

Jephthah

Judges 10-12

A postmodern time

“Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.”



oppression



abundance



The "judge"



raiders



idols



The Spirituality Trap

Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD. They served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and the gods of Aram, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the Ammonites, and the gods of the Philistines.

-Judges 10: 6-7

Because the Israelites forsook the LORD and no longer served him, he became angry with them. He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and the Ammonites, who that year shattered and crushed them.

-Judges 10:6-8

Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD, “We have sinned against you, forsaking our God and serving the Baals.”

-Judges 10:10

The LORD replied, “When [your enemies] oppressed you and you cried to me for help, did I not save you from their hands? But you have forsaken me and served other gods, so I will no longer save you.

-Judges 10:11-13

“Go and cry to the other gods you have chosen. Let them save you when you are in trouble!”

-Judges 10:14

The Spirituality Trap



The Lord will not
participate in our
Spirituality Buffet.

POST MODERN PARABLES



You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy?

-I Corinthians 10: 21-22

Not Spirituality but JESUS ALONE

But the Israelites said to the LORD, “We have sinned. Do with us whatever you think best, but please rescue us now.” Then they got rid of the foreign gods among them and served the LORD. And he could bear Israel’s misery no longer.

-Judges 10:15-16

POST MODERN PARABLES



*“You were bought at a price.
Therefore you have no business
sacrificing animals for dead
ancestors anymore, praying to
Shambay, or hanging animal horns
above your doorway for protection.*

*“You belong to Jesus now and He
can be the only one who makes
decisions in your life.”*

-Zulu pastor

Jephthah

Judges 11-12

Jephthah: Tragic hero

POST MODERN PARABLES



Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah...he advanced against the Ammonites. And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD: “If you give the Ammonites into my hands, whatever comes out of the door of my house to greet me when I return in triumph from the Ammonites will be the LORD’s, and I will sacrifice it as a burnt offering.”

-Judges 11: 29-31

When Jephthah returned to his home in Mizpah, who should come out to meet him but his daughter, dancing to the sound of tambourines! She was an only child. Except for her he had neither son nor daughter. When he saw her, he tore his clothes and cried, "Oh! My daughter! You have made me miserable and wretched, because I have made a vow to the LORD that I cannot break."

-Judges 11: 34-35

“My father,” she replied, “you have given your word to the LORD. Do to me as you have promised, now that the LORD has avenged you of your enemies, the Ammonites....”

-Judges 11: 36

Yet, Jephthah is considered a
hero of faith in Hebrews
11:32...

Lord, who may dwell in your
sanctuary? Who may live on
your holy hill?

He...who keeps his oath even
when it hurts.

Psalm 15: 1, 4



EDWARD VIII ABDICATES

King Renounces Crown for Love

By Our Own Correspondent

Edward VIII has announced his abdication.

After only nine months on the throne, His Majesty's Declaration of Abdication has passed rapidly through both Houses of Parliament and King Edward VIII has become a private citizen, free at last to marry the woman he loves.

The British King abdicated a heavy throne, renounced all titles, and left the British throne to his nephew, King George VI, on the morning of his wedding, on Tuesday, December 11th, to give Mrs Wallis Simpson the woman of his choice.

The abdication crisis has almost brought the stability of the throne to its long constitutional depths. Between King and Government has dragged on through the storm. Through the crisis, Edward VIII emerged victorious in his determination to marry the American woman, the former Duchess of Windsor.

His wish was strongly opposed by the Prime Minister, Sir Stanley Baldwin, the leaders of the House of Commons, the Church of England,



The former King tells his farewells to Windsor after making his abdication broadcast last night.

Duke of York Succeeds as George VI

When Edward, the Duke of York, and the former King's younger brother, left their home, London, it will be for the last time. The Duke of York, who is now George VI, is the second son of King George V. He is 36 years old and is a member of the House of Commons. He is a member of the House of Commons. He is a member of the House of Commons.

Windsor Broadcast

As the clock struck, the former King, who has abdicated, spoke to the nation from the balcony of the Royal Albert Hall. He said: "I have done my duty as King and I have done it with a clear conscience. I have done my duty as King and I have done it with a clear conscience. I have done my duty as King and I have done it with a clear conscience."

Mrs Wallis Simpson



Mrs Wallis Simpson

Edward VIII, who is now Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, was born in London in 1894. He is a member of the House of Commons. He is a member of the House of Commons. He is a member of the House of Commons.

