

Austin & Anny Grace Till Abraham

Church Planting Missionaries to China



Greeting

大家好！ We are the Till family. We are church planting missionaries to the country of China. My name is Austin and my wife is Anny Grace. Our son's name is Abraham. This packet of information is to introduce you to our family and the ministry we desire to do in China.

After reviewing the packet, if the Lord leads, **we would be honored for the opportunity to partner with you through prayer and/or financial support.** Thank you for your consideration!



Biography

When I was 12 years old, I put my faith in Jesus Christ and He saved me and changed my life! A few years later I felt His call upon my life to full-time service to Him, going overseas preaching the good news of His death on the cross for sinners.

It was while I was in pursuit of this call that **the Lord opened a door for me to move to China.** After finishing college, I moved to Fujian, China as an English teacher. **Though I didn't know how someone like me could preach in China, I was trusting that if I went and learned the language, the Lord would open a way for me to do so.**



Biography (continued)

I moved to China in December of 2010 and spent the next five years teaching English, learning to speak Chinese, absorbing the culture, and involving myself in a local national church.

It was during those five years that I met Anny Grace, the love of my life. I invited her to church where she heard the gospel and eventually too was saved! Our relationship grew and we got married in China in April of 2015.



We loved being involved in the local church there in China and were constantly seeking more opportunities to serve and preach the gospel. My work as an English teacher, however, was no small hindrance to our goals. It consumed much of my time and limited opportunities to preach, teach, and share the good news of our Savior.

“If I had a thousand pounds, China should have it. If I had a thousand lives, China should have them. No! not China, but Christ. Can we do too much for Him?”

—James Hudson Taylor

As my wife and I prayed for a way to do full-time ministry in China, I was reminded of a team of missionaries that I had previously discovered online – Project China. Upon reaching out to the team, one of the missionaries called me and explained how he received training and raised funds to get to the field and serve as a full-time church-planting missionary in China.



Our prayers were answered! There was a way for me to do full-time ministry in China after all! Within six months, the Lord allowed us to make arrangements to come back to the States and train the same way the missionaries in Project China had. We are currently in a season of deputation and fund raising before heading back to China to give our lives there for the cause of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Austin's Testimony

I grew up attending church regularly and heard the gospel proclaimed on a consistent basis. At around eight years old I began to realize my sinfulness and need for a Savior. I responded to an invitation to receive Christ at a VBS service, though in hindsight there was no true saving faith in my life as a result. My heart was akin to the first kind of soil Christ describes in His parable of the sower – His word was snatched away before given time to take root. It was not until a few years later that I came to realize that true saving faith is accompanied by the fruit of a changed life. After hearing a pastor's clear explanation of repentance, I came to understand I had not yet done so. **That evening I called upon the Lord, and committed to submit my life to Him. And the Lord gave me new life indeed!** Those commands of His which I once despised to obey – telling the truth, obeying one's parents, loving Him with all of one's heart, mind, soul, and strength – I suddenly found a joy to obey. Through His cross and resurrection, He has made me new and is making me more and more like Himself everyday. **I am now His servant, living to honor Him and bring glory to His name.**

Anny Grace's Testimony

I grew up in a Christian household. My mom took me to church regularly from a young age. I didn't understand the gospel, but I enjoyed church for the juice and cookies in Sunday School. As I came into my teenage years, I stopped going to church. Most of the people at our church were much older than me and I thought it was boring. I got a series of jobs that required me to work on Sundays and didn't go to church for many years. One day a foreigner named Austin came into my stationary store. He was a teacher and occasionally came by the store for supplies. I had never spoken to a foreigner before, but thinking that all Americans must be Christians, one day I showed him some bookmarks with Chinese Bible verses on them. He asked me if I was a Christian, and I said I wasn't sure. So when he found out I hadn't been attending church, he asked me to come with him. Over the next couple of months I started to getting back into church and Bible studies regularly. At about that time, I began struggling with some issues in my family. **The Lord used those struggles to drive me to my knees in prayer and completely trust Him.** Since then I have a desire for God's Word that I never had before. I desire to grow daily in my relationship with Him.

