

This is why I'm doing We Were There

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September 15, 2017



I'm going to give a testimony two different ways.

First way;

When I was fundraising, I had many deep experiences of God. One taught me that when you commit yourself and go beyond your limitations, God will work and do things that you couldn't do by yourself. This really made me realize how much God wants to work in our lives. Our True Father taught us this. I am so grateful to God and True Parents for their example, and I want to remember this inspiration for all of my life.

And now, the second way:

I was running through a dark parking lot, a lump of change jingling in my polyester pants pocket. My breath was coming out in puffs, and I was sweating under my windbreaker. The puddles melted by the sun were now turning to sheets of ice across the asphalt. Clutching a cardboard box of chocolate coconut rings, I was scanning the lot looking for another person to sell to.

In the dark empty area between the mall and the street, a middle aged lady was shuffling carefully across the ice, towards her car parked out on the edge. I bounded towards her, my feet barely touching the ground.

As I was loping along into the darkness, alarm signals were going off in my brain. "Wait a minute. Dark parking lot. Nervous woman, alone. Strange man running towards her at top speed. She's going to freak out. This could go very badly."

I didn't break stride. As I got in range to greet her, I filled my lungs to belt out a hearty "Hi!".

I got as far as filling my lungs and opening my mouth. Before I could make any sound, both the lady's legs shot out from under her and she landed – splat! – on her back.

I ran up to her.

"Are you ok?"

"I don't know!"

"What hurts?"

"My head and my elbow."

I knelt down and felt the back of her head with my fingertips. No lumps.

"Give me your elbow."

I moved it gently.

"Does that hurt more?"

"No."

"Ok, can you wiggle your fingers?"

"I think so."

They wiggled.

"Well, you haven't broken anything."

"Oh, thank you. Are you a doctor?"

"No, actually. I'm a missionary."

I helped her up.

"How can I thank you?"

"Well, I am fundraising for our youth work with this chocolate candy."

"How much is it?"

"We ask a donation of \$3, but you can get 2 for \$5."

"Here, I'll take 2."

"Are you ok to walk to your car?"

"Yes, thank you. Good night."

"Good night. God bless."

I may never forget how I was barreling into what seemed to be a very stupid action, about to yell "Hi!" at a nervous woman in a very dark parking lot. But before the sound came out of my mouth, she fell down and was grateful that I was there to help her. Someday I would like to see a 'spiritual replay' of that scene, to see just how spirit world knocked her down. That was one of my earliest experiences of how spirit world could intervene and make a dicey situation work out perfectly. The key was that I kept going even as those 'wait wait' thoughts were rolling through my brain.

So, now that you have read both testimonies, which one is more likely to help you in your life? Which one are you more likely to pay attention to? Which one means something to you?

This is one of the core reasons We Were There exists – to tell our stories in a detailed way that anyone could understand. More than that, to say what actually happened, and let the reader make up their minds as to what it means. At the end, I may say what I think, but they've already had the chance to make up their own minds, based on the details I've given. It's way more powerful when the reader thinks "Wow! God must have done that," on their own.

Check out more stories on testimoonies.com. See what you think.