

Kingdom Expansion Ministries



Sami



Hello Everyone,

During the month of June, we had some visitors from China. Two young ladies who are studying in Norway came to stay with us for a couple of days. They shared their story with different cell groups in the area. They talked of the persecutions by the police that only happen to those that follow Christ. In China, they are allowed to meet in homes if it is a small group. But if it is a large group then they are subject to beatings and imprisonment. Many of the pastors have spent time in prison. Each person is taught how to run if they get word the police are coming. One person will be the look-out and that person will call on a cell phone to the leader to warn the group. All other the cell phones are turned off and cards removed so the police don't see all the signals from the phones in one location. Most of the people don't have the money to pay for doctors so many have come to the fellowship to receive their healing. And there they are healed.

These girls are part of the Heavenly Man's fellowship. The Heavenly Man, as he is known by many, was imprisoned by the police for his faith. Just like Paul, he was released by God's hand. He fled the country by God's miraculous plan and lives free in Germany now.

Through all the persecution, the Chinese's Christians stand strong in their faith. They will tell you that they don't want you to pray for the persecution to stop but pray that their faith will increase. We were so touched by their love for God and their commitment to surrender all for Him; even their lives. In many counties, we have the freedom to worship and speak about the things of God. Do we live our life for Him or for ourselves?

We are created for His pleasure.
Revelation 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

To have fellowship with the Father.
1 John 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

He gave His son so we could be with Him.
Galatians 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Have we given Him our life or is this world more important? We need to remember why we are here on this earth. For God's Glory and fellowship with a God who loves us beyond what we can put into words. Recommit to Him today. Live your life for Him alone.

Pictures:
Norway's Constitution Day is celebrated on May 17. It commemorates the date when the nation's constitution was signed at Eidsvoll on May 17, 1814. It is usually referred to as syttende mai (May 17) or Nasjonaldagen (The National Day) in Norwegian.

A noteworthy aspect of the Norwegian Constitution Day is its very non-military nature. All over Norway, there are children's parades with an abundance of flags which form the central elements of the celebration. Each elementary school district arranges its own parade with marching bands between schools. The parade takes the children through the community, often making stops at homes of senior citizens, war memorials, etc. The longest parade is in Oslo, where some 100,000 people travel to the city centre to participate in the main festivities. This is broadcast on TV every year, with comments on costumes, banners etc., together with local reports from celebrations around the country. The massive Oslo parade includes some 100 schools, marching bands, and passes the royal palace where the royal family greets the people from the main balcony.

Many people, especially children, dress in their finest clothes on this day (notice the men wearing suits and ties). Many choose to wear a "bunad", which is a traditional Norwegian costume. The different bunads reflect the different kommunes or regions of Norway (Blue being along the coast - Browns and greens are inland.) There are many games, activities and social gatherings on this day.

God's Great Love to you all,
Kevin & Deborah Martin