

Adoniram - The good life of a dead seed

阿多奈拉姆－死了的種子的美好生活

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You want a good life. Everyone does. But what is a good life?

你想要美好的生活。每個人都想。但什麼是美好的生活？

Leaving a legacy. Great success. Willed Inheritance. Shared memories. Lived experiences. Secured comforts. Passed-down wisdom. Showed respect. Enjoyed friendships. No regrets... 留下遺產。巨大的成就。立好遺囑。集體回憶。體驗了生活。安全舒適。承傳智慧。表示尊重。享受友誼。不後悔...

This world tells you how to pursue this *good life*. Through your family, your culture, the media & advertising, a good life is defined for you. It's plastered on billboards or subtly in the background, all pointing to a good life that benefits you the most in the end.

這個世界告訴你要如何追求這種美好的生活。通過您的家庭、您的文化、媒體和廣告，為您定義了美好的生活。貼在廣告牌上，或巧妙地出現在背景中，都指向最終對您最有益的美好生活。

In response, you are pursuing *a good life*. Some of what the world has told you, you accept. Some you have rejected. It is visible in your choices and actions, and in your desires and motivations. Year by year, we reassess our good life pursuits in resolutions, new plans and hopes with change. That's the worldly process we are all in pursuing a good life.

作為回應，你正在追求美好的生活。你接受了一些世界告訴你的定義，也拒絕了一些。它可以通過您的選擇和行動以及您的願望和動機看到。年復一年，我們在決心、新計劃和變化的希望中重新評估我們對美好生活的追求。這就是我們都在的世俗過程為追求美好生活。

But Christians believe God defines the good life for us. He plans and purposes every life in a time and place where He bids us choose His way over ours. He shows us the good life through Jesus. Jesus gives His followers principles of living that are counter cultural and opposed to the world's definition of what a good life is. He does this by showing us that life following Him means living for *others*. Living our worldly way to a good life will lead to death says Jesus. But following Him His way will lead to the good life for eternity.

但基督徒相信上帝為我們定義何謂美好的生活。他計劃和安排每一個生命在他命令我們選擇他的方式而不是我們的方式的時間和地點。他通過耶穌向我們展示了何謂美好生活。耶穌給他的追隨的生活原則是反文化的，並且與世界對美好生活的定義相反。他通過向我們展示跟隨他的生活意味著為他人而活來做到這一點。耶穌說，以世俗的方式過上美好的生活將導致死亡。但以他的方式跟隨他將帶來永恆的美好生活。

We are in a season of Church called 'running the race' where we look at the lives of Christians from history to see how we might follow them as they followed Jesus. Today we meet a faithful and flawed man called Adoniram. You will see how God helped him turn from his self-defined worldly view of a good life toward God's good life for him. My hope is that you will discover a vision of God's good life as defined by Jesus in John 12 and in an extreme way lived out through the life of Adoniram.

我們教會正在進行「為神奔跑」的講道系列，去看一些已故的基督徒的生命，看看我們如何跟隨他們像他們跟隨耶穌一樣。今天，我們遇到了一個忠誠但有缺陷的人，名叫阿多奈拉姆。你會看到上帝如何幫助他從他自己定義的美好生活的世俗觀點轉向上帝為他準備的美好生活。我希望你會發現耶穌在《約翰福音》12章中所定義的上帝美好生活的異象，並以一種極端的方式在阿多奈拉姆的生命中實現。

 He was born in the late 1700s into the northeast of America. His parents were Christians, his Father a pastor. Adoniram was a VERY gifted child who began university at age 16. By 19 he was valedictorian, graduating at the top of his class, but no longer any faith in Jesus.

他於1700年代後期出生在美國東北部。他的父母是基督徒，父親是牧師。阿多奈拉姆是一個非常有天賦的孩子，他16歲開始上大學。到19歲時，他已成為畢業生代表，以全班第一名的成績畢業，但不再信耶穌。

Young Adoniram met people at university who spoke against his Christian worldview. His friend Jacob Eames led him into Deism > a belief that one's logic and reason alone can prove any existence of a supreme being. Adoniram publicly rejected the Church and its message, following Eames' scepticism to his own self-determined view of reality. He gave up on becoming a pastor like his Father, instead leaving town to become a playwright and live his version of a good life. He banded together with like-minded men, travelling around and living in the moment. This life led him to broken relationships, petty crime, and away from the good life he had imagined.

