

# SEEING GOD'S HAND

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Our 2019 year-end holiday to Harbin was not only unforgettable, but every joy that we encountered still lays fresh in our mind. Not because it was our inaugural family trip to China nor the food or even the weather. It was in the midst of chaos and helplessness that we experienced God's wonderful provision.

After a week of winter wonderland, we were looking forward to being back in sunny Singapore. On departure day, it was snowing moderately. We checked in at the airport and proceeded to the gate. There were loads of people around as earlier flights were either delayed or cancelled. Our flight was strangely stated as "ON TIME". Several anxious hours later, we were informed that our flight was CANCELLED.

We thought that the airline would make the necessary arrangements but that did not happen. It was not obliged to make a provision in view of flight cancellation due to adverse weather. In other words, we were left out in the cold.

The myriad of worries we faced then were due to work and school commitments. The next available flight was one week later, and there was no guarantee that the transit stop (Beijing) was functional. It was difficult and costly to find accommodation for 7 people due to the peak holiday period. We were also very low on cash; our pre-paid internet service had ended and our tourist visa was expiring soon.

WE DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG THE BAD WEATHER WOULD LAST, AND WHEN THE AIRPORT WOULD REOPEN, WE NEEDED TO GET BACK HOME SOON...

While trying to make sense of the chaos and confusion at departure gate, we got acquainted with a young man who helped us with some translation. He was a fellow passenger and a tour guide from Malaysia with over 30 people under his charge. Even though he was in a less enviable position, he still made the effort to help us. God provided someone to calm our anxieties.

We could not stay at the departure gate area, hence we had to recover our luggage and seek assistance at the service counter. But it was getting dark and we had not eaten a proper meal since morning.

God brought Ding Jie (service counter staff) to assist us. She was sympathetic and she went beyond her call of duty and very patiently assisted us for more than 2 hours. At that point in time, there was no telling when the weather would break and the best course of action was to secure a flight from another city.

Ding Jie managed to confirm direct return tickets for us and at the point of payment, we realized that all our credit cards and ATM card were unusable. We were devastated. It had been a long day and we were back to square one with little hope of a flight home.

We were speechless when Ding Jie told us she would first pay on our behalf. Why would anyone go all out to help total strangers with a large sum of money?

Surely God's hand was in this situation! We very gratefully accepted her kindness. Following her instructions, we left the airport and made our way to the train station using public transport in heavy snowfall. We made it to Shenyang the next day and subsequently boarded our flight back home. In all honesty, throughout this time, we were also very concerned about scams and that the return tickets were fakes. But we learned to walk by faith not by sight.

We contacted Ding Jie and reimbursed her in full. We also learned that the sum of money was equivalent to 5 months of her wages. Her other colleagues also questioned her and her reply was that she just wanted to help others get home safely.

There are many times when we were tested and there seemed to be no way, but God opened the way. We always prayed and released our fears to Him during that tense time.

ISAIAH 41:13

FOR I, THE LORD  
YOUR GOD, HOLD  
YOUR RIGHT HAND;  
IT IS I WHO SAY TO  
YOU, "FEAR NOT, I  
AM THE ONE WHO  
HELPS YOU."

## PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Jehovah Jireh our Provider, who hears our cries and answers in Your time. We trust in You. May You guide us through this Covid-19 situation and may your purposes for all of us prevail.

AMEN.

Judy Yeoh and husband, Chern

