
Päivö Parviainen



14.4.1984 – 23.7.1992

JUSSI'S
JOURNEY HOME

Photo by: Johannes Lampinen



Here two veteran mission senior pastor Päivö Parviainen and CEF missionary Kusti Matero are pictured in Ryttylä.

JUSSI'S JOURNEY HOME

Veteran missionary to China, senior pastor Päivö Parviainen celebrated his 97th birthday in 2007. Then he prompted in his heart to publish this true story about young Jussi Havukainen's life and home journey. It is based on the facts told by Jussi's father during a visit to Lehtomäki Christian rehabilitation centre in Nilsjä Finland. The typing was done by Maria Huusko. Translation into English by Sandi Mäki-Soini. In the Finnish names /j/ is pronounced /y/, e.g. Jussi, Jaakko are pronounced Yussi, Yaakko.



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Jussi Havukainen

is an unforgettable little evangelist

Jussi (Yussi) Havukainen's birth was unusual. He was born in 1984, despite a doctors strike. The labour and delivery ward was very busy that weekend, but still Jussi made his entrance into the world on Saturday. After being born, Jussi was quite blue and limp and he was taken to be revived. However, after just a short time, Jussi improved and was quite well. He was baptised at home and received the name Jussi Heikki. As the pastor was baptising Jussi, the baby started to laugh out loud. The pastor was wondering what Jussi would become in the future. Jussi's family consisted of Kalevi his father, Ulla his mother, Petri his older brother, Minna his older sister and Mia his little sister.

That same year the family moved from Keloniemi to Riistavesi both in the Kuopio area. Four year old Jussi received a birthday card from the church in Riistavesi where there was an angel protecting two small children. Jussi was very interested in this picture and he was amazed how the angel could protect in such a difficult place. His mother

tried to explain to Jussi something that she herself did not understand. In August of 1988, his mother learned more about the activities of angels when she herself began to know Jesus personally.

During the fall the family was able to borrow a series of cassettes on the New Testament. Jussi listened enthusiastically many hours a day. Mother was afraid that Jussi would wear the cassettes out so she bought Jussi his own cassettes. Father read the children's Bible in the evenings and Jussi liked listening very much. Other story books were not good. Jussi wanted only the Bible. The New Testament was absolutely his favourite book. Often when Jussi went to bed, he would put on a cassette and listen to it as he fell asleep.

One day Jussi was riding a bike with his sister Mia. They heard a boy swear at a nearby playground. Jussi went over to the boy and said to him, "Don't swear or you won't be able to go to Heaven. Confess your sins. Jesus will wash your sins away and you will become Jesus's own. You will be washed in His blood and become fit for Heaven."

Though Jussi spoke this way with bigger boys they did not get angry with him, because they thought he was so amazingly clever. Jussi received the Holy Spirit when he was five years old. In the year 1989 at a meeting at Saunaniemi's old elementary school, a young girl from Austria said; "This is a word for somebody. Who can I send? Send me." And so this is how Jussi's work began.

He was eager to share the Gospel to friends and strangers. That same spring at Saarijärvi school, an evangelist was having a meeting and Jussi was there with his family. A friend brought Jussi's tennis shoes to be blessed and the evangelist blessed the shoes without knowing whose they were. He said that these blessed shoes belonged to a little evangelist whose time was going to be short.

Life at daycare

Jussi's time at day care was difficult because he had never needed to be cared for by strangers. But when mother had to go for surgery and father could not stay at home to care for Jussi, he had to go to daycare in the mornings. His cries were heartbreaking when he had to stay there.

However, Jussi's heart bubbled over with joy that he belonged to Jesus. At the daycare lunch table he sang, "The fountain of God is bubbling over, the stream of the Lord is full." When Jussi could not keep quiet, he was sent to eat in the kitchen.

One time, when Jussi was at home eating with other daycare kids, his mother wondered why Jussi did not eat. When Jussi was asked about it, with tears in his eyes he said that the food had not been blessed. Mother asked Jussi to bless the food. Jussi prayed, "The Heavenly Father protects little and big people. Bless us all, at day care and at home and at work." This was Jussi's way to bless the food on the table.

Jussi's preaching ministry

Jussi had an amazing way of preaching. One time a friend of the family was visiting and this man smoked. Jussi said to him, "Listen, don't you know that you should not smoke. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. God has created you to be healthy during this time that you are alive. It is not your own power that you need to stop drinking and smoking, but Jesus can give you a new mind and will." The man flew into an angry rage at Jussi. In actuality the man was not angry towards Jussi but about Jesus. However, Jussi had the ability to love people. And he also wanted this man to know that Jesus loved him.

Jussi carried a small bag with him that contained different kinds of booklets about Jesus which he happily shared with people. When Jussi would walk in his village, he would gaze deeply at people. He could see in their eyes and discern who belonged to Jesus.

One time he said to a librarian; "You are having a hard time. I would like to tell you about Jesus. He will give you strength." Jussi also spoke with his friend and neighbour, Niko, about Jesus' love, but soon it was forbidden to do so. Jussi had the idea to wear a shirt that said "Jesus is Alive" and went to Niko's house. He wanted to still testify about Jesus, even without talking! Jussi was often distressed about these kids whom he told about Jesus. He worried about how to find a certain boy that he had spoken with about Jesus. He felt that God was sowing seeds in some of the children's hearts. Jussi also prayed for a baby who had a heart defect and the little girl really healed without medical care.

One time Jussi's godfather, big Jussi, came to Jussi's house to go to the sauna. While waiting for the sauna to get hot, Jussi climbed happily into his godfather's lap. Big Jussi asked why such a big boy would come into his lap. Jussi answered in this way: "Yes, I have grown so big because you have not visited me in such a long time." Then Jussi asked his godfather if he was a believer. He was quiet for a moment and then answered: "Well, in my own way." Jussi immediately answered: "It is not enough in your own way, but you must believe in Jesus, so that you can go to Heaven. Otherwise you can't go."

Suffering for the gospel

Jussi suffered because of speaking about Jesus. One winter day he was with a neighbour boy, Niko, making snowballs. They come to make a hole through a large snowball and Niko prompted Jussi to look through the hole. Then Niko poked a broomstick through the hole. It struck Jussi's eye and out came blood and water. He had to go to the hospital by ambulance. The doctor checked his eye and was surprised how greatly the boy had been protected. The cornea of his eye had been broken in 6 places, but fortunately the damage was not deeper so Jussi had not lost his eye sight. Even so Jussi wanted to forgive Niko. His explanation for this was that God forgives us. Jussi told Niko's mother how God had sent angels to protect him.

Later in the spring the boys were playing "blind man's bluff". Niko was the "eye" and Jussi was blind. Niko led Jussi in front of a fire ladder. Niko told Jussi to bend down and get up quickly. Jussi did as he was told but when he got up,

his head struck the ladder. With blood flowing from his head, he ran to his mother. His mother washed his bloody head and found a big wound on his forehead. Jussi said that Niko did not know that he would be so quick because Jussi had jumped up as fast as lightening. Jussi wanted to forgive his friend so he would not feel bad. Jussi also said that the Lord had healed his forehead and there was only a little mark left.

I will take my servant home

Jussi's mother had many operations, so at home there was talk about death and immortality. Jussi was convinced that the souls of believers would go to be with God. Mother had told her son that usually parents died first. But Jussi said that his death would be before mothers death. She did not understand what Jussi meant.

In the year 1990, Jussi was with his family at a house-meeting in Kaavi and there one sister received a word from the Lord: "I will take my servant home, but I will give you strength to endure." Jussi's parents were wondering who at the meeting was going to die. It was clear that someone was going to Heaven.

One night during the spring of 1991, Jussi's mother spoke in her sleep: "There's just a little more time." Father heard this and answered: "There is still a year." In the morning, mother asked father how he knew that there was still a year since she remembered the dream. Father answered that large numbers made out of fire had appeared from Heaven: 1992. Jussi's parents were extraordinarily happy because they thought that

the Lord was coming to get His people from this world to take to Heaven.

One day Jussi's father was at work when he heard clearly in his ear the Lord asking him: "Kalevi, how would you feel if your own child was taken from you? I have felt much worse when I sacrificed my own son on your behalf, so that you could have eternal life."

A week later Jussi wanted his sister Mia's birthday to be celebrated two weeks early, because the family was intending to visit to Kolmården's zoo. And so they celebrated it early.

Thursday was the day

20.07.1992: Jussi and his mother were at Jussi's friend Jaakko's house visiting, when during the coffee prayer time, Jussi's mother said to Jaakko's mother: "Thursday will be the kind of day that you will never forget." In the evening Jussi's parents were wondering what kind of significant day Thursday would be. They could not think of an explanation and forgot about it.

Thursday 23.07.1992: In the afternoon Jussi left to go and play with Jaakko, but he came back after a minute and said to his mother: "Mom, don't be angry with me if I don't remember to come home on time because today I must absolutely listen to God's voice. Bye." Then he went to Jaakko's.

The same day at 16:30 Jussi's father was driving home from work, when an ambulance passed by with the siren blaring. He thought that this is now a real emergency. At home mother

told him that Jussi had not yet come from Jaakko's house to eat. They left together to go get Jussi. When they got to Jaakko's yard, Jussi's mother saw her son's bike overturned on the lawn and said: "Jussi has drowned!" Father got angry and said: "Have you gone crazy, speaking that way?"

Jaakko was pale next to his father and held on to him. Jussi's father asked where Jussi was. Jaakko did not say anything and his father said that probably Jussi had gone home. Jussi's father told them that they had just come from home and Jussi had not been there. He said that they should go to where the boys had been playing and surely they would find Jussi there.

They drove to the shore. Father saw from far away a blue shirt floating in the lake. A couple of meters from the dock, where Jussi was lying, the water was only ankle deep. Father lifted his son from the lake. This was the most difficult job he had ever done in his life, though Jussi was just a little boy. He carried his son and laid him on the terrace. Ulla mother started to cry. At the same time at the dock, there was a doctor and his family going boating. The man ran over to help and started to give CPR to Jussi. Jussi's older brother came and called for an ambulance. The ambulance did not come right away because it was bringing 12 year old Olli to the hospital. It was the same ambulance that had passed Jussi's father an hour earlier. Olli had ridden his bike into the back of a van, flew through the back window and became unconscious.

In the ambulance Olli had regained consciousness and told how angels had brought him past disgusting creatures to the gates of the third Heaven. Olli had wanted to go inside,

but an angel had said: “Your time has not yet come. You must go back to the earth.” Olli then saw, when two angels were leading a small boy dressed in white and a voice said: “Jussi Havukainen, come inside.” And Jussi went inside alone through the gate.”

The same ambulance drivers that had taken Olli came as quickly as they could to bring Jussi to the hospital. The arrival of the ambulance was so delayed that Jussi’s brother went to call the ambulance again. Finally 2 ambulances came following each other. The one that had left later had caught up with the first one because there had been slow traffic. CPR given to Jussi lasted 3 hours. The first aid group who knew that Jussi was coming had decided that they would not stop until Jussi was revived.

This was man’s decision but God had another plan. Jussi was not revived but he died. In the emergency unit of the hospital, Jussi’s father could only shout, “thank you Lord for taking your servant home.” He would not have been able to do that if the Holy Spirit had not empowered him to do so.

When the parents came home that evening they realized that today was the Thursday that would never be forgotten. In the evening a voice said to the mother, “Look for Jussi’s bag!” When the bag was found on a hook, the voice prompted the mother to open it. They opened the bag and saw that it was completely empty. All of the tracts had been distributed. The evangelist had completed his work.

Funeral

Then came the day for the funeral on July 31, 1992. The people at the funeral were listening to the clanging of the bells when suddenly the power at the church went out. The lights went out and the bells stopped chiming. Only the candles remained burning on the altar. It was quiet as a mouse in the church. Nobody made a sound. A few minutes later the power came back on and the bells started to ring again. The Lord had organized a moment of honour for His servant to show that He is behind everything.

The day was, humanly speaking, a day of sorrow, but at the same time a day of joy, because Jussi had gone to his Heavenly Home, where we are all on our way. In the evening Jussi's family realized that this day was Jussi's sister Mia's birthday which had been celebrated earlier because of Jussi's request.

Tombstone

A year later Jussi's father was walking in a forest by the family's summer cottage when something got caught on his ankle and he fell. He was surprised and wondered what had caught his ankle and decided to examine the situation. He began to scrape moss from the ground, when suddenly his fingers reached the corner of a stone. Father saw that it was a light colour and maneuvered the stone to pick it up. He noticed it was about 10cm thick and 70 cm wide. It was smooth and white in color. Father immediately realized this stone was for Jussi's grave because during Jussi's life he had collected white stones.

Jussi had also wanted to have a new name for himself. A name was looked for in a name book. But a fitting name had not been found that Jussi's name could have been changed to. In the Bible, in the second chapter of the book of Revelation, it talks about how Jesus promises to give a white stone and a new name carved on that stone that is not known to anyone except the one who receives it, to those who overcome. So the Lord had organized even this one.

Little Jussi's favorite song

"I would like to run on the rainbow and put all of its colors into a jar. But I can not do so because God created His rainbow in the sky. Rainbow, rainbow reminds us how loving the Father God is".

Little Jussi's life teaching

From Jussi's life we can learn that here on earth even an 8 year old can be an evangelist and lead people to Jesus. I hope that through this booklet the Lord would encourage all believers in Christian service. The goal should be that even little children, 4 to 5 years of age, would be telling their friends of the same age about Jesus. **Therefore I would ask you to think and pray about what your place is as a person sent by Jesus and as His follower.** At least you can pray and distribute this booklet forward.

Be blessed.

Päivö Parviainen



Written on Jussi's tombstone.
Jesus says, "The one who believes in Me
lives even though he is dead.
Do you believe? I do."

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