年輕的阿多奈拉姆在大學裡遇到了反對他的基督教世界觀的人。他的朋友雅各·伊姆斯將他帶入了<自然神論>一種相信僅憑邏輯和理性就可以證明任何至高無上的存在的信念。隨著伊姆斯對他自己對現實的自我決定的看法的懷疑，阿多奈拉姆公開拒絕了教會及其信息。他放棄像他父親一樣去成為牧師，而是離開小鎮成為一名劇作家，過著他想要的美好生活。他與志同道合的人結成聯盟，四處旅行，活在當下。這種生活讓他走向破裂的人際關係、輕微的犯罪，並遠離他想像中的美好生活。

He decided to travel home rethink the good life he wanted. And on the final stop before home he found lodging at an inn. But Adoniram's accommodation came with a warning: 'The man in the room next to yours is very unwell. We are unsure he will live through the night'.

他決定回家重新思考他想要的美好生活。在回家前的最後一站，阿多奈拉姆在一家旅館投宿。同時旅館的人也個警告他，「你隔壁房間的那個人身體非常不適。我們不確定他能否熬過這一夜。」

After a horrible night of screams and anxiety, Adoniram woke up to silence. As Adoniram prepared to leave, he discovered that the man next door had died, and that his name was: Eames, Jacob Eames. Adoniram had witnessed his once friend's suffering and violent end.

經過一夜的尖叫和焦慮，阿多奈拉姆在一片寂靜中醒來。阿多奈拉姆準備離開時，發現隔壁的男人已經死了，他的名字是：伊姆斯，雅各·伊姆斯。阿多奈拉姆目睹了他曾經的好友的痛苦和暴力的結局。

The man Adoniram followed into that 'good life' was now dead in it. Adoniram feared he was headed the same way. Eventually he saw that this was God saving his life. This night was not a coincidence. God's intervention led Adoniram to reconsider Jesus. To his family's joy and the shock of his peers, he became a Christian, born again, and visibly different to all he knew. Once

spiritually dead, he was now alive, and eager to live God's good life. Adoniram took the Bible seriously, allowing his whole worldview to be reshaped by Jesus' principles for living set for His followers.

阿多奈拉姆跟隨著進入那種「美好生活」的人現在已死在其中。阿多奈拉姆擔心他會走向同樣的方向。最後他看見這是神在救他的命。這個夜晚不是巧合。上帝的干預導致阿多奈拉姆重新考慮耶穌。令他的家人高興和同齡的人震驚的是，他成為了一名基督徒，重生了，並且與他所知道的一切明顯不同。他曾經在靈性上死去，現在重新活著，並且渴望過上帝的美好生活。阿多奈拉姆認真對待聖經，允許他的整個世界觀被耶穌為他的追隨者設定的生活原則重塑。

In John 12 we see one of Jesus' principles for living that Adoniram exemplified in his life. Let's start in verse 25 > so get your Bibles open there!

在《約翰福音》第 12 章中，我們看到阿多奈拉姆在他的生活中所體現的耶穌的生活原則之一。讓我們從第 25 節開始，請翻開你的聖經！

Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.

愛惜自己性命的，就喪失性命；那恨惡自己在這世上的性命的，要保全性命到永生。
若有人服事我，就當跟從我；我在哪裏，服事我的人也要在哪裏；若有人服事我，我父必尊重他。

Jesus says to hate what the world says is the good life as it leads to death and eternity without Him. That was Adoniram's experience of life so far. His friends were awful, and his most respected friend was dead. The good life of the world was no good at all.

耶穌說要恨惡世人所說的美好生活，因為它們會導致喪失性命和永遠沒有他的同在。這就是阿多奈拉姆迄今為止的生活經歷。他的朋友很糟糕，他最尊敬的朋友死了。世人所謂的美好生活一點也不好。

But the good life is to receive honour from God and His presence with us for eternity! But to receive that we must turn from the good life of the world. Hating worldly good life is costly and isolating. Adoniram took Jesus so seriously that he was willing to pay whatever cost Jesus would call him to pay.

