

Cross-Cultural Perspectives



Soar!

Today is the long-awaited and lovingly-addressed wedding day. The occupants at our overflowing house have awakened with excitement and are ablaze with emotions. I cannot shake the feeling that in a few diminutive hours our lastborn, little eaglet will take flight into God's certain, clear will and destiny. At times, that seems to an ever watchful Dad and Mom, to be rather uncertain, clouded skies. Amy and Dennis, we are proud of you, and will be watching from our perch with anticipation as you soar into God's plan for your lives.

Amy, my daughter and treasured former executive assistant, as the songwriter wrote, "I can fly higher than an eagle for you are the wind beneath my wings." Jeff Alan Silbar and Larry Henley go on to say, "Fly, fly, so high against the sky." I add, "I want to be the wind beneath your wings."

Please forgive the personal reference. That's me. Now about you. Some among us are sick. Some are battling against the constant winds of spiritual warfare. Still others feel pulled down by the confusion of cultural conflict and cross-cultural communications. With God's help, by faith, we can rise above that.

Friend, you may feel wounded and unable to soar. You may feel grounded and restrained by life's terra-firma. Look up. You are destined to the skies and will soon rise with the wings of an eagle. You are positioned for success, empowered by the Spirit, equipped with a divine call, and enabled by a church that lovingly supports you with their prayers and finances.

"Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:28-31).

One of our missionaries caught hold of that promise. In a culture resistant to the gospel he started a Bible school with one student. More are now being added. The Alphin family recently reported their first soul to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost and be baptized in Jesus' name. All heaven applauds! I am often reminded that we have reached 2,208,947 constituents overseas by reaching one soul at a time. Every soul counts. Like the Youth Department aptly promotes, 1 lost soul=2 many.

How high can an eagle fly? I was tempted to check that out on Google. I used to think that the sky was the limit. But, to the church, our flight is limitless, as we soar higher and higher. Eternity and the things that count for eternity are within our view.

Fly high, Amy and Dennis.

Fly high, minister.

Fly high, missionary kid.

Fly high, AIMer.

Fly high, missionary.

Fly high, foreign missions.

We will be the wind beneath your wings.