

Lesson 03

I. Brief Sketches Great Missionary Ladies, Single and Married

A. Harriet Atwood Newell (1793 To 1812)

She was the wife of Samuel Newell. She was the best friend of Ann Judson and sailed with the Judsons to India when she was _____ years old. Because of the East India Company's opposition to missionaries, they were forced to leave India. They didn't consider returning to Boston but sailed to the Isle of France (Mauritius). Harriet gave birth on a cargo ship with only her husband to attend her. When a bad storm flooded the ship, she and the baby became ill from exposure. They buried the little girl at sea, and Harriet lived until they arrived at Port Louis where she died. Harriet was the first American foreign missionary casualty. She never won anyone to Christ, never taught the heathen women, and she was on the field less than a year. Was she a great missionary? She was still a teenager when she died. She said, "I have never regretted leaving my native land for the cause of Christ." [Would you have said that after you had just buried your baby at sea, and you lay dying in a strange land at eighteen years of age? Then she was a greater missionary than you!]

B. Ann (Nancy) Judson (1789 to 1827):

Ann was not just the wife of a great missionary, she was one! You just have to read about her. Her pastor challenged her and Harriet: "*My dear children, you are now engaged in the best of causes. It is that cause for which Jesus the Son of God came into the world and suffered and died. You literally forsake father and mother, brothers and sisters, for the sake of Christ and the promotion of His kingdom.*" He told them to _____ that their husbands could not reach. "*Go then and do all in your power to enlighten their minds and bring them to the knowledge of the truth...teach them to realize that they are not an inferior race of creatures but stand upon a par with men. Teach them that they have immortal souls; and are no longer to burn themselves in the same fire with the bodies of their departed husbands.*"

C. Mary Slessor (1858-1915)

She was a single woman missionary known as the White Queen of Calabar. J. H. Morrison pays this tribute: "*She is entitled to a place in the front ranks of the heroines of history, and if goodness be counted an essential element of true greatness, if eminence be reckoned by love and self-sacrifice, by years of endurance and suffering, by a life of sustained heroism and purest devotion, it will be found difficult, if not impossible, to name her equal.*" In early life she was the mainstay of the family after her father's death at Dundee and had been a Scottish factory girl, toiling at her weaving machine from six in the morning till six at night amid the flash of the shuttles, the rattle of the looms and the roar of the machines. Like David Livingstone, she educated herself by reading _____, a few sentences at a time, while tending her machine. She was beaten down by tropical fevers, had controlled drunken cannibals brandishing loaded muskets, had mastered hundreds of frenzied natives lusting for blood and faced death a thousand times in her endeavor to bring redemption's

story to Africa's perishing peoples. On board a ship for Africa, seeing a large number of casks of spirits being loaded, she exclaimed ruefully: "Scores of casks of rum and only one _____!" One day her canoe was attacked by a hippopotamus and she saved her life, and the lives of the children with her, by throwing a cooking pot into the gaping jaws. She was held in such high esteem, the chiefs often asked her to help them decide quarrels and in palavers between villages; she often kept the people from going to war. Mary rescued hundreds of _____ thrown out into the forest, prevented many wars, stopped the practice of trying to determine guilt by the poison ordeal, healed the sick, and unweariedly told the people about our great God and Saviour. She toiled on in Calabar for nearly _____ years. [We don't believe in women preachers. Tell that to all the African men you meet in Heaven who were saved under the preaching of Mary Slessor! Right or wrong, I think I have more respect for a woman who goes and preaches when she shouldn't than for a selfish male coward who stays and does not preach to the heathen when he could and should. RLC].

D. Gladys Aylward (1902-1970)

She was a British born missionary to China Her story is told in *The Small Woman*, by Alan Burgess and in the Hollywood movie *Inn of the Sixth Happiness*. (Although she had signed an agreement with 20th Century-Fox, she felt her work was cheapened by the story, which distorted events and was changed to include a love scene.) Aylward tried hard as a student, but she did not fare well at school. At age fourteen, she quit school to work in a penny bazaar and then in a grocer's shop. Aylward later worked as a housemaid. In her late twenties, she read a newspaper commentary about China and the millions of people who had never heard the Gospel. That article was to change her life. She was accepted by the China Inland Mission to study a preliminary three-month course for aspiring missionaries. Due to her _____ in learning the Chinese language, she was not offered further training. The chairman of the committee wrote: "*It is with great regret that I have to recommend to you that we do not accept Miss Aylward. She has a call to serve God—she is sincere and courageous—but we cannot take the responsibility of sending a woman of twenty-six, with such limited Christian experience and education, to China.*" She was also too old, they felt, to learn the Chinese language. Sent by the C.I.M. to Bristol to work as _____ for a retired missionary couple who had just returned from China, she learned a great deal through stories of their experiences and their deep faith in God. Gladys spent her life savings on a train passage to Yangcheng, Shanxi Province, China. On October 18, 1930, she finally set out from Liverpool Street Station on her arduous overland journey with two £1 traveler's checks and ninepence sewn into her corset. She carried two suitcases. One held her clothes, the other contained corned beef, fish, beans, crackers, soda biscuits, rye crisp, tea, coffee, hard-boiled eggs, a saucepan, a kettle, and an alcohol stove. The perilous trip took her through Holland, Germany, Poland, and Russia, and then through Siberia on the Trans-Siberian Railway. She was detained by the Russians but managed to evade them with local help and a lift from a _____ ship. She travelled across Japan with the help of the British Consul and took another ship to China. Aylward worked with another older missionary lady, Jeannie Lawson, in an inn called the Inn of the Eighth Happiness, a place to witness to travelers. She learned the local language. In late April 1940, an oxcart