但美好的生活是從上帝那裡得到榮耀尊重，並他與我們的永遠同在！但要接受這一點，我們必須轉離世上的美好生活。恨惡世上的美好生活是代價高昂且孤立無援的。阿多奈拉姆非常重視耶穌，以至於他願意支付耶穌要他付出的任何代價。

Jesus shows Adoniram and us the cost of hating our life in the world in v.24.

耶穌在第 24 節向阿多奈拉姆和我們指明恨惡我們在這世上的生活的代價。

Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

我實實在在地告訴你們，一粒麥子不落在地裏死了，仍舊是一粒；若是死了，就結出許多子粒來。

Jesus' mini parable describes Himself. He is the seed. He is going to die. It's His plan (v.33). He alone can hate life in the world His way, for He died for the sins of all people. But because He died, fruit can grow. His followers are the fruit. Jesus knows the gravity of this prophecy and plan for His good life in v.27:

耶穌的小比喻描述了他自己。他是種子。他快要死了。這是他的計劃（第33節）。只有他能以他的方式恨惡世上的生活，因為他為所有人的罪而死。但因為他死了，果子才能生長。他的追隨者是果子。耶穌第27節中表明他知道這個預言和他美好生活的計劃的重要性：

“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour.”

「我現在心裏憂愁，我說甚麼才好呢？說『父啊，救我脫離這時候』嗎？但我正是為這時候來的。」

Fully aware of His coming death Jesus chose to let His Father define a good life: bearing the wrath of God for the sin of humanity. We cannot know that loss or imagine the cost. But Jesus did not remain a single seed. His Father's plan was for fruit!

耶穌充分意識到他即將到來的死亡，選擇讓他的父親定義美好的生活：為人類的罪惡承擔上帝的憤怒。我們無法知道所損失的或想像它的成本。但耶穌並沒有一直仍舊是一粒麥子。他父親的計劃是為了結出許多子粒來！

And if you trust in Jesus, you are a seed of Christ and the fruit of His death! It cost Him everything for you to live and have His good life to live.

如果你相信耶穌，你就是基督的種子，也是他的死結出的果子！為了你的生命和享受他的美好生活，他付出了一切代價。

God's good life is to follow Jesus' example. We do not need to die for the sins of others. Jesus did that. But we are to hate our life to the point of readiness to lose all that the world says is the good life: our comforts, safety, success, reputation, risking the loss of everything, even our life to be a seed of Christ. Jesus' example is to not remain a single seed of Christ, but to bear Him fruit by dying to the good life of the world, ready to give your good life away for the sake of others so they may grow out of the dead soil of the world and bear the glorious fruit of God!

上帝的美好生活就是效法耶穌的榜樣。我們不需要為別人的罪而死。耶穌已成就了。但是我們要恨死我們的生活，以至於準備好失去世界所說的美好生活：我們的舒適、安全、成功、聲譽，冒著失去一切的風險，甚至我們的生命成為基督的種子。耶穌的榜樣是不要一直仍舊是基督的一粒種子，而是要去喪掉世上的美好生活，準備好為他人放棄你美好的生活，去結出許多基督的子粒來，這樣他們就可以從世上的死土中長出，並結出神的榮耀果子！

Jesus shared this principle the moment after some Greeks (non-Jews) asked to see Him. This request of foreigners to hear Jesus' message marked the season His seed was to be planted. It was for this reason (v. 27) at this hour (v.23) and for the sake of all people (v.32) that Jesus would not remain a single seed.

耶穌在一些希臘人（非猶太人）要求見他之後，就立刻分享了這個原則。外國人請求聽耶穌的信息標誌著他的種子播種的季節。正是出於這個原因（第27節），在這個時候（第23節）和為了所有人的緣故（第32節），耶穌不會仍舊保持是一粒麥子。

God's good life is following Jesus so that we are be planted for crops to grow, multiplying salvation wherever He plants us. That is the good life following Jesus: self-sacrifice for the sake of the salvation of others.

上帝的美好生命是跟隨耶穌，這樣我們就被栽種，讓莊稼生長，無論他栽種我們在哪裡，救恩都會倍增。那就是跟隨耶穌的美好生活：為了他人的得救而自我犧牲。

Adoniram heard this and fixed his life on becoming a missionary. He handed over his good life to a country who knew nothing of the Bible or Jesus – Burma in South Asia, now called Myanmar. No one American had ever done this. He had to fight the Church to go. He had to get permission and travel there which would take 18 months, learn the language, and word by word translate the Bible for the Burmese. All while locals wouldn't want him there, would persecute, isolate, and refuse to accept him or his message. Adoniram knew this but willingly wore the risk. In fact he knew it a certainty that he would die there, perhaps without seeing any fruit, following Jesus' principle to be a seed of Christ that God might grow.

