

English Corner: Suggested Article of Discussion

1. Article 4-2: Give Beyond Yourself

In the early 1950s, a young missionary (宣教士) couple named Jim and Elisabeth Elliot with their ten-month-old daughter named Valerie left the United States with a group of missionaries to Ecuador with the hope of reaching the Quichua Indians. Jim and four other missionaries felt compelled (一定要) to make contact with another small group of Indians living in an area called the Auca. These Indians had a fierce reputation (残忍有名). The earliest record of contact with them was of their killing a priest (神父) in the 1600s. Since then, they had attacked every outsider who came their way. Even the other Ecuadoran Indians avoided them because of their brutality (残忍).

As Jim and the others prepared to make contact, Elisabeth knew the five men would be putting themselves in danger, but she was resolute (坚定). These missionaries had given their lives to this mission. For several weeks, a missionary pilot flew a small plane over an Aucan village and dropped supplies (日常用品) and other items as gifts. They even included pictures of themselves to prepare the Aucans for a first meeting. A few weeks later, Jim and four others landed on a small stretch of beach (河边延伸) on the Curaray River and set up camp (营地). There they made contact with three Aucans—a man and two women—who seemed to be friendly and receptive (接纳). And in following days, they met with several others. They told their wives by radio that it looked like they were making significant progress in befriending (交朋友) the tribe (部落).

But then a few days later, the men failed to check in (通告) with the base camp (基地) at an appointed time (约好的时间). Their wives waited in vain (徒劳) to hear from them. Minutes passed, then hours, and then a day. Elisabeth and the others feared the worst. A search party went out to look for the men and radioed back bad news. They had spotted (发现) the body (尸体) of a white man floating (浮) in the river. Eventually, one by one, the searchers found the men. With each it was the same: they had been slashed (刺透) with Aucan spears (矛). All five of the men were

dead. Under those circumstances (情况), many people in Elisabeth Elliot's shoes (处境) would have gone home. It's one thing to be willing to give up a comfortable life in the United States to help other people; it's quite another to give the life of your spouse. But Elliot had a truly generous (宽宏) heart. Despite her terrible loss, she still wanted to help the people of Ecuador. She stayed and served the Quichuans with whom she was living. But what happened next is even more remarkable (了不起). Other missionaries continued trying to connect with that Aucan village. And after a couple of years they succeeded.

Immediately Elisabeth Elliot rushed to the village. Was it for revenge (报仇)? No, it was to work with the people there and serve them. Elliot lived and worked among the Aucan people for two years, and many of them gladly accepted the message of God's love she carried—including two of the seven men who had killed her husband. That happened because she and others missionaries understood that to do something of significance (赵越), you have to give beyond yourself.

2. Discussion:

1. Who is Elizabeth and who is Jim Elliot? What did they do?
2. What kind people are the Aucans? Why did Jim and his group risk their lives to approach these people?
3. What did Elizabeth do later? How is she an example that we might follow?

3. Remember Seven Phrases a Week:

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| 141. What day is today? | 今天星期几? |
| 142. What do you think? | 你怎么认为? |
| 143. Who told you that? | 谁告诉你的? |
| 144. Who's kicking off? | 现在是谁在开球? |
| 145. Yes, I suppose So. | 是的, 我也这么认为。 |
| 146. You can't miss it | 你一定能找到的。 |
| 147. Any messages for me? | 有我的留言吗? |