Austin's Call to Ministry

At the age of sixteen I was given the opportunity to travel to Brazil with about fifty other believers on a two-week mission trip. While there, my high school Bible teacher and I were assigned to assist a local church with visitation, outreach, and gospel preaching. After about a week of going house to house proclaiming the good news of Christ, the pastor of the church asked me to preach one evening at an outreach. After preaching, my Bible teacher shared with all of those in attendance that I had been considering full time gospel ministry and was seeking the Lord's direction. The pastor then asked the deacons to join him in laying hands on me and praying that the Lord use me in His service. **I surrendered to His call upon my life to serve Him as a proclaimer of His gospel.**

After returning to the US, I began to seek the Lord's will as to in what capacity (pastor, evangelist, missionary) I should give myself to serve Him. About a month later, my church's youth group went to a summer camp. One evening during a session I sensed the unmistakable prompting of the Holy Spirit within me telling me to give myself over to serve Christ among the nations. There was much rejoicing that evening as I shared with my youth pastor as well as others in the youth group that the Lord was setting me apart for missions service to Him.

Training

University of Mobile – Bachelors of Arts in Christian Studies

Our Generation Training Center (OGTC) – Spent one and a half years training under Pastor Austin Gardner

Experience

While in high school, Austin preached on a monthly basis at an International Language School and an International Seaman's Center in Mobile, Alabama.

While in college, Austin preached regularly in the middle school ministry at church and co-lead a middle boys small group each week.

While in China, Austin was on rotation to lead a college and career ministry small group for about a year and a half in a national church. I have preached twice in Mandarin Chinese and have shared the gospel with numerous people in China.

While at the OGTC, Austin involved himself in the English as a Second Language (ESL) ministry and the Ironmen prison ministry of his sending church, Vision Baptist Church.



Our Bold Vision

China is a “closed country” meaning that there are certain restrictions placed on traditional missions methods or that the gospel is unwelcome by the government or community. But we have learned to trust God and not fear man and faithfully advance with a wise-forwardness. Thus, our vision is to boldly proclaim the gospel to **evangelize** the lost; **establish** new testament local churches that are self-supporting, self-governing, and self-propagating; **equip** and train national leaders who can reach, lead and train their own people. This will not come without persecution from the government. **But we are willing to follow Jesus no matter the cost.**

Contact Us

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Recommendations

God has given me the privilege of being Austin and Anny Grace Till's pastor for a couple of years now. I am very impressed with Austin and his desire to serve the Lord. As a young man he surrendered to serve the Lord the best way he knew how. He hungered to start churches in China. He had no avenue at the time but hungry to see the Chinese hear the gospel he left for China at the age of 22 and single. He began by teaching English as a second language. He shared the gospel as much as he could and was used of God. In fact, he was allowed of the Lord to lead his to be wife, Anny Grace, to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

As Austin continued to minister in China he heard of missionaries out of Vision that were planting churches in China. Austin read Mark Tolson's blog. He wanted to do what he heard that Mark was doing. Eventually, he contacted Mark to ask him how to do what Mark was doing. Mark told him that to do so Austin would need to return for training at the Our Generation Training Center and Vision Baptist Church in Alpharetta, Georgia.

After Austin had been at the Training Center for about a year he felt God leading him to join Vision. Austin and Anny Grace have become a part of us. We love them very much. We do not know Anny as intimately as we do Austin because she is still learning English. Anny Grace is one of the sweetest young ladies you will ever meet. Their son, Abraham, is a favorite with everyone.

Now Austin and Anny Grace are leaving to start deputation to return to China. This is a great blessing from God. Austin and Anny Grace both know the language and culture. They will be arriving in Dalian, China to work with Mark Tolson for on the ground training in church planting in a closed country. They will be able to jump immediately into the work. Soon they will be starting a brand new church.