阿多奈拉姆聽到了這個信息，並立志成為一名傳教士。他將自己的美好生活交給了一個對聖經和耶穌一無所知的國家——位於南亞的緬甸。從來沒有一個美國人這樣做過。他必須與教會抗爭才能離開。他必須獲得許可才能前往那裡，將需要 18 個月的時間，學習語言，並逐字逐句地為緬甸人翻譯聖經。與此同時，當地人都不希望他在那裡，會迫害、孤立並拒絕接受他或他的信息。阿多奈拉姆知道這一點，但願意承擔風險。事實上，他確信他會死在那裡，也許沒有看到任何果實，遵循耶穌的原則，成為基督的種子，使神的國增長。

But he didn't take this risk alone. He got married just before he left to a Christian girl named Ann. Listen to his letter asking Ann's Father for his permission to make her his bride and hear how seriously Adoniram took Jesus' words:

但他並沒有獨自承擔這個風險。他在離開之前與一個名叫安妮的基督徒姊妹結了婚。聽聽他請求安妮的父親允許他娶她為新娘的信，聽聽阿多奈拉姆是多麼認真地對待耶穌的話：

"I have now to ask, whether you can consent to part with your daughter early next spring, to see her no more in this world; whether you can consent to her departure, and her subjection to the hardships and sufferings of missionary life; whether you can consent to her exposure to the dangers of the ocean, to the fatal influence of the southern climate ... want and distress, degradation, insult, persecution, and perhaps a violent death. Can you consent to all this, for the sake of him who left His heavenly home, and died for her and for you; for the sake of perishing, immortal souls; for the sake of Zion, and the glory of God? Can you consent to all this, in hope of soon meeting your daughter in the world of glory, with the crown of righteous, brightened with the acclamations of praise which shall resound to her Saviour from lost saved, through her means, from eternal woe and despair?"

「我現在不得不問，你會否同意在明年春天早些時候與你的女兒分開，不再在這個世界上見到她；你會否同意她的離開，及接受她要面對傳教生活的艱辛和痛苦；你是否可以同意她暴露在航海的危險中，接受南方氣候的致命影響……匱乏和痛苦、退化、侮辱、迫害，也許還有暴力死亡。為了那個離開天家，為她和你而死的，你能同意這一切嗎？為了滅亡的、永生的靈；為了錫安和上帝的榮耀？你會在希望很快能在榮耀的世界與你的女兒見面，她戴著正義的冠冕，被讚美的歡呼照亮，通過她使迷途的從永恆的痛苦和絕望得救的迴響給她的救主去同意這一切嗎？」

That's what a good life was to Adoniram. That's what good life was to Ann.

這就是阿多奈拉姆的美好生活。這就是安妮的美好生活。

And as Her Father consented, he too declared that plan for his little girl's life as good.

當她的父親同意後，他也宣布這個計劃對他小女兒的生活是好的。

I could stop there, and their story be enough.

我可以就此停下，他們到此的故事就足夠了。

I'm astounded at the young couple who exchanged their young love and youth for hardship and loss. And by the willingness of Ann's Father to hand over his daughter to a death he can't prevent.

令我震驚的是，這對年輕的夫婦用他們年輕的愛情和青春換來了艱辛和失落。並且由於安妮的父親願意將他的女兒交給他無法阻止的死亡。

For the sake of time I am going to speed through the rest of Adoniram's family life. Just keep your eyes open to what a good life following Jesus looked like for them:

為了節省時間，我將快速介紹阿多奈拉姆的家庭生活。要留意看看跟隨耶穌的美好生活對他們來說是什麼樣的：

Ann and Adoniram made it to their new home in Rangoon in Burma in 1813. They were immediately battling malaria, dysentery, cholera, and a myriad of other unknown diseases. While Adoniram studied the language and translated the Bible, they raised a family. Three of four of Ann and Adoniram's children died young. Ann wrote this after the death of their son:

安妮和阿多奈拉姆於1813年抵達他們在緬甸仰光的新家。他們立即與瘧疾、痢疾、霍亂和無數其他未知疾病作鬥爭。在阿多奈拉姆學習語言和翻譯聖經的同時，他們養家糊口。安妮和阿多奈拉姆的四個孩子中的三個早夭。安妮在他們的兒子去世後寫道：

“Our hearts were bound up with this child; we felt he was our earthly all, our only source of innocent recreation in this heathen land. But God saw it was necessary to remind us of our error, and to strip us of our only little all. O, may it not be vain that he has done it. May we so improve it that he will stay his hand and say ‘It is enough’”

“我們的心都與這個孩子息息相關；我們覺得他是我們在塵世的全部，是我們在這片異教土地上唯一的純真的再被造的來源。但上帝認為有必要提醒我們我們的錯誤，並剝奪我們僅有的一點點一切。哦，願他所做的不是徒勞的。願我們可以如此的改進，好讓他停下手說，「這就夠了」”

For a time soon after Adoniram was imprisoned and tortured horribly for being a foreigner.

While Ann cared for him in prison, travelling back and forth to their child, many of their colleagues in the mission died. Eventually Adoniram was released. Ann and the child were very sick. The child died. Then Ann died. And Adoniram broke.

在阿多奈拉姆因身為外國人而被監禁並遭受可怕的折磨後不久。當安妮在監獄裡照顧他，往返於他們的孩子身邊時，他們在任務中的許多同事都死了。最終阿多奈拉姆獲釋。安妮和孩子病得很重。孩子死了。然後安妮也死了。阿多奈拉姆完全破碎。

He lost all sense of God's nearness and voice. He wandered in his faith, comparing his awful situation to what he had hoped for. His mental health failed. In despair he destroyed all his letters

and writings, except his translation work, even writing to those back home to have all his home correspondence and possessions destroyed, hoping to somehow appease God and stop the horrors in his mind and body. He even dug his own grave and sat by day after day.

他完全感覺不到上帝的臨近和聲音。他的信心在徘徊，將自己可怕的處境與他所希望的相比較。他的心理健康情況不佳。在絕望中，他毀掉了所有的信件和著作，除了他的翻譯工作，甚至寫信給家鄉的人，要求他們也毀掉所有的家信和財產，希望以某種方式安撫上帝，停止他身心的恐懼。他甚至自掘墳墓，日復一日地坐在旁邊。

It could have ended when Adoniram got one last letter, filled with more bad news. Adoniram's Brother had died.

當阿多奈拉姆收到最後一封充滿更多壞消息的信時，本可以結束了他。阿多奈拉姆的兄弟死了。

But it was that that God used to save Adoniram from himself. How?

但這是上帝用來從阿多奈拉姆的手中拯救他自己。如何？

Adoniram's Brother had turned away from Christianity like Adoniram had. Adoniram had pleaded with his brother day after day, even on the dock before getting on the boat home, to come back to Jesus. He wasn't a believer when Adoniram left for Burma. But the letter shared that before his death he had come to faith in Jesus! The joy of God reignited in Adoniram. It took a year, but he returned to himself and to the mission he and Ann had established. It was now 1831.

阿多奈拉姆的兄弟像阿多奈拉姆一樣背棄了基督教。阿多奈拉姆日復一日地懇求他的兄弟，甚至在上船回家之前的碼頭上，都懇求他回到耶穌身邊。當阿多奈拉姆前往緬甸時，他還不是信徒。但是這封信說，在他死之前，他已經相信了耶穌！神的喜樂在阿多奈拉姆心中重新燃起。花了一年時間，但找回了自己，回到了他和安妮所建立的使命。當時是1831年。

In that year God caused the Gospel to explode across Burma. People would travel up to 5 months journey to see the 'Jesus man' to receive the Gospel in their language. People from lowest to most powerful began to long for and accept the message of hope for eternity in Jesus that Adoniram's mission preached. Thousands came to faith. Hundreds were trained to share the Gospel and plant churches. Fruit in abundance, but at such a cost!

