

# BETWEEN YOU AND ME

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## What is the cost of following Christ?

In the book *The Heavenly Man*, Brother Yun shares about his life and what he gladly endured for the cause of Christ. Brother Yun spent several years in Asian prisons on several occasions because of his tenacity in following after Christ. While in prison he was continually beaten and tortured. At one point they smashed his legs from the knees down so there would be no chance of escape.

During his times of freedom he faithfully disciplined believers and led many to the Lord. After he was captured and re-sentenced to prison, he said this was God's way of helping him refocus on the Lord. He discovered that God is more concerned with our hearts than even our work for Him. How is your heart right now? Are you following after Him with your whole heart, life, and everything you've got?

Our Asian brothers and sisters in the Lord, who have almost no earthly possessions, gather enough funds for a one-way ticket to go to the most unreached people. They never plan to see their loved ones again. They expect that the future holds intense persecution and martyrdom. Their discipleship training program includes sessions on how to suffer and die for the Lord, how to witness to the guards in prison and on the way to execution, and how to jump from a second-story window. Intense, huh?

Brother Yun says, "Don't pray for the persecution to stop! We shouldn't pray for a lighter load to carry, but a stronger back to endure! Then the world will see that God is with us, empowering us to live in a way that reflects His love and power... If we stay in one place and refuse to advance until we've completely finished the job there, we'll never be able to impact the world with the Gospel."

Brother Yun learned that, "When the Lord tells us to do something there is no time for discussion or rationale, regardless of the situation we face. When we are sure God has told us to act... blind obedience is called for. Not to obey God implies that we are wiser than He is, and that we know better how to run our lives than He does."

All this challenges me— this willingness to gladly surrender all for the sake of our Lord. I am compelled to pray, "Lord, help me to die to myself. God, whatever you want, help me to be willing! Help me not to be lazy and apathetic in a time of war. Even as I am here (USA), I desire to daily take up the cross and reach out to those around me."

What is God asking of you? Ask Him to speak clearly to you. Are you ready and willing to count the cost, send more workers, or perhaps... to even go yourself?



The **SEND** Ministries Department exists to equip and motivate youth to be Christ-centered, world Christians who make disciples.

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