

China Cry

The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.” Matthew 12:35-37 ESV

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. Romans 14:11-12 ESV

Above all, love one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. 1 Peter 4:8 ESV

Sun Neng Yee (Nora Lam) was born into a life of privilege and prosperity. When the Japanese invaded China her life changed dramatically. Her family was stripped of their possessions and forced to leave their beautiful home with only a few suitcases and the clothing that they were wearing. Even though they lost their possessions they stayed strong as a family.

Imagine having to walk away from your home with nothing but a suitcase. How would you feel?

When the communists took over China they closed churches in order to get rid of Christianity. Nora became a supporter of Chairman Mao and excelled as a student. She boasted to her parents that she would become a “big potato” in the communist party to which her mother replied, “You were not raised to be a potato.”

What were you raised to be? What values are important to you and your family?

Nora’s father was falsely accused of stealing a large sum of money from the hospital. Once again the family was evicted from their home. When she graduated from college the third highest in her class she believed that she had earned the respect of the communists. When she took a teaching position the communist party began interrogating her because of her wealthy background and Christian education.

Have you ever been falsely accused of anything? Have you known someone else who has?

Although she was a communist party supporter the pressure of her interrogation and the memories of the past brought her back to the faith she learned as a child in a mission school. When she faced a firing squad, a sudden windstorm saved her from death. Nora’s faith grew when she was forced to write the history of her life. Although she had not remembered God, He remembered her and loved her.

The Bible tells us that each of us will have to give account of our lives. What kind of account will you give?

To the lieutenant, all of life was a competition that he needed to win. Instead of caring about the truth, his goal was to wear Nora down and defeat her. God provided a way of escape from the suffering and pain. When she was finally granted permission to leave, the lieutenant, now promoted to colonel said, “Please, take your God with you. Tell him it is his last chance to escape before he is locked away in a museum.” Nora replied, “To do that Colonel, you would have to imprison the wind.”

As a Christian Nora experienced many miracles that finally enabled her whole family to leave China and live in freedom. In the years since the movie was made, Nora has spoken boldly about God’s love and the grace that was granted to her family. Although life was difficult in China, she never lost hope that God would deliver them. Since leaving China she has returned many times for mission trips.

Have you felt God’s presence in your life? In what ways?

Dear Lord, we thank you for the gift of Your love and grace. Protect and guide us no matter what happens in the world today. There are many people who suffer all over the world. Give peace and comfort to Your people. Show us how we can make a difference in the world for good. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.