在那一年，神使福音在緬甸爆發。人們會進行長達5個月的旅程去見“耶穌人”，以他們的語言接受福音。從最底層到最有權勢的人都開始渴望並接受阿多奈拉姆傳教所宣揚的在耶穌裡有永恆盼望的信息。成千上萬的人信主了。數百人接受了分享福音和建立教會的培訓。果子如此的豐富，但代價如此之高！

Eight years after Ann died Adoniram married again, to Sarah, a widow of a missionary in another country. Adoniram had heard of her continuing alone sharing the Gospel. AS kindred spirits they shared the Gospel in Burma until sadly she too passed away.

安妮死了八年後，阿多奈拉姆與莎拉再次結婚，莎拉是另一個國家傳教士的遺孀。阿多奈拉姆聽說過她繼續獨自傳福音。作為志同道合的人，他們在緬甸分享福音，直到她也不幸去世。

And years later Adoniram married again, a like-minded follower of Jesus named Emily who continued in the mission after his death.

多年後，阿多奈拉姆再次結婚，他是一位志同道合的耶穌追隨者，名叫艾米麗，在他死後繼續傳教。

There was so much I am leaving out. But here is final picture of the good life of Adoniram's family.

我把很多東西沒有提及。但這是阿多奈拉姆一家美好生活的最後一幕。

Adoniram had 13 children. 7 died.

阿多奈拉姆有 13 個孩子。死了 7 個。

Adoniram, Ann, Sarah, Emily, and their children endured incredible suffering.

阿多奈拉姆、安妮、莎拉、艾米麗和他們的孩子忍受著難以置信的痛苦。

And then one final time Adoniram got so sick that he was put on a ship heading back to America to try to save his life. But he died a few days journey into the voyage.

阿多奈拉姆最後一次病得很重時，他被送上了一艘返回美國的船，試圖挽救他的生命。但他在航行途中沒幾天就死了。

He was buried at sea (thrown overboard) with no funeral, only latitude and longitude.

他被埋在海裡（被扔到海裡），沒有葬禮，只有緯度和經度。

And that was it for Adoniram and his 'good life'.

這就是阿多奈拉姆和他的「美好生活」。

Or was it? For God's good life for us is for fruit > and what a harvest:

或者是嗎？因為上帝對我們美好的生活是為了結果子-多麼的豐盛：

Every Sunday 3700 gatherings for worship in Myanmar numbering over 600,000 people trace their line of existence to Adoniram's preaching of Jesus in the 1800s.

每個星期天，緬甸有 3700 場崇拜聚會，人數超過 600,000 人，他們的存在可以追溯到 1800 年代阿多奈拉姆傳講耶穌的事工。

There is no telling the number seeds his work grew.

沒有人能說清他的事工種下了和結出了多少種子。

Koorong currently stocks a translation of the Bible bearing his name.

Koorong 書店目前存有一本以他的名字命名的聖經譯本。

Through Adoniram, Ann, Sarah, Emily, and so many others who joined in this mission, countless seeds were grown and resown in the once spiritual desert of Myanmar.

通過阿多奈拉姆、安妮、莎拉、艾米麗和許多其他加入這項使命的人，無數的種子在曾經的屬靈沙漠的緬甸中生長和再被播種。

What a legacy. What a fruitful – good life.

多驚人的遺產。多麼富有成果 - 美好的生活。

What are you going to do now you know about Adoniram?

現在你認識了阿多奈拉姆，你打算怎麼辦？

If you don't yet follow Jesus, whether you know you haven't chosen to yet, or you say you do but do not. Listen to this Jesus' challenge from John 12 and hear the warning of living the good life your way. And hear Adoniram as he spoke to a chieftain in Burma 200 years ago:

如果你還沒有跟隨耶穌，無論你知道你是還沒有選擇好，或者你說你已選擇了但卻沒有。聆聽耶穌在《約翰福音》12章中的挑戰，聆聽以自己的方式過美好生活的警告。也聽聽200年前阿多奈拉姆對緬甸一位酋長的講話：

'...inquire not whether a fact is agreeable to his own reason, but whether it is in the book. His pride has yielded to the divine testimony. Your pride is still unbroken. Break down your pride, and yield to the word of God.'

'.....不要問一個事實是否與他自己的理由一致，而要問它是否在聖經中。他的驕傲屈服於神聖的見證。你的驕傲仍然沒有被打破。打破你的驕傲，屈服於上帝的話。

Explore Christianity, scan this and start pursuing God's good life that leads to eternal life.

