



# THE CORNERSTONE EAGLE

October 2017 Edition



CORNERSTONE  
INTERNATIONAL  
GROUP

Are you seeking to be inspired as you face a particularly challenging year-end closing for 2017?

Are there some overwhelming targets to be met in terms of revenues and turnovers, or projects to be completed which are badly running behind time?

**Of course, life is not just about work. Perhaps you are facing difficult relationships, mounting pressures on finances, unrealistic expectations from family members or friends, and so the list goes on?**

In this issue of The Eagle, we want to share with you a real life story that will inspire you, and help you to find **wheels to move out of the rut** in times of difficulty and **MAKING A NEW ENDING IN LIFE...**



Cornerstone International Group's MISSION is to be the best executive recruiting group worldwide, but our VISION is to be a true mentor and coach, one-on-one, with our clients, candidates and partners locally.

We believe the way to do it is to promote TEAMWORK, CARING, LEARNING and THANKSGIVING. Achieving 'Healthier Business and Life' is what we strive for everyday. The Cornerstone Eagle is not a sales letter to promote activities of our 60+ offices globally, but a 3C tool to inspire you to maximize your personal and professional potential to be a Better Leader and a Better Person both at home and at business.

We shall be your Faithful Companion / Coach / Mentor on your life and career journey, supporting you to discover yourself and offering good advice regarding the SIX important aspects of your professional Life: Identity, Money, Career Options, Health, Relationships and Your Future (spiritual and your legacy reminders).

Best Wishes,

**Simon Wan**

Chief Executive

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## The Story About Liu Wei

### Courage, a Positive Attitude ...

Liu Wei lost his arms at the age of 10 after touching a high-voltage wire during a game of hide-and-seek. He regained consciousness after 45 days in a critical condition. His parents told him he should learn how to eat by himself, otherwise no-one could take care of him when they become old. His mother kept telling him that he is not different from the others. In the hospital, he met an armless painter, which inspired him to learn to use his feet to write, brush his teeth and eat.



At the time, he dreamed of becoming a soccer player. He was encouraged by Liu Jingshen, vice-chairman of the Beijing Disabled Persons' Federation, to do daily chores with his feet and started swimming two years later. He won two gold medals and one silver at the National Swimming Championship for the Disabled in 2002. He learned how to do other daily activities such as navigating online, eating, dressing and brushing his teeth. He considers himself more fortunate than those without enough to eat, debunking ideas of those who believe him unhappy.

### ... and Making Dreams Come True

He started playