

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

—Philippians 2:3-4



Nandong Village is located in a minority area in southwest China. In the past, villagers were splintered, working their own land or with small businesses.

In March 2012, the Women’s Development Association of Nandong was established, and Xiao Ping was elected chair. The village committee provided 1.3 hectares of paddy fields to support the association. Under the leadership of Xiao Ping, women learn to read, study planting and husbandry, participate in traditional dance workshops and take study tours. The members also actively work the association’s farmland. Last year, they earned 29,800 yuan from the harvest. The association used this money to support the elderly and children from poor families. They also helped disabled and poor women grow rice. Their work receives consistent high praise from the villagers as the area becomes cleaner, the women become more confident and the cohesion of the community grows.

Through the women’s association, we realize the power of community. Through bringing people together and building capacity, we can fulfill our dreams and realize God’s plan for us.

—Helen Zhao