探索基督教，掃這二維碼並開始追求上帝帶來導致永生的美好生活。

If you follow Jesus and (like me) find the example of a missionary like Adoniram daunting, or even letting your workmates or family know you are a Christian, then reflect sometime today on what Jesus' seed is for. And start by reading John 11,12 and 19 in full sometime today. See Jesus power over death as he raised Lazarus from the dead, and his willingness to be the seed that dies to bear fruit, to give us the good life to share all people.

如果你跟隨耶穌並且（像我一樣）發現像阿多奈拉姆這樣的傳教士的榜樣令人望而生畏，或者甚至讓你的家人同事知道你是基督徒，那麼今天的某個時候反思一下耶穌的種子是為了什麼。從今天開始完整閱讀《約翰福音》11,12和19章。看到耶穌將拉撒路從死裡復活時戰勝死亡的力量，以及他願意成為死去的種子去結出許多果子，給我們美好的生活來分享所有人。

Consider the good life you plan to and take the next step of reassessing what your good life could be following Jesus. That step might risk a friendship or a job. It will cost you your time and treasures. Are you willing to say 'no' to the worldly good life, even hate it, and follow Jesus His way?

考慮一下你計劃過的美好生活，並採取下一步重新評估你跟隨耶穌的美好生活。這一步可能會危及友誼或工作。這將花費你的時間和財寶。你願意對世上的美好生活說“不”，甚至厭惡它，並跟隨耶穌的道路嗎？

God might be calling you today to consider a completely life-altering change in your life, relationships, career, where you live, even preaching the Gospel overseas.

上帝今天可能在呼召你考慮徹底改變你的生活、人際關係、職業、你住的地方，甚至去海外傳福音。

I knew good-looking, well-off, gifted intellectually and socially, married couple that chose to move to a volatile middle eastern country, become part of a community and live for Jesus, with very little contact with home, and no real hope of return. Christianity STILL looks like that.

我認識一對英俊、富裕、在智力和社交方面有天賦的已婚夫婦，他們選擇搬到一個動蕩的中東國家，成為社區的一員，為耶穌而活，可以與家人的聯繫非常少，也沒有真正的希望返回。基督徒生命看起來仍然像這樣。

So here's your step seeds: read from John, reflect and pray, and listen to God this week. Speak to me if you like too. And get ready to hear more from our new Mission Pastor John French in coming Sunday.

所以這是你的下一步：本週閱讀《約翰福音》、反思和祈禱，並聆聽上帝的聲音。如果你喜歡也可以跟我交談。並準備好在將來的週日從我們新的宣教師約翰佛倫奇那裡聽到更多信息。

One final thing. I have been using Adoniram's first name this whole time. That is on purpose. I wanted you to hear these names and sense that Adoniram, Ann, Sarah, and Emily were as real as you are. But for another reason too.

最後一件事。我一直在使用阿多奈拉姆的名字。那是故意的。我想讓你聽到這些名字，並感覺到阿多奈拉姆、安妮、莎拉、艾米麗是和你一樣的真實。但也有另一個原因。

When I first heard about Adoniram, I was newly married and hoping to one day have children. God blessed my wife and I with a Son. We called him Judson. Another weird name, right? People hear Justin, Johnson, even Jetson. But I tell them he's named after a missionary to Burma, Adoniram, **Adoniram Judson**.

當我第一次聽說阿多奈拉姆時，我剛剛結婚，希望有一天能生孩子。上帝賜予我和我的妻子一個兒子。我們叫他賈德森。另一個奇怪的名字，對吧？人們聽到賈斯汀、約翰遜，甚至傑森。但我告訴他們，他的名字來源於一位去緬甸的傳教士阿多奈拉姆，阿多奈拉姆。賈德森。

I hope that Judson, my daughters, my wife, all of you, all people might come to follow Jesus, the greatest treasure in all the world, with the goal of living the good life Jesus' way. A life lived for the sake of God's glory and the joy of all people.

我希望賈德森，我的女兒們，我的妻子，你們所有人，所有的人都可以跟隨耶穌，這個世界上最寶貴的財寶，以按照耶穌的方式過美好的生活目標。為神的榮耀和所有人的喜樂而活。