

Praying for the Impossible

During World War II, a missionary family lived near a place where the Japanese tortured and killed their captives.

The family was often awakened by the screams of the tormented. Twice, the missionary was taken captive and released unharmed.



The third time, the officer said to the missionary's wife, "He has been returned to you two times. Don't think he will be spared a third time. This time, he dies."

After she had put her five children to bed, the wife began a prayer vigil. At 4 o'clock, she awoke her family to join her, saying, "The burden has become so heavy I cannot bear it

alone."

A short while later, they heard footsteps – ones she recognized as those of her husband.

Safely inside their home, he told her what had happened. He had been the last in a row of 10 men. A Japanese soldier had gone down the row, slashing off the head of each man with a sword. Just as he raised his sword to kill the missionary, the officer shouted: "Stop!"

Then he roared to the missionary, "Go home. Quick. Get out of here!"

He pushed the missionary past the guard and toward the gate.

"I looked at my watch," the missionary told his wife. "It was 4 a.m."

Nothing impacts the impossible more than prayer.

The Lord fought for Israel against their enemies, the Amorites, when Joshua prayed: *"Sun, stand still over Gibeon; and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."* So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies (Joshua 10:12-13).

– Beecher Hunter