

LINKing

May—June 2004

Photo taken by M Carver: A farm inland from the Gold Coast, Queensland

's and Hands



STEPPING OUT IN FAITH

Hudson Taylor, founder of the China Inland Mission went to China in 1853. On his way there to serve as a missionary, the sailing vessel in which Taylor was a passenger, was becalmed in

the middle of the Pacific Ocean.. They had set sail from England four months earlier and the small three-masted vessel was now in danger. For days the wind did not blow and the vessel could not move. A strong four knot current began to carry them toward the northern shore of Papua New Guinea. The re were sunken reefs all along the shore and the mainland and at that time this country was the home of head hunters. The sailing boat had drifted 40 miles off course and were helpless, being so close to the land.

In desperation the captain, who was not a Christian, went to Taylor and said 'Mr. Taylor, we've done everything we know to do.'

'There is one thing we have not done', said Taylor. 'We can pray for God to send us a breeze.' He noticed that the corners of the mainsail had been drawn up to prevent useless flapping against the rigging.

'Let down the corners of the mainsail', he said to the officer. 'What is the point of that?' asked the officer. Taylor said that he would be glad to pray, on the condition that the captain first lift the sails. But the captain refused. 'Why, my men will think that I am crazy if I raise the sails in this calm'. he said.

Hudson Taylor replied 'Then I will not ask God to send the wind. If I am going to pray for wind, ***I must have enough faith to raise the sails***'.

The ships crew could not believe Taylor would think a

wind would blow!

Only then did the missionary go below deck to pray that the Creator of the universe might intervene and demonstrate His power by sending the His wind.

Upon returning on deck Taylor said 'We are asking God to send a wind and its coming. We are so near the reef there is not a minute to loose!'

'Its only a small puff of wind', replied the officer.

'Small puff or not, let down the mainsail' cried Taylor.

In a few minutes the boat was sailing at six or seven knots, leaving the sunken reefs behind them. A good wind drove the ship on towards its goal of the land of China.

Hudson Taylor has taught us all a great lesson. It is good to pray but just asking God for something is not enough. We must believe that God will act. Faith trusts God for what hasn't happened yet.

A principle is the school if faith is to remember that God looks at things that are not in operation, as though they already were. *Romans 4:17 says 'he calls those things which be not as though they were'*. The Lord expects us to do the same. We are to not only look but act as though they were in existence. This then is our **faith being exercised** and often it is the **trial of our faith** while we wait for what we believe God for.

When God speaks to us about something we must remember that He is looking at it as though it already was. In God's mind it is done!

Welcome!

Time has run away from me these past two months, so this newsletter is for May and June. The most important thing to me is that at least I am keeping in touch with you.

There are many challenges set before us when we serve the Lord. Sometimes the challenge is overwhelming. I am reminded that God looks to us to expect great things from Him. Some of my favourite books are those on the missionary Hudson Taylor who, at great cost to himself and his family, opened up China to the gospel. He was an ordinary man but he trusted God to provide under every circumstance. God met his needs in a marvelous way and provided finances to keep over 800 missionaries in China. If we want to please God in any way, we must first have faith in Him and His great promises. He never fails, although there are many times when we fail Him. *If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful. 2 Timothy 2:13*

Press on! It is worth it all.



If you would like to receive this newsletter by email contact:

carver@nsw.quik.com.au

or regular mail:

P.O. Box 730, Lismore NSW 2480

AUSTRALIA

Editor: Margaret Carver

Laura Carver aged three years



Matthew aged 6 years and Ryan aged 4 years

Timothy Richard Carver aged 3 months. He is our newest addition to the family



What a joy to have grandchildren! Each one is so different, yet so special. Matthew started school this year and really enjoys it. Ryan goes to preschool two days a week. He is so bubbly and happy. You can tell by the photo. Laura goes to preschool two days a week. She is pretty and clever! She sits down at the computer and clicks on the 'mouse' and gets into the children's programs herself. Ryan can do just the same and of course Matthew is a professional! Timothy is a very sweet natured boy who is always happy. We are so blessed by these additions to our lives!

CARROT CAKE

This recipe was given to me by Sister Judy Addington, missionary to New Zealand. We had the opportunity to stay in their home many years ago and during this time this was one of the fine samples of cooking that we enjoyed!

Sift together in a large bowl:

- 1 1/2 cups plain flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

THEN ADD:

- 2 eggs
- 1 cup grated carrot
- 1/2 tin of crushed tinned pineapple with the juice in the tin
- 1 teaspoon vanilla



Mix all together until moistened and then beat with a mixer (or with a wooden spoon) for 2 minutes at medium speed.

* Bake in greased lightly floured square tin. If you want a long narrow cake use a slice or baking tray.

* Cook in moderate oven (180C) for 40 minutes or until a tester comes out clean.

* Cool for 10 mins in the baking tray. Then remove from pan and cool.

Frosting: You can use cream cheese (125 gr) and 1 cup icing sugar mixed well and spread onto cake when very cool.

Decorate with crushed walnuts or slithered almonds

If you do not want to use cream cheese icing, then use regular icing sugar and butter with lemon juice.