**

Wednesdays @6:30PM Youth Study AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



#### Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 12/06/2020

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
 AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
 Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
 Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
 Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
 Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
 Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
 Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
 Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org
 Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
 Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
 Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org
 Security-security@ghbcva.org



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Dec 13, 2020