OTHER NEWS

Spain will remain in France - the Spanish Civil War has reached an uneasy truce. The Spanish Civil War has reached an uneasy truce. The Spanish Civil War has reached an uneasy truce.

ROWLAND'S
MACASSAN'S OIL
FOR THE HAIR

POST-MODERN PARABLES



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Obama Breaks Pledge, Rejects Public Funding Against McCain

Democratic Candidate Could Raise Record Millions for White House Bid

By RICK KLEIN with JOHN SANTUCCI and JAMES GERBER

June 19, 2008

Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., will break his campaign pledge, rejecting public funding for the general election and allowing the Democratic candidate to possibly raise record millions for his White House battle against Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.



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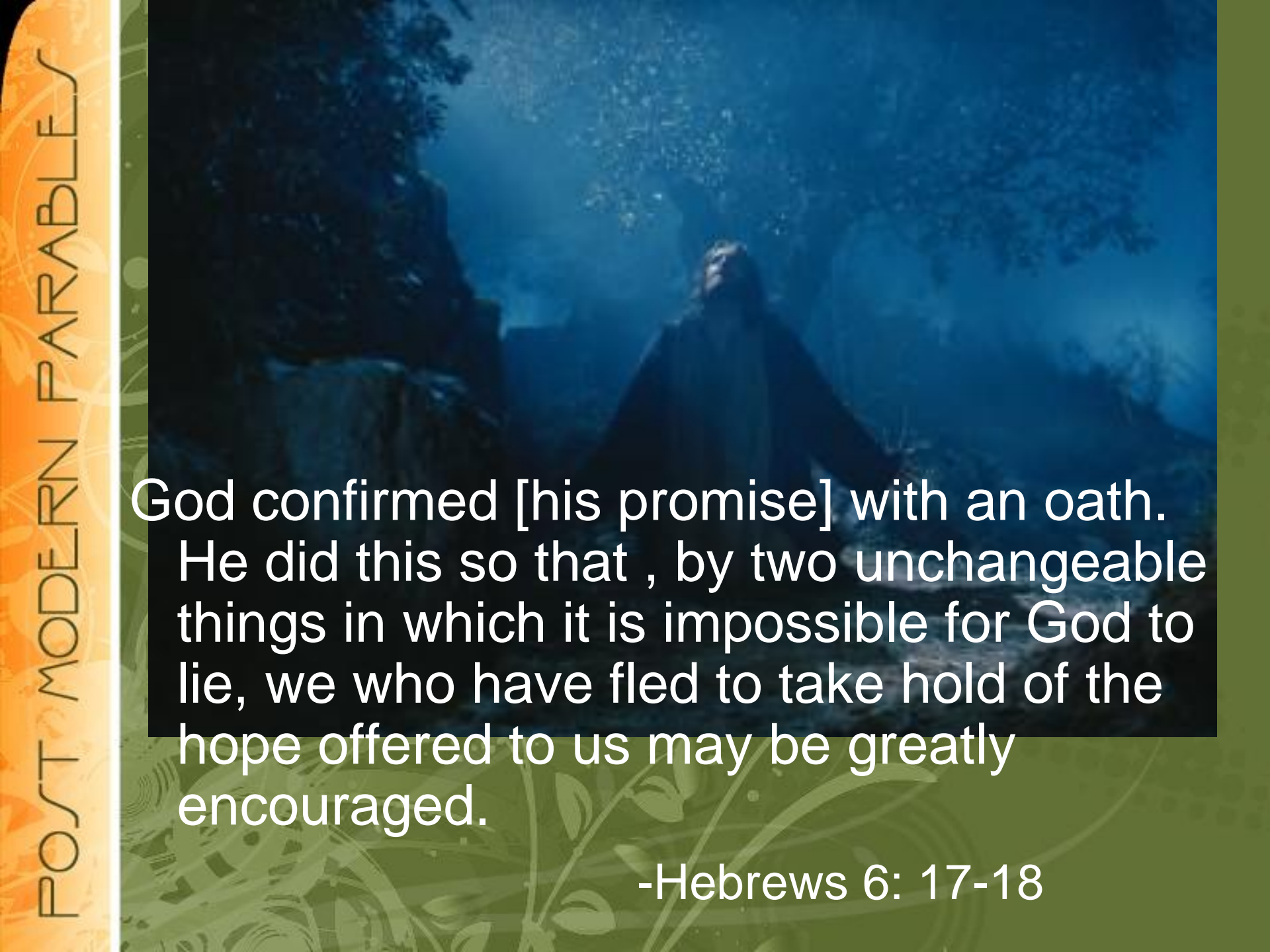
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God confirmed [his promise] with an oath. He did this so that , by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.

