



DUBLIN PORT

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If I only touch His cloak

"She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." Matthew 9:21

Dear friends,

One day the two stories from Matthew 9:18-26 came into my mind while I visited ships. The stories are about the woman who had been bleeding for twelve years and the daughter of the leader of synagogue who was dead. Many of the seafarers whom I met in the port are like the daughter. They seem to be dead and unable to think and do anything spiritually, waiting for someone to come to them and help them. As you read the Bible passage, you meet the woman who thought, "If I only I could touch Jesus' cloak, I would be healed." She didn't care about breaking the law as an unclean person, she made a decision to touch his cloak with such a faith. When she touched His cloak, Jesus told her "Your faith has healed you." When I thought about the woman, I thought about how many people would desperately push through a crowd to reach their arms to touch Jesus for healing. Sometimes I am asked to lead a worship service on board ships as the Christian seafarers don't have time to go to church or have fellowship for many months. Recently a Filipino seafarer told me it was his first time to worship the Lord with songs, reading the Bible and prayers in 8 months. He also said that he felt guilty as he couldn't live as a Christian and now he was refreshed and renewed and strengthened to continue to live with Jesus. Just like the woman who had been bleeding for twelve years, the Filipino crew reached his hand to touch Jesus for His renewing power. As he offered the sacrifice of praise to God, that is the fruit of our lips, he was touched by the Holy Spirit and had thankful tears run down his cheeks. There are many lonely Christians on board who are waiting for someone to visit them. They want to reach their hand to touch Jesus for God's healing and renewing of their lives. However, there are many problems on board to discourage them against their desire for God; too much work, chronically short on sleep, fatigue, difficult working relationships among crew members on board, too much thought about family at home, health, job, etc. They need encouragement to overcome such discouraging situations and push them away to reach to Jesus. They feel it hard to do it alone. That's why I visit them and encourage them to do it together with me.



The Ukrainian captain & Peter



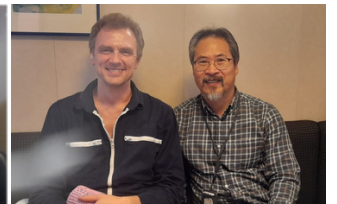
The Russian and Ukrainian

Sometimes it is not easy to talk to people who are disappointed with God because of what they experience in the realities of life. On a bulk ship with Ukrainian crew, its captain and Peter (person in the middle), a chief officer told me many people in Ukraine left church losing their faith in God as they have seen their situations get worse. I encouraged them to know Jesus' peace and rest to overcome by sharing the Gospel. They thanked me for my time and encouragement. As I helped Peter to shop in the city, we talked more about what happened to his family and many other Ukrainian people who lost faith in God. As he was one of them, I prayed for him and his family. Please pray for people like Peter.

The Russian chief officer and the Ukrainian crew on a general cargo in the above photo told me they were working together in peace regardless of what is going on in their countries. They thanked me for my short visit as well as all the presents and Bibles.



John & his Chinese crew



James

On a bulk ship, I met Chinese crew who don't know English well. I shared the Gospel by using Chinese letters which actually also carry many Bible stories. The crew, especially John, the chief officer (person on the right) told me he had never heard that Chinese letters have Bible stories and wanted to learn more about God and Jesus in his mother tongue. Believing in Jesus with repentance he decided to follow Him taking a Chinese Bible and an English Bible. I praised the Lord for His

salvation for the chief officer. Please pray that John will grow in faith whatever situations he may face.

On a container ship, James, the Bulgarian Chief engineer spent one and a half hours talking about life and freedom in Christ and praying with me. He was very disappointed with church people as he experienced things that hurt him. He really wants to talk more about how to enjoy freedom in Christ. Please pray for him that he will have God's peace to overcome and be stronger in faith.



A first worship service on board

Colin & Philip

On Yaya Goose, a big bulk ship, Andrew (2nd person from the right) who is the Filipino captain thanked me for leading the worship service which was the first service ever on board, and for all the presents.

One week I had Colin for two days in Dublin. He was a great encouragement to many seafarers from the Philippines, Turkey, the Netherlands, Russia and Lithuania. We had five Bible studies and one worship service. At one of the Bible studies, Colin encouraged Philip (person in the middle with a grey soft toy) to share his experience of God and His healing power. He had hard times because of his high blood pressure. Three weeks ago he asked me and you as a church to pray for him. Since then, he hasn't been sick which his crew members recognized and led them to praising the Lord for His healing. I would like to thank you everyone who prayed for him. I always thank the Lord for your great support as a team for His Kingdom.



The Filipino crew encouraged by John

One day I had the help of John from Ballybay. We visited three ships. One of them was Endeavor, a container ship where we spent almost three hours

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singing, reading the Bible and praying together. They said it was the first time to have a service on board and they were blessed by the Word of God. As John shared God's Word with them and prayed for them, the Lord moved their hearts to have more time for Him when they come to Dublin again. Matthew (3rd person from the right) will have a baby in May next year. Please pray that we may be able to have a regular Bible study. Pray also for Matthew and his wife as well as the safe arrival of their baby.



Mark and his crew

A weekly Bible study group

Thanks for your prayers for the Dutch chief officer on a container ship who was a gnostic and showed a genuine interest in Jesus. He welcomed me when I visited him again. He was happy to see me again and spent 30 minutes talking about what he was interested in for life. Please continue to pray for him and God's salvation for him. His crew joined a Bible study again. Especially Mark, a new cook (person in the middle) was so happy to join the Bible study for the first time and said he felt so refreshed.

I still have 6 weekly Bible study groups. In one of them, Luke, a Russian 2nd engineer told me when he first saw me smiling, he felt so encouraged to talk to me and spend time with me and even join the Bible study regularly. Please pray for Mark who feels uncomfortable on board ship because of the war.

Family News

Finally, hello from all the family. Yena, busy at art projects and school; Micah busy in University, playing piano or cello at numerous Christmas events; Kathy, just doing what she always does! Please pray for Jae as he plans to visit his elderly mother in Seoul in February. We wish you God's peace and encouragement as you celebrate His birth this Christmas.

Thank you for the part you play in the work of God's Kingdom,

Jaeguen, Kathy, Micah and Yena

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