

# ASKING POINT

Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.  
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

## Hope of the Nations

*In His name the nations will put their hope. Matthew 12:21*

### CHINA



*"The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life."  
Job 33:4*

China is the most populous nation with 1.3 billion people. In 1979, the communist government began their one-child policy to limit population growth. It is now estimated that the population has been reduced by 300 million. ~ The ancient bias toward male children, to continue lineage and protection in old age, has resulted in a disdain for female infants—leading to their abortion, neglect, abandonment, and even infanticide. The gender imbalance is now 120 males to 100 females. More than 24 million Chinese men could find themselves without wives by 2020, cites the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

The Church in China is vast, some say as much as 6% of the population. Though a large portion of the church is underground or persecuted, they are thriving. (1 Corinthians 1:18–31) A new ministry to the persecuted church is calling them to go to other persecuted nations. They, who have nothing, are giving and going to others with the message of the cross, the power of God. *- continued next page -*

## The World from God's Perspective

*I have longed to gather. Matthew 23:37*

### "Ask Me"

What To Do with Lack

*"They have no wine."  
John 2:3*

Mary knew Him better than anyone else there. So when the marriage supper celebration was threatened, she came to the One whose presence would change things. His reply declares His engagement, *"What does that have to do with US?"*

When Jesus asked Philip about bread to feed the multitudes, His question holds the answer. *"Where are WE . . . ?"* (John 6:5)

Our lack is only an opportunity for Him—who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask . . . (Ephesians 3:20) **"If you knew the gift of God, you would ask Him . . ."** (John 4:10) **Let's engage God!**

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## God in Community

*I come in the Name of the Lord Almighty. 1 Samuel 17:45*

### Being the Bride

*"He who has the bride is the bridegroom . . ."  
John 3:29*

Continuing the series out of Revelation 2–3, we are now praying for the bride through the letter to Ephesus: *"The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:*

***'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false; and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.***

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**...receive from Him  
anything we ask, because we obey  
His commands and do what pleases Him...**

**1 John 3:22**

## Page 2 - Nations

China continued . . .

### ASKing Points for China:

- **Restoration of the value of life.** *“Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward . . .” Psalm 127:3-5 ~ “For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother’s womb . . . I am fearfully and wonderfully made . . . and that my soul knows right well.” Psalm 139:13-15*
- **Protection of the unborn and the abolishment of the one-child policy.** *“O LORD . . . You will incline Your ear to vindicate the orphan and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth will no longer cause terror.” Psalm 10:17-18 ~ “Can a throne of destruction be allied with You, one which devises mischief by decree? They band themselves together against the life of the righteous and condemn the innocent to death.” Psalm 94:20-21*

- **Redeeming purposes in this next generation of males without prospective wives.** *“For I know the plans that I have for you,” declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. . . .’” Jeremiah 29:11-13*

### For His bride:

- ❖ **Pastors and their flocks** *“Like a shepherd He will tend His flock, In His arm He will gather the lambs and carry them in His bosom; He will gently lead the nursing ewes.” Isaiah 40:11*
- ❖ **Persecuted church missionaries** *“And they overcame him [satan] because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.” Revelation 12:11*
- ❖ **Change agents** *“You are the salt of the earth . . . You are the light of the world. . . . Let your light shine . . .” Matthew 5:13-16* 🌟

ask for youth

“One generation will praise Your works to another; they will tell of Your mighty acts. They will speak of the glorious splendour of Your majesty.”

Psalm 145:4-5a

## Page 2 - Perspective

“Ask Me” continued . . .

### ASKing for Him in our lack:

**Inside** - As the global Church, let us confess our little knowledge of the Word of God and ask Him to give us a hunger for His Word.

- *“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.” Matthew 5:6*
- *“Arise, cry aloud . . . Pour out your heart like water before the presence of the Lord . . . for the life of your little ones who are faint because of hunger . . .” Lamentations 2:19*
- *“I will fill the soul of the priests with abundance, and My people will be satisfied with My goodness . . .” Jeremiah 31:1*
- *“The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.” Psalm 145:15-16*
- *“How sweet are Your words to my taste! Yes, sweeter than honey to my mouth!” Psalm 119:103*
- *“Therefore, putting aside all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander, like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow . . . if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.” 1 Peter 2:1-3*
- *“They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore . . . for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life . . .” Revelation 7:16-17*

**Outside** – Ask Him to show you the lack in your neighborhood and nation and then take the lack to Him, our great God whose mercy endures forever! 🌟

ask for Israel

## O Jerusalem, Jerusalem . . .

for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, **“Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!”**

Matthew 23:37a-39

## Page 2 - Community

Being the Bride continued . . .

*‘But I have **this** against you, **that you have left your first love.** ‘Therefore **remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first;** or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent. ~ Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ~ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.’” Revelation 2:1-7*

In addition to praying through the letter to Ephesus, **ASK for our abandoned love to become love abandoned.**

- *“Thus says the LORD, ‘I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth, the love of your betrothals, your following after Me . . . What injustice did your fathers find in Me, that they went far from Me and walked after emptiness and became empty?’” Jeremiah 2:2, 5*
- *“Then the Lord said, ‘Because this people draw near with their words and honor Me with their lip service, but they remove their hearts far from Me, and their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned by rote, therefore behold, I will once again deal marvelously with this people, wondrously marvelous . . .’” Isaiah 29:13-14*
- *“I will allure her, bring her into the wilderness and speak kindly to her. Then I will give her her vineyards from there, and the valley of Achor as a door of hope. And she will sing there . . . you will call Me ‘My Husband’ and will no longer call Me ‘My Master.’” Hosea 2:14-16* 🌟

ask for His Bride

**“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.”**

Ephesians 2:10