-Hebrews 6: 17-18

Jephthah: Tragic flaw

Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah...he advanced against the Ammonites. And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD: “If you give the Ammonites into my hands, whatever comes out of the door of my house to greet me when I return in triumph from the Ammonites will be the LORD’s, and I will sacrifice it as a burnt offering.”

-Judges 11: 29-31

So Jephthah fled from his brothers and settled in the land of Tob, where a group of adventurers gathered around him and followed him.

-Judges 11:3

Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.

-Proverbs 29: 25

“Groupthink”



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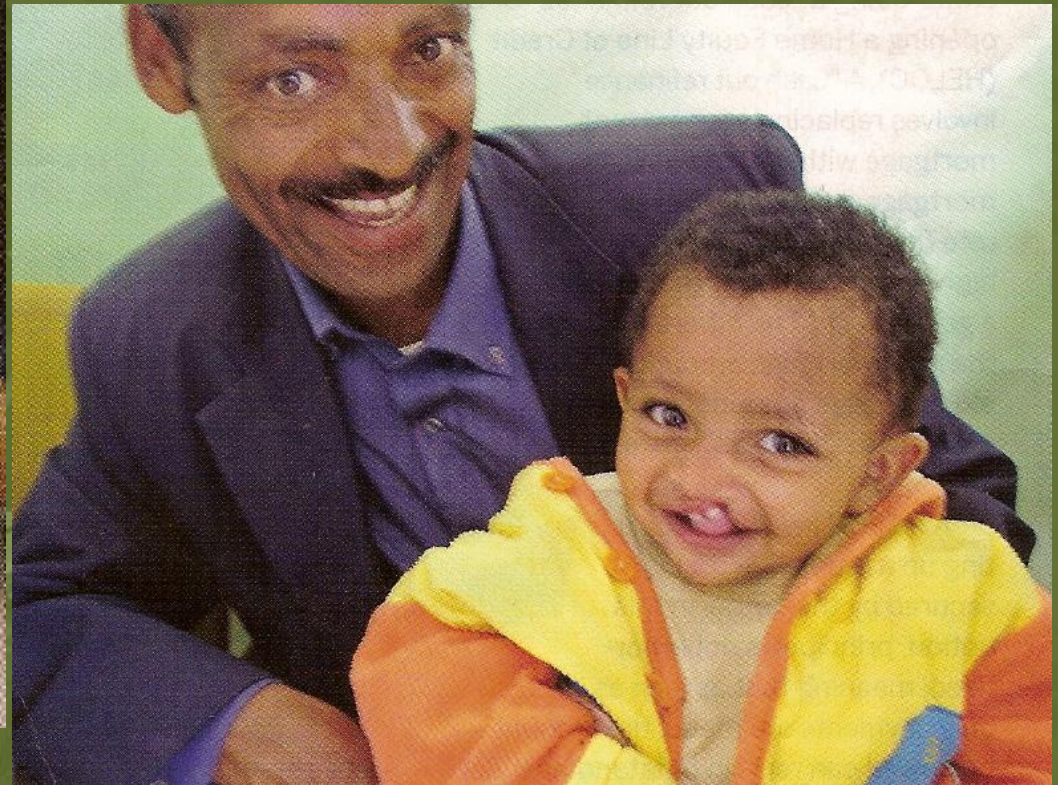


