



"These are my people, God has given them to me, and I will live or die with them for Him and His glory."

Gladys Aylward – Missionary to China

Gladys Aylward

1902-1970

Early Teens

Gladys entered domestic service as a parlor maid (duties might include taking care of the parlor, answering the door, waiting on the table).



1900s Parlor Maid

Gladys

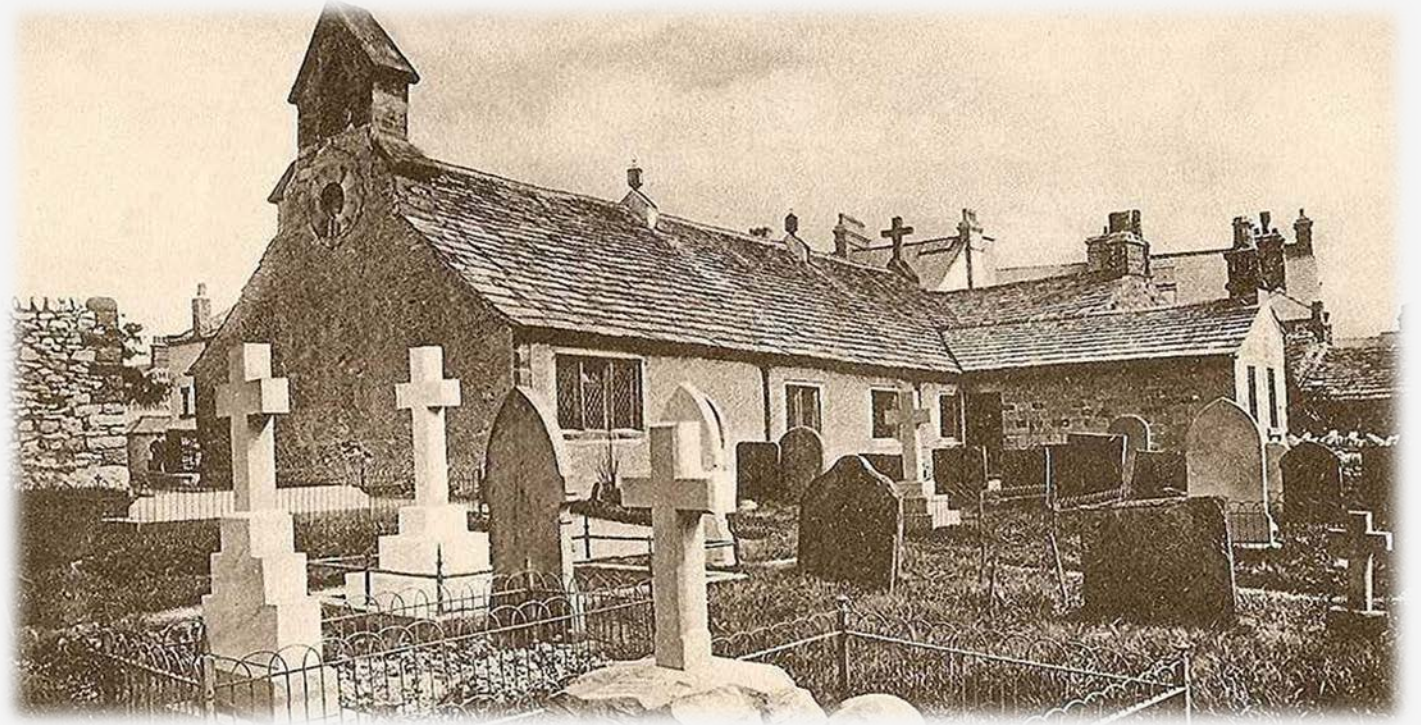
Gladys was very small (about 5 foot tall) with very dark hair and tiny feet (size 3). She loved to go dancing!



Gladys Aylward.
Parlourmaid
in London

Revival

Gladys was going dancing, but a crowd separated her from her friends. She found herself in a church service.



"For the first time in my life, I realized that Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, had died for Gladys Aylward. It was going to alter my whole life."

"If You are real, prove Yourself to me. And if You prove yourself to me tonight, I promise I'll do anything You ask."

China Mission Center

After 3 months,
Gladys was unable
to continue her
studies.



**"The missionary board finds you
unqualified for any missionary
service."**

Work

Gladys went back into service, saving for her trip to China.

She worked for Sir Francis, who had many books about China in his library.



"Two pennies and one-half penny! O God, I possess almost nothing. But here's my Bible. Here's my money. And here's me. Use me, God!"

