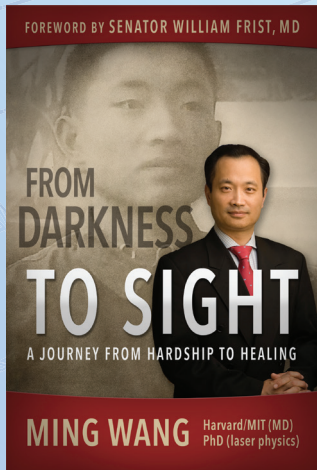


Dr. Ming Wang

A Common Ground Seeker Focusing on Science Through the Lens of Faith

The film “Sight”, FREE link: sight.drmingwang.com, is based on the autobiography “From Darkness to Sight” by Dr. Ming Wang, Harvard & MIT (MD, magna cum laude); PhD (laser physics, University of Maryland). It was produced by Open River Entertainment and distributed by Angel Studios and features Terry Chen and Greg Kinnear. The movie tells the fascinating story of the invention of the amniotic membrane contact lens. Wang donated his patents to the world and taught pro bono thousands of eye doctors from around the world how to use the technology. Today, the amniotic membrane contact lens is used in nearly every nation and has helped restore eyesight in millions of patients.



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Wang and his brother Yu (1974)

Wang grew up in Hangzhou, China. In 1966, the Cultural Revolution caused the closure of all universities across the country. The government deported the country’s youth to labor camps in rural areas, and over the 10 years of the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), 20 million youth were sent away to a lifetime of poverty and hard labor.



Dr. Ming Wang, Harvard & MIT (MD); PhD, co-founder, Common Ground Network

Wang is a Christian, philanthropist, world-renowned surgeon, and co-founder of the Common Ground Network; however, he remembers his poor and difficult childhood growing up in China during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976) when he subsisted on his family’s income of \$15 a month and faced the devastating fate of being sent away to labor camp. He recalls what it was like for him to suffer and have no hope.

In 1974, as a 14-year-old 9th grader, just like millions of others, Wang had to leave school with no hope of ever being able to return. Attempting to avoid deportation to labor camps by getting a job with the government’s song-and-dance propaganda troupe, Wang learned to play the erhu--a Chinese violin--and practiced dancing. In 1976, the Cultural Revolution ended, and the government reopened universities. To attend college, Wang had to re-enter school and jump from 9th to 12th grade, having never studied in the 10th-12th grades. Furthermore, he had to compete against other high-school graduates for less than 1% chance of getting into college. He studied around-the-clock, became one of only four 12th graders from his province to be admitted into college, and was accepted into the prestigious University of Science and Technology of China.

In college, a visiting American professor who was impressed by Wang’s persistence and tenaciousness helped him secure a teaching assistantship at the University of Maryland. So on Feb 3, 1982, Wang stepped off a plane in Washington, D.C. with only \$50, a student visa, and a Chinese-English dictionary. He worked hard, earned two doctorate degrees--one in

Wang graduated from Harvard & MIT (MD, magna cum laude) with his graduation thesis winning the first-place honor (1991). He is one of the few laser eye surgeons in the world today who holds a doctorate degree in laser physics. The film “Sight” (angel.com/sight) describes Wang’s educational journey.



laser physics and one in medicine--and graduated magna cum laude with the highest honors from Harvard Medical School and MIT.



Wang performed ballroom dance and played the Chinese erhu for the “EyeBall”, a charity event for Wang Foundation for Sight Restoration,

which to date has helped patients from over 40 states and 55 countries, with all sight restoration surgeries performed free-of-charge. The film “Sight” (angel.com/sight) describes the foundation’s work.

Wang performed the world’s first laser artificial cornea implantation and over 55,000 laser vision procedures (including on over 4,000 doctors). He published an article in the world-renowned journal “Nature,” as well as more than 100 other scientific papers and 10 textbooks. Wang holds several U.S. patents for his invention of biotechnologies to restore sight. He was chosen to be NPR’s Philanthropist of the Year and received the Honor Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of Chinese American Physicians.

Wang founded a non-profit Wang Foundation for Sight Restoration, which to date has helped patients from over 40 states in the U.S. and 55 countries, with all sight restoration surgeries performed free-of-charge. He was named the Kiwanis Nashvillian of the Year for his lifelong dedication to helping blind orphan children from around the world.

While studying the human eye at Harvard Medical School and MIT, Wang struggled to understand how the random events of evolution could create such a complex structure such as the human eye in such a short amount of time, so he asked a professor about it. “The professor opened a window to the Lord in my heart,” Wang says. “I began to understand that there is a Creator for everything.”

Wang researched ways to reduce corneal scar to restore sight after injury. He learned that a fetus’ eye does not scar. He needed to do fetal tissue research so he could reduce corneal scar and restore sight in his patients but at the same time, he did not want to endanger a fetus. He prayed for wisdom and felt God had led him to James 1:4 about perseverance, so he persevered. Finally, he and other scientists discovered that a unique piece of tissue--the amniotic membrane that surrounds the fetus--has the same magical scarless healing property as the fetus. The membrane is discarded with the

placenta after birth. This discovery led to his invention of the amniotic membrane contact lens, for which he obtained two U.S. patents. He then donated the technology to the world, put the patent online and taught pro bono thousands of eye doctors from around the world how to use the technology.

To date, the amniotic membrane contact lens is a multi-billion dollar industry. It has been used by tens of thousands of eye doctors throughout the world in nearly every nation, and millions have had their eyesight restored. The film “Sight” (angel.com/sight) tells the remarkable story of the invention of amniotic membrane contact lens.

To Wang, this medical breakthrough is an answer to his prayer that God does want faith and science to work together. He says also that his years of helplessness and darkness during the Cultural Revolution in China have enabled him to emotionally connect with his patients now, particularly the blind orphan children.

Today, Wang combined the music and dance that he had to learn during the Cultural Revolution to survive but has now grown to love to create a fundraiser, aptly named the “Eye-Ball”, which raises funds for the Wang Foundation for Sight Restoration. Wang also has a heart for the people of China with his Wang Foundation for Christian Outreach to China which distributes Bibles there.

“Faith and science do have common ground,” states Wang. He believes in the importance of seeking common ground among all human beings, an idea that was planted in him when he met the former U.S. president Ronald Reagan in 1985. Wang co-founded the 501c(3) non-profit--the Common Ground Network--with Dr. Rice Brooks. Together they developed the common ground-seeking STEPS inspired by the life of Christ, and published the “Common Ground Bible study”, “Sight movie Bible study” and “Common Ground Mandate.”



Ming met President Reagan at the White House (1985)

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The film “Sight” is available at angel.com/sight