

## Mary Craig

**From:** Mary Craig  
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**Subject:** Mary Craig Ministries January 2011 email



Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.  
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Hello, everyone. I have just returned from the China/Asia mission. The call of God took our MCM mission team to Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, China, and Vietnam. We are sent to bring healing and restoration to the body of Christ, to prepare the Bride for the return of Jesus, and to call the nations, wherever God sends us, to repentance and to resurrection. "Thank you" to Betty, Yvonne, Taco, and Yuni, for your participation!



Taco and Yuni, hosts in South Korea



Yvonne, host in Singapore

This particular mission involved breaking ancient strongholds, breaking the powers of Leviathan and the red dragon, breaking the power of shame, among other things, and bringing the word of the Lord to bear fruit as He pleases in the region. This mission had high participation and many of you were involved inasmuch as "the trip happens before the trip." I thank all of you who did research, prayed, declared out scripture, called upon the names of God, trusted, and stood with our team. For all the things that could have happened, that didn't happen, we praise God and thank you.

On October 13, 2009 I received the following as part of a larger "word" which I believe to be of the Holy Spirit:

*But now I send you back to Asia to counter and uproot ancient strongholds in My Name. I go*

1/17/2011

*before you to prepare the way. The area is dark with violence, murder, soul sleep, idolatry, shedding of innocent blood, blood sport, uncleanness, vile behavior. These lay dead in their pride; their proud hearts puffing as they strut along ancient paths of abominations, divination, demonic wisdom.*

The call began October 13, 2009, so you can see how much preparation came before the actual trip, December 17, 2010-January 8, 2011. It is important to verify a call and to wait for a commission, clear commandments (obedience to perform), and the commitment of God (what He says He will do). So many things did not become clear to us until the Lord began revealing them over time and even on the mission itself.

I found it interesting that on the mission I was reading about the upside-down nature of the Kingdom of God (because I am teaching a series on the Kingdom of God right now at Craighouse) and then seeing a contrast to the KOG while walking the streets of nations in Asia. Much of the Church in Asia is underground, and even if not, Christ must affect culture for the gospel of the Kingdom to have been preached with power to transform lives.



In some areas we saw poverty, though not as much as in many other nations of the world. China was a surprise to me because where we went it was “Disney World” clean; the people were courteous, efficient, skilled, and organized.



Singapore



Betty in Shanghai



Hong Kong

Years ago in an art class, an art professor remarked that prior to the building of the Eiffel Tower, the Church was the highest structure in a town or city. He said that the high rises and skyscrapers were the new cathedrals, of business, sanctuaries in the service of Mammon, symbols of what society held dearest. China’s cities were filled with them, impressive. “Stuff” was everywhere, with markets overflowing with small goods and malls and stores displaying high end products. With so many people and with the communist government controlling people’s lives, however, individuals do not have much expendable income; and yet a few have great wealth.



With a façade of perfection and the high level of materialism and a-religious

presence, I could see the warning to the USA . This is where we are going if God does not bring serious revival and even awakening to our nation. We found people to be superstitious, looking for luck, barely eking out a living, seeking respite in the things of this life only, save that ancestors hold a special place. I wondered how many people felt that they would be better off dead. The people seemed to strive for the best of humanity, e.g., a balanced life, positive energy, the blessings of family, wealth, health, sons, etc.; and yet the hope seemed temporal at best.



While I am seeing places, I am studying the Kingdom of God, mainly focusing on its culture, things that run counter to the world systems. In God's Kingdom what counts is a response to the love of God poured out in the Person of Jesus Christ, sent to save His people from sin, self, Satan's rule, and the world's system and to give eternal life to those born again. That response includes moving in generosity, graciousness, kindness, mercy, humility, justice, compassion, and serving others in love instead of being self-serving. Jesus came to raise up the downtrodden and to bring down the proud, basically leveling society and putting everyone the same before a holy God, the Creator. He demonstrated that the Kingdom of God had come near by healing people, forgiving sin, and casting out devils.

With the incarnation of Christ, the power shifted radically on earth. The binding of Satan began and with it the breaking of Satan's power. Light broke into the darkness and life began spreading, quietly and surely. Christ manifested the love of God and the true meaning of the Law. Grace and truth are in Him. Jesus came to serve not be served though He was born king. In His kingdom three symbols emerge: the towel and basin, the Cross, and the empty tomb. In serving others in love, in bearing the cross that comes when we act counter to the culture of mammon, materialism, pride, and self-serving, and in the power of the resurrection, we will seem to lose our lives according to the world's way, but we will find our lives in Christ and in His Kingdom.

It is not enough for us to hold the gospel of Jesus Christ under wraps. We must walk in love and in humility and in the confidence that God's upside down ways will transform society inside out. God's way is not the way of violence. We do not take the kingdom by force. It is God's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom. Receive it and walk in the power of the Holy Spirit, bearing the fruit of righteousness. Members of the family of God are those who do the will of God (Mark 3.35). Citizens of the Kingdom of God assert pressure on the culture in the exercise of love.