Train Fare to China

Gladys began making payments on her fare to China.

Total cost = 45 pounds

In today's money,
45 pounds = \$588.00

Gladys began selling her belongings, including her expensive shoes.



Travel Agent

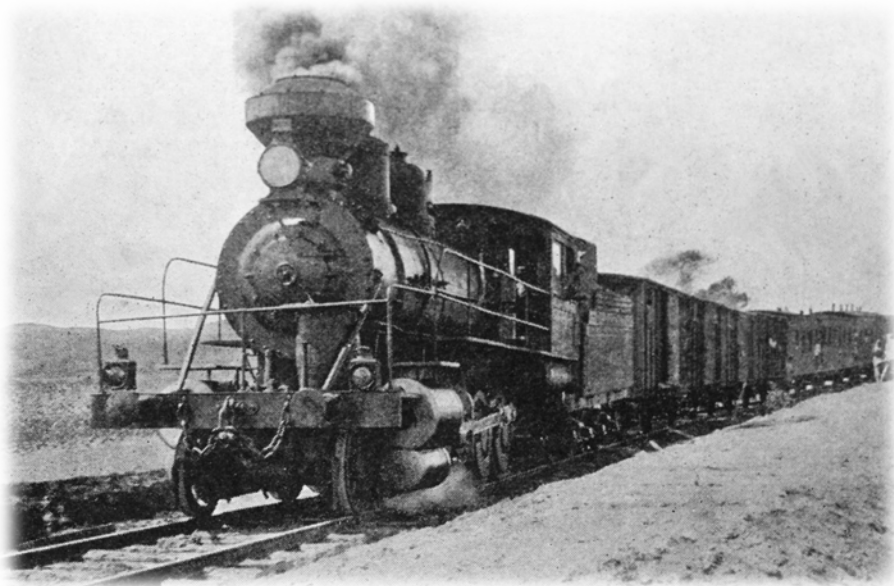


Field Preaching



**"I have the ultimate truth on my side.
I only have to learn how to deliver it."**

Trans-Siberian Railway



October 18, 1930

Inn of Eight Happineses



Modest Apparel



Haunted Inn



Jeannie's Plan



Tell Bible Stories



Serving



December 1, 1931



The Mandarin of Yangchen

Footbinding

“Do you know of such a woman?”



A girl's feet were bound from age 2-4 to prevent their feet from growing. She could only walk with slow, tottering steps. This was considered to be extremely graceful.

This practice was made illegal in China in 1912.

The Official of Feet



"Into my heart was the thought that I had gone to China for Jesus Christ, and I didn't want to be mixed up with governments and feet and politics and all these sorts of things. I wasn't interested. I was interested in souls for the Lord of Glory. But I couldn't get rid of this man."

Ay-weh-deh (the virtuous one)

"I didn't get the job because I spoke good Chinese (I didn't) or because I knew how to climb a mountain (I didn't) or that I knew anything about the people of those mountains (I didn't). Simply because of the size of my feet. God at that moment didn't need my hands, but He needed my feet, and He got them."

The woman with bandaged feet. One of Gladys Aylward's first duties as Foot Inspector was to break down a centuries-old custom



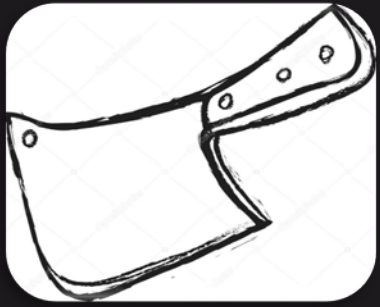
"Forgive me, God, for thinking this task was an indignity beneath my station."

Lonely

"Oh, the joy in having someone to climb mountains with, to discuss things with, somebody to sing with and to pray with. But he didn't come."



"O Lord, I don't think I can bear anymore. I think **40** is a good round number for one woman and please don't send any more. But God doesn't always answer your prayer the way that you think."



Riot at the Prison

Warden called for Gladys
to calm the prisoners who
were killing each other.
One had a meat cleaver.
Gladys asked, "Why me?"



**"They tell me you preach everywhere that
your God is a Living God who protects you"
(Prison Warden).**

The Mandarin Accepts Christ

"Confucianism lives in my
head, not in my heart, as
Christianity does in
Ah-Weh-Deh."

"I wish to become a
Christian."