Austin has been serving an internship on our pastoral staff before beginning deputation. He has done any job well that has been asked of him. He is a good preacher. He preaches strong, biblical, messages. He will be a blessing to your church and ministry. If you do not love Abraham I will be in shock. I know you will enjoy having them in your services. Though Austin hasn't been a member for many years he has won our hearts and support. He will be missed. You can see from this letter that God has been preparing them for years. I know that God will use them greatly!

Austin is a man of great character. He is hard working, diligent, faithful, and hungry to be used of God. Austin has already taken big steps to do this ministry. They have greatly sacrificed and I am proud of them.

I wanted to write to you and ask you to have Austin in. He will bless your church. He will do a good job in China. He is worthy of your support. If you have any further questions about Austin, his character, dedication, preparation, or service please feel free to give me a call.

-Austin Gardner, Pastor of Vision Baptist Church



Pastor Austin and Betty Gardner (pictured above)

Brother Jeff and Mindy Bush and family (pictured below)



I have had the privilege to work with and alongside Austin Till in our local church, Vision Baptist. He was previously living in China as an English teacher and realized that God wanted more. He moved to Georgia to prepare to be a church-planting missionary and is now ready to return to China and see souls saved and churches planted.

Austin has served on the pastoral staff of our church and taught ESL to lost people as an outreach. He is not afraid to work, study and serve in any capacity that has placed in front of him. He has a zeal for God and I have been privileged to see him grow closer to the Lord. He speaks Chinese fluently and loves the Chinese people. You will be greatly blessed getting to know Austin and Anny Grace. I am convinced that God is going to use this family in a special way to get the Gospel throughout China.

- Jeffrey Bush, Director of Vision Baptist Missions

Doctrinal Statement

The Bible: We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, and that it is divinely inspired. We believe in the plenary, verbal inspiration, that it is the only complete and final revelation of the will of God to man, and the supreme, infallible authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

God: We believe in the Trinity, the unity of the Godhead. There are three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They are equally perfect in every divine quality, and execute distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ. We believe in the Holy Spirit.

The Father: We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He infallibly foreknows all that shall come to pass, that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ: We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe Jesus Christ is God. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth.

The Holy Spirit: We believe in the person of the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide.

Man: We believe that all men by nature, choice and practice are sinners, but that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." We believe, therefore, that those who repent of their sins and by faith receive Christ as Lord and Savior will rejoice forever in God's presence, and those who refuse to receive Christ as Lord and Savior will be forever separated from God.

Eternal State: We believe in a literal Heaven, the eternal home of the redeemed. We believe Heaven to be the literal place where the saved will live forever in the eternal bliss and blessings of God. We believe in Hell, the Christless eternity for the lost, where there will be burning and tormenting for those without salvation, who have refused to receive the gospel and Jesus Christ as Lord. We believe that Hell, unbelievers, Satan and all the fallen angels shall be cast into the lake of fire to be tormented day and night forever and forever.

Salvation: We believe salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

Baptism: We believe in baptism by immersion after salvation with no merit for salvation in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Spirit). We reject infant baptism and any form of sprinkling for infants or adults. Baptism is an outward expression of our faith in Jesus Christ and simply a public testimony of what God has done by His grace.

The Church: We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of professing, born-again believers in Jesus Christ, immersed on a credible confession of faith, and associated for worship, work and fellowship. We believe that to those local churches we are committed, for perpetual observance of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and that God has laid upon these churches the task of proclaiming to a lost world the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and the enthroning of Him as Lord and Master. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

Eternal Security: We believe in the eternal security of all blood-bought individuals or believers and that such inheritance is incorruptible, and undefiled, and that each believer is kept by the power of God and nothing can separate us from Him, ourselves included. We believe that believers can lose the joy of fellowship with God, can grieve God and can quench the Spirit of God in him or her, but not lose his/her salvation.