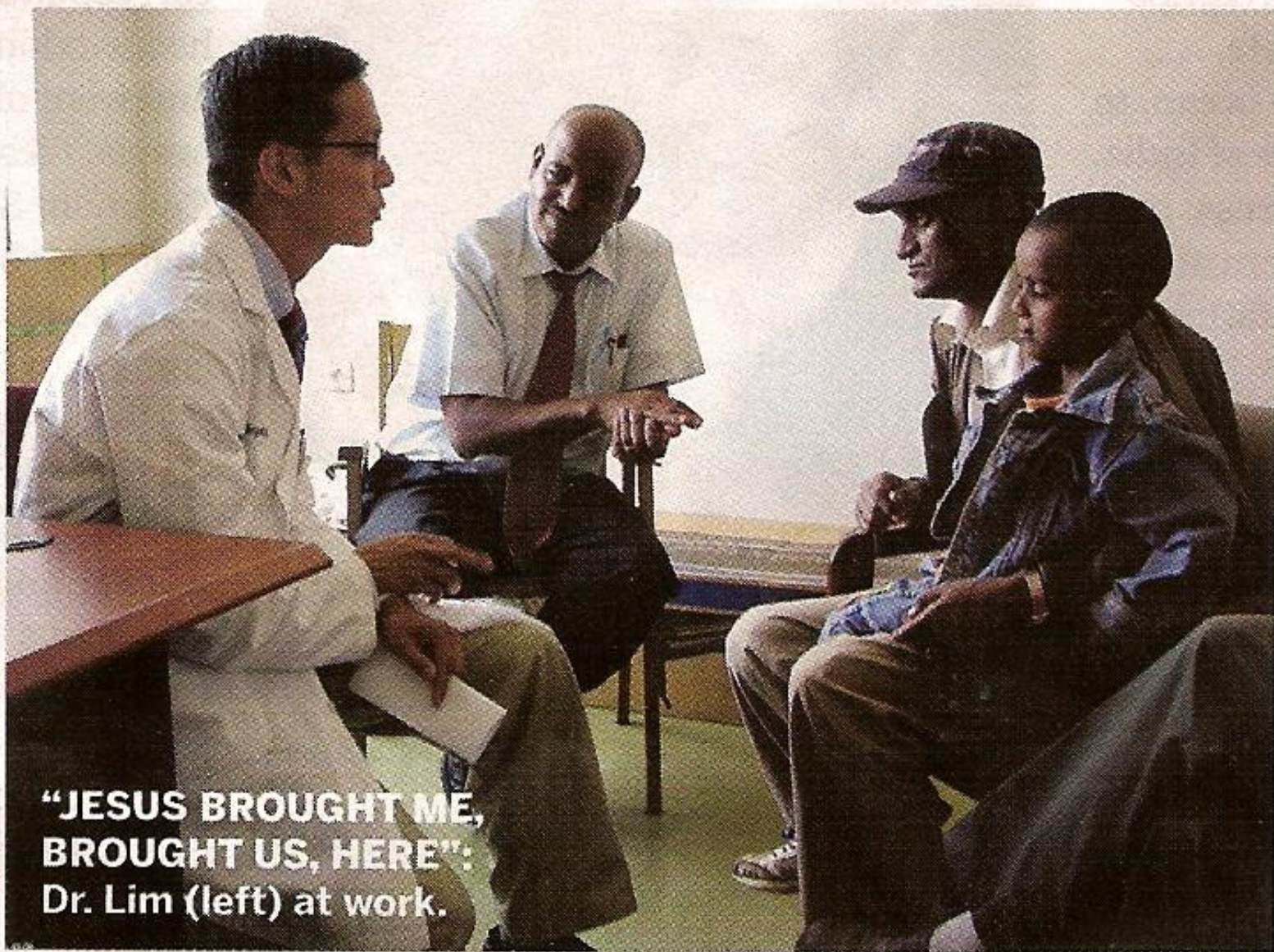
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The men of Ephraim called out their forces, crossed over to Zaphon and said to Jephthah, “Why did you go fight the Ammonites without calling us to go with you? We’re going to burn down your house over your head.”

-Judges 12:1

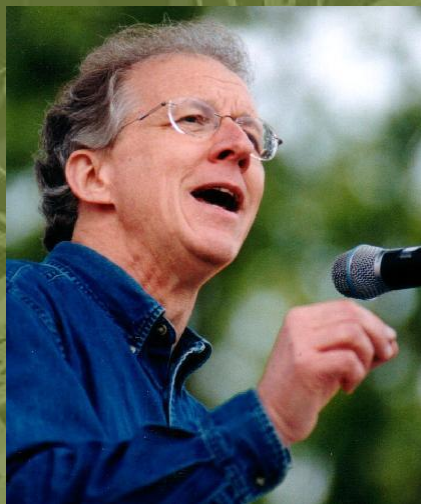
Dr. Lim and Project CURE





**“JESUS BROUGHT ME,
BROUGHT US, HERE”:
Dr. Lim (left) at work.**

“Jesus Christ does not call us to a popular life, but to a God-centered, Christ-exalting, justice-advancing, counter-cultural, risk-taking life of love and courage.”



-John Piper (paraphrased)