Taking 100 Orphans to Safety



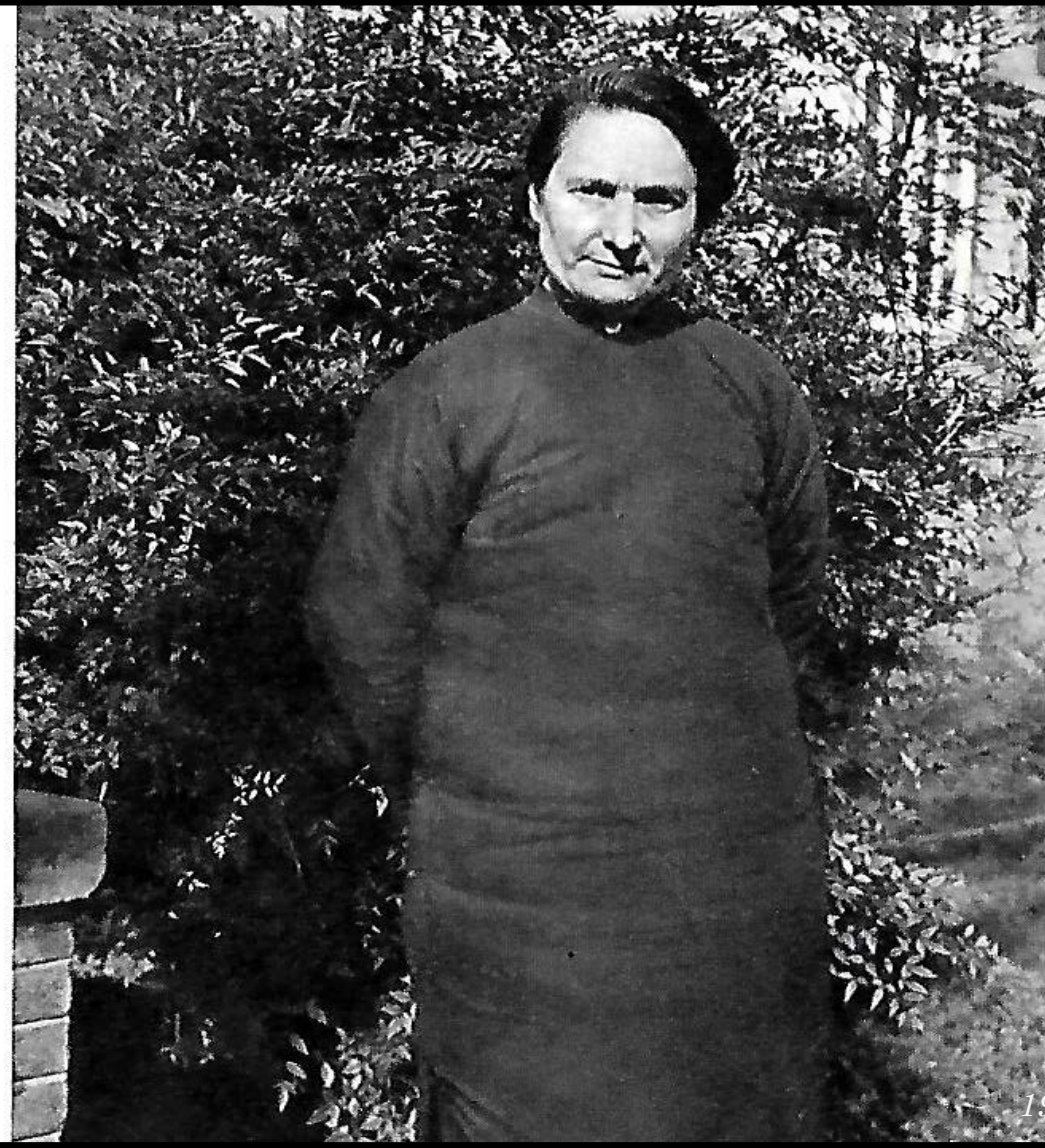
Gladys Aylward with some of the children before they crossed the mountains to Sian



1949

*"For I will give you a
mouth and wisdom, which
all your adversaries shall
not be able to gainsay nor
resist"
(Luke 21:15).*

Gladys Aylward shortly
before leaving China
after twenty years





I wasn't God's first choice for what I've done in China...I don't know who it was...it must have been a man...a well-educated man. I don't know what happened. Perhaps he died. Perhaps he wasn't willing...and God looked down...and saw Gladys Aylward...and God said, 'Well, she's willing.'

— Gladys Aylward —

AZ QUOTES



“These are my people. God has given them to me, and I will live or die with them for Him and for His glory!”



"My heart is full of praise that one so insignificant, uneducated, and ordinary in every way could be used to His glory for the blessing of His people in poor persecuted China."

