

Laurie Cowell, David Scott, John Quilliam, Howard Harper & Geoff Weatherly with Mongolian church planters.



Wanna-be-Goer

Age 18yrs was a major watershed time in my life. I decided I would spend my life on things that would have eternal value. The previous few years had been unsettled as I wrestled with the reality of God and eternity.

I had started Medicine at University but left after only three weeks. It would be good to heal bodies but it would be more worthwhile to be engaged in the healing of souls for eternity.

A team of four young men, who had trained at Emmaus and called themselves Christian Crusaders, had invited me to join with them in Victoria in their evangelistic team and help with music. This was another major decision I thought I was making; relinquishing a normal career path and therefore also the expectation of ever being married.

However the following two years were exciting and most fulfilling, seeing many young people come to faith in Christ, many going on and into Christian ministry.

But why did the team have to come to an end? All the team members, being older than me, got married. I wanted to continue winning souls, but what could I do by myself, I was mainly a support member in the team. Nevertheless I

reasoned that if I cared enough for souls I would find a way somehow.

During the next few years I did what I could, visiting people in opal mining humpies at Lightning Ridge with "4 Spiritual Laws" tracts and gospels of John, organising children programs in neighbouring villages (with capable people leading them), etc.

There are two occasions in my life where the Lord gave me the

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clearest guidance in answer to my prayer. The first was to start a printing business with my father's help (his know how and a loan of \$3300). About the other you can ask my wife.

I thought that by being my own boss, I could give myself time off to do God's work, but it doesn't work like that. Your customers own your time, keeping you so busy. I reasoned if I had faster equipment the work would be done quicker thus giving me more time for God's work. The problem was I needed to produce more work to make the payments on the equipment. Thus busier and busier, the plan wasn't working and I felt ungifted for what ministry I was trying to do anyway. But God knew what he was doing, he did have a purpose for me, just not the one I had chosen.

A major breakthrough came as a result of reading a sermon of Charles Spurgeon. He said, "The reason we know God didn't mean emus to fly is, He didn't give them any wings. And God doesn't mean you to try and do ministry he hasn't gifted you for."

God is very clever and knows how to get us where he wants us, if we are not stiff-necked.

As a result of changes in the tax laws and a sudden increase in profits in the business, a few years later, my accountant advised the only way to avoid crippling taxes was to form the business into a trust and begin distributing profits. This was not something that I had worked out to be a good idea, it was a necessity, but it did turn out to be the way the Lord gave me the purpose he had for me in his big project, building his Church, Family and Bride. The business could be the means of ten people being freed to do the work that I had wanted to do, but unable. And yet I find it ironic that God would choose me to be in business as I've never thought of myself as suited for business.

It was at this time that I got involved with Laurie Cowell who had returned from the mission field in Chad. He had recently joined GLO and he invited me with two other business men to be part of the GLO committee. Laurie used to take committee members with him on pastoral visits to visit expat and national GLO workers in the field. Over the years these have been wonderful



David & Joy Scott

times of fellowship in ministry, engaging with siblings in Christ in various countries. I find no greater joy than meeting my new brothers and sisters in the Lord, not only new to me but newly born in the faith. I see the joy of the Lord in their faces and often thank the Lord for arranging for me to have a part to play in his work of eternal purpose. "I know that everything God does

will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it." Ecc 3:13.

The Lord has a purpose for each of his people, not only to be like him and with him in Glory, but also a role to play in his big project, building his church, bringing people to himself. And you, like me, will only know peace and fulfilment when you are aligned with his purpose for you. Ps 138:8 "The Lord will fulfil his purpose for me", (if we are not stiff-necked like the Pharisees who rejected God's purpose for them - Luke 7:30).

By David Scott

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A pastoral visit in Myanmar
L-R: Geoff Weatherly, Laurie Cowell,
John Quilliam & David Scott.