stopped outside the Scandinavian-American Mission in Hsing-P'ing (Xingping), northwest China, to deliver the fragile body of a thirty-eight-year-old Western woman who was delirious and on the verge of death. Across her back, she bore the scar of a recent bullet wound. Sent to the hospital in Sian (Xi'an), she was diagnosed with typhoid fever and internal injuries, but a month passed before she was _____. She was Gladys Aylward. The war left many children orphaned, and most of those in Yangcheng were brought to Aylward, who lived in the bombed-out inn. Eventually, she found herself in charge of more than _____ unruly children, including five of her own that she had officially adopted. She taught them lessons, read them stories from the Bible, and begged food from everyone, including the Japanese, to keep them fed. She led about 100 orphans out of war-torn China to safety in Sian (1940). *"This is indeed my country, and these are my people,"* she wrote her family. *"I live now completely as a Chinese woman. I wear their clothes, eat their food, speak their language—even their dialect—and I am thinking like they do."* Always penniless and living among the people she helped, she was driven by a compassion for human suffering. In 1936, Aylward became a naturalized Chinese citizen. By that time, China and Japan had been pursuing an undeclared war for several years. In July 1937, the full-scale, official Sino-Japanese war was underway. The following year, when the Japanese bombing reached Yangcheng, one raid destroyed the town as well as the inn. Aylward was rescued from the rubble. Amid the chaos, she improvised a hospital and established small Christian communities in the region, sometimes visiting villages under Japanese occupation and reporting any observations on her travels that might prove useful to the Chinese Nationalists. In 1949, as the _____ took over and missionaries became their targets, friends finally persuaded Aylward to leave and visit family in England. It had been seventeen years since she had seen them. In 1957, after the death of her mother, she finally felt free to leave England again. She stayed for a short while in Hong Kong, working among the refugees from Communism, and went later that same year to the island of Formosa, known today as _____. Over the following years, she ran mission halls and orphanages and traveled the world on speaking and preaching tours, raising money for her work. She settled in the city of Taipei and adopted many children. She died there at age sixty-seven of the flu.

E. Sophie Mueller (1910-1995) *His Voice Shakes the Wilderness* an autobiography.

In 1944, she traded life as a graphic designer in New York City for the jungles of Colombia, Brazil, and Venezuela in order to reach the local tribes with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Sophie Muller's dream was to work as an _____ in New York City; God, however, had a different plan. During her lunch hour one day, Sophie stopped to listen to a young _____ named Jack Wyrzten and received Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. Soon afterward, she attended Bible school and was accepted as a missionary with New Tribes Mission. The original plan was to send her to the field to _____ for the New Tribes Mission magazine, *Brown Gold*. Soon, however, Sophie Muller struck out on her own through the jungles with various traders and guides and established contact with the Curipaco people. Her first task was learning the language, and with the help of a bilingual man, she began teaching the people to read even while learning the language herself. She created a primer in their language and ultimately translated the New Testament in both the

Curipaco language and many other Indian languages. Her work was not without danger; she was frequently in mortal peril. She met with great resistance from village _____. One witchdoctor decided to kill her by adding a deadly poison to her soup. She ate it and vomited immediately. When the village dogs and chickens came and ate the vomit, they fell down dead. She was threatened with arrest by the Brazilian government and forced from Colombia by the _____ rebels, so she went into Venezuela. Over the course of her _____ years of ministry in the jungle, Sophie Muller was directly responsible for planting over 350 churches in the region, and an estimated 35,000 indigenous people came to Christ as a result of her service. As the churches grew, she saw the need for a training center for pastors of these village churches, so she established a Bible school in conjunction with Word of Life International on the banks of the Orinoco River in Venezuela. She established regular Bible conferences at the school for indigenous pastors and brought in speakers and teachers to train them. In 1995 when Sophie Muller was eighty-five, she flew back to the States and was diagnosed with stomach cancer; she died a short time later. She had _____ people mourn at her funeral: a representative of Word of Life, a representative of New Tribes Mission, David Peterson, two funeral directors, and a couple of others. The memorial service in Venezuela for her was scheduled at a later date, with enough time for the word to get out to all the villages and to the people who knew her. Many thousands of people traveled by canoe or through the jungle on foot for months—months!—in order to attend and honor her memory.

F. Rachel Saint (1914-1994)

Rachel, trained by the Summer Institute of Linguistics and sent by Wycliffe Bible Translators, first served in Peru but moved to Ecuador in February 1955 when she was forty-one years old. In 1958, after the death of her _____, Nate, and the four other missionaries, she and a young Huaorani girl, Dyuma, moved into the village where the five men were killed. For three years, Elisabeth Elliot (1926-2015), widow of Jim Elliot, worked with her there. Rachel learned the language, reduced it to writing, and translated the New Testament. On November 11, 1994, Rachel Saint died of cancer. She is buried where she lived with the Huaorani in Toñampare, Ecuador, having poured out her life for nearly _____ to introduce this people, whom she dearly loved, to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

G. Amy Carmichael (1867-1951)

She was a single Irish lady missionary in India, who opened an orphanage and founded a mission in Dohnavur. She maintained an orphanage especially for girls who had been rescued from prostitution in the Hindu temples. She desired to be a missionary after hearing _____ speak. Due to poor health with neuralgia, she was not accepted by the China Inland Mission. Amy spent fifteen months in Japan but left due to her illness. In 1894, she moved to Ceylon or Sri Lanka and then the following year she moved to Southern India. India's warm climate was better for her condition. There she lived with Indian women who had been converted and taught her the Tamil language. One day, a small Indian girl, Preena, a girl sold into _____ by her widowed mother, was collecting water for the temple near where Amy was speaking. As Amy told the gathering women about a God who loved everyone the same, no matter what caste they were in, Preena stopped to listen. The

God Amy talked about did not put people in different classes as the Indian caste system did. The young girl was very interested in what Amy was saying but knew she must not be seen listening to the white woman. She instead hid Amy's words into her memory and hurried back to the temple. However, that week, Preena was to be chosen to marry one of the main _____. Preena tried to run away but was caught and as her punishment, her hands were branded with a red-hot poker. Scared and afraid, Preena remembered Amy's kind words about a God who loved her and decided to risk running away again. She managed to escape and arrived at Amy's door. When Amy saw her, she knew that she could not send her back. The little girl would be beaten and maybe even killed if she returned. Amy could have been charged with kidnapping and thrown into prison for taking the young girl in, but it was a chance she was willing to take. Amy's encounter with Preena opened her eyes to the injustice of children prostitution and she devoted the rest of her life fighting it. When Amy stepped into the struggle to end this wicked practice, she found that even the missionary community _____ her work. Although people-trafficking was not new, they thought she exaggerated the situation of temple prostitution. The truth of what went on behind the temple scenes was so hard to get people to believe, that Amy got first-hand information by pretending to be an Indian and visiting the temples herself. She would dye and stain her light skin brown with coffee or tea bags, and her brown eyes helped her fit right in as a Hindu. No one would guess that the dark-skinned woman wearing a light blue sari, which was associated with the lowest caste, the untouchables, was a missionary from Ireland. Amy Carmichael's ministry at Dohnavur Fellowship began to transform Indian society and provided a safe refuge for over a thousand children in her lifetime. Although Amy never tried raising funds, she was in constant conversation with God for all the money and medication that was needed to sustain the ministry. In 1912, _____ recognized her work and helped fund a hospital at Dohnavur. By 1913, the Dohnavur Fellowship was housing 130 girls, and over thirty Indian Christian women volunteered to serve in the ministry. In 1918, Amy added a home for young boys, many of whom were born to the former temple prostitutes. In 1931, Amy Carmichael broke her leg and ankle in an accident. Her hip and back were badly damaged and she was unable to fully walk again. This, along with her neuralgia, kept her in bed for the remainder of her life. The last twenty years of her mission at Dohnavur Fellowship were directed from her _____. On January 18, 1951, Amy Carmichael passed away peacefully at Dohnavur at the age of eighty-three. She had served faithfully for over fifty-five years in India, with fifty of those years dedicated to service at Dohnavur Fellowship. She had never married or left India to return to Ireland or England. A _____ under a tree in Dohnavur honors her memory. On it is inscribed a simple word: 'Amma.' One of her quotes is: "When I consider the cross of Christ, how can anything that I do be called sacrifice?" Her life as a missionary has inspired many others, including Jim and Elisabeth Elliot, to pursue missions.