

# MY REFLECTION ON THE WHEELCHAIR MINISTRY



*Testimony . . .*

Katherine Fung (Wheelchair Team Leader)

*I was touched by the sharing of HIS Foundation's Wheelchair ministry a few years ago. Thank God that I could finally participate in this ministry in 2011!*

*To me, the most impressive thing about this ministry is the opportunity to experience the impact on and change of people's lives. A simple and crude wheelchair can bring such convenience to those in need. More importantly, when they sit in the wheelchairs, they could see people at eye level and no longer need to look up from the ground. Yes! When one has to crawl on the ground, one's self-esteem and dignity is diminished to nothing.*

*On the surface this ministry requires only physical labor, but actually it takes team spirit and compassion. Our team of ten members went to Dali and finished assembling the required number of wheelchairs in limited time. It was not a simple task! The team members had to be physically fit and cooperative in order to accomplish the mission. During the process we learned to accommodate one another and be in unity. After the wheelchairs had undergone stringent safety tests, we took part in delivery and visitations. The destinations of delivery were in remote areas and it took one to two hours' driving distance to get there. Not only that, the patients' families were very poor!*

*70% of those in need are young people. Most of them have suffered from cerebral palsy and polio since they were young children. Due to the lack of medical treatment, they have difficulty walking since childhood. They either spend the whole day in bed or crawl to move around. They need to be looked after by their family. In the more serious cases, they need assistance in eating and going to the bathrooms. They become heavy burdens to their families.*

*The families that we visited were all extremely poor. Their homes consisted of a table and two wooden chairs and some old furniture. When I witnessed the poverty and difficulty they had to face, I realized how blessed I was! I felt sad for their poverty, and I cried when I saw the pain of the patients.*

*She knew that her illness was incurable, but she believed in God and had the faith to praise and give thanks to Him. Where did this faith come from?*



*Wheelchair team and the patients. The writer is the third person on the left.*

# Testimony . . .

*One day, we visited a lady who was 38 years old and lived by herself. She suffered from muscular atrophy. All of her four limbs were deformed. When we arrived at her house, she crawled from the interior to the outside area to meet us. I would never forget the sadness of seeing her like this. Because I hurried to support her, I had to hold back my tears so that she would not feel bad. Then I introduced myself as a representative of HIS Foundation who came to deliver the wheelchair to her. She was filled with heart-felt gratitude and nothing could compare with the joy that overflowed from her. We helped her get on the wheelchair. At that time she could see us clearly and talked to us at eye level. From the smile on her face we knew that she had finally found her dignity! She knew that her illness was incurable, but she believed in God and had the faith to praise and give thanks to Him. Where did this faith come from? If I were sick or when I face difficulties, do I have such faith in God? This is a precious lesson to us. Often we only see what we don't have, and forget all that we possess. Now I learn in every moment to count God's blessings. I also thank God for what I don't have! I am willing to give to others what God has given me because being able to share is already a blessing. Just as the Scripture says, it is better to give than to receive.*

*This short term mission was only a little sacrifice, but the gain was far greater than what I had hoped or prayed for. When you are willing to love others a little bit more, the world would be transformed.*

*I appreciate all the support and care my teammates have given me. Without your love, the ministry would have no meaning. Lastly I thank HIS Foundation for giving me the opportunity to learn and get to know these faithful brothers and sisters in Christ. I invite all of you to join the wheelchair ministry and to experience God's mighty power and love!*

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The patient in her new wheelchair