



Flying to China Together

Beloved brother Liyang

Time with Liyang

Visiting Liyang’s Family

Liyang Me Wang Qi



MaDi Wang Yan Me

Basketball Brothers Jinan

Ministry in Jinan with Bros

Teaching Seminary Students

Beloved brother Zhang Yong



Shared with Chung Meng

Shared with Kuiyong

Dinner in University Café

Shared with him

Looking over Jinan city

Lunch at Pizza Hut



City of Wuhan

Yuanjian (Known 9 years)

Professor in Wuhan

University in Wuhan

Campus in Wuhan

Picture in my hotel room



Beloved brother MaDi

Leaders in Beijing Church

Erogan (Brothers) Kaitao

Eve (sister doing PhD)

Gospel (L) & Sister (R)



Chen Jian (Brother)

Andrew Yoo (Korean Brother)

Zhu Yuhan (Brother)

Pierre (French Brother)

Kai Kun (Brother)



Beloved brother Ying Cheng

Beloved brother Zhang Yong

Beloved brother Zongxu

Beloved brother Asaminew

Wang Ling Shuai (brother)

Note: Lots of brothers I was able to meet and connect with and love on. Incredible opportunities to encourage, listen to, support, and love. These brothers are a great joy to my heart. They are great gifts from the Lord. My life is enriched by their presence in my life. I miss them and look forward to continuing to connect with them through text and video chats. I want to be involved in their lives and to mentor them as much as possible.



Friendship Seminar

Men’s Sexual Purity Seminar

Sharing Gospel with Han

Sharing with Yonghui

Shared with Li Zepin



Dezhen Yonghui

Typical shopping area

Main street in Jinan

Shopping area in Beijing

Leaving China (Nov 7th)

Highlight #1: Intense times with Yuan Liyang

Liyang came to America and stayed with me for sixteen days (August 29-Sept 13). When I flew back to China (October 1) we met up and the next day we traveled to his hometown and stayed with his family for 4 days. We met a delightful girl, Wang Qi, on the return trip and ended up sharing the Gospel with her at length and she was very interested. Liyang returned to Beijing for classes and I stayed in another city for two weeks. When he returned to Beijing he came under intense pressure from the school to stay away from Christians and away from foreigners, including me specifically. He sent me a long text message two weeks later upon my return to Beijing and I felt like he was going to end our friendship and I cried. Our hearts had connected so much and he had become a believer recently with me. My heart was broken and terribly sad. Then a week later we met up and spent 8 hours together, talking and hanging out with brothers. Later that night he wrote me the following text which encouraged my heart.

Jon, I just got back. All the way I've been thinking about the concerns you said to me. You said you were afraid of losing me. That's what I'm worried about...I was worried that the world (his professors) won't allow us to love each other anymore. I will not give up on you under any circumstances because YOU are incredibly important to me and I am grateful that GOD leads me to you!! I don't know what else to say. My eyes are moist right now. I try not to cry and I try to contain my emotions. I'm so grateful to you, especially for the work you did on me after we met. You changed my life positively and kept telling how much GOD loves me. I just want you to know that and be sure that I love you!

My heart was encouraged and refreshed after reading his text. His friendship is very valuable to me and I did not want to lose it. I am thankful for his commitment to the Lord and to our friendship. He is a delight to my heart. He is a good gift from God.

Highlight #2: An emotional time saying goodbye to Ying Cheng after him being with me for a month in America

Ying Cheng, Ma Di and I flew back to China together on October 1st. The next day Ying Cheng would fly home and go to Australia for a Masters program in Mechanical Engineering. There is a good chance I may not see him for two years and that thought caused great sadness in my heart. We were sitting on the couch in Ma Di's apartment in Beijing and emotions starting flowing out of my heart and I put my head on his chest and started to cry. He got emotional too and was sad about us parting. The following is his text to me. "Jon, I have known you about one year and this year was the happiest year in my life. Three precious friendships appeared – you, Ma Di, Kai. If I didn't know you guys I wouldn't be who I am now. I am so afraid when I thought if I didn't have these awesome friendships but God didn't let that happen. He gave me the perfect plan instead."

Highlight #3: Meeting so many brothers for the first time and starting mentoring friendships

Kai Kun wasn't going to come to my friendship seminar at his church but his fiancée wanted to go with him so they came. He was encouraged and decided to come to my men's sexual purity seminar on Saturday and there we connected. I met with him a few days later and he poured out his heart about family challenges in the past. At one point I hugged him and he started to cry. He experienced lots of healing from pain that was in his heart. After connecting with him I very much wanted to be involved in his life so I asked him, "Do you want me to be involved in your life." He responded, "I do want you to be involved in my life!" I love this brother! Later he text message me the following: "I appreciate your love for God, for brothers and for me so much. It's very encouraging and lets me see how heavenly love should be. Thank you Jon. I am grateful that I got to meet you and be healed in many ways."

Chen Jian has been a believer for one year. When we first met I asked him, "If you were to die today, how certain are you that you would go to heaven, 0% to 100%?" I think he said, 80%. We talked about the assurance of salvation and the lights came on in his mind and he was deeply encouraged. (1 John 5:12-13; John 10:27-29; Hebrews 13:5; John 5:24) Later in the week he came to my friendship seminar and then a few days later to the sexual purity seminar. At the seminar he was very transparent and that motivated other men to be open. My heart was drawn to him the first time we met. I will continue to be involved in his life. I love this brother!

Highlight #4: Words of affirmation from various brothers that I mentor:

"I think you are worthy of my trust, my friendship. I want to give you a promise that our friendship survives. I feel so happy knowing Jon. I dreamed about hugging you yesterday. I felt so peaceful, even in the dream." – Zhang Yong, Seminary student

"You've changed me a lot. I didn't text you back yesterday because I'm sad since I missed you after you left." – Chen Yan

"I learned how to love people around me like you did Jon and I want to try and practice it. I wanna change my life by doing this. I appreciate it so much my good friend." – Zhu Yuhuan, a young believer

"Thank you for loving me so much. I am emotional about it. I enjoyed the two days we spent together. I like it. I love you and miss you a lot." -- Zongxu

"My dear friend, it is good to have you in the world! Knowing you is a gift from God. You are God's special treasure to this world! You're very special in my life. I love you Jon. – Chen Kai

Highlight #5: Doing my seminar on friendship seven different times and seeing incredible responses from people

One of the sisters at my friendship seminar is a PhD student named Eve. She was so moved after the seminar that she went back to her dorm and cried for 30 minutes. The next week I was visiting that same fellowship and when she walked in and saw me she started to cry again. She shared with my brother Ma Di that when she saw me she thought about how much love is in my heart for brothers and that caused her to get emotional. At another seminar a brother named Kip sent me the following text message: "I really appreciate the talk tonight. I was horrible at managing friendships but your talk today made me want to do my best to fix and maintain all my relationships. I really mean it when I said tonight was life-changing. Thank you SO much!

Highlight #6: Being with my beloved brother and great friend Ma Di

We invested another 500 hours together on this trip! He did all my translating when it was needed which was most of the time. A couple of days ago he texted me the following: "I was writing newsletters today and reflecting. I am amazed by how much you love me and others. I need to do more and I need your help. You just simply love me and I want to be more able to get it. Daily hug, love you" We have many times of sweet fellowship together and love doing ministry together. Pray for the Christians in China as the government is starting a new wave of harassment. Thank you for your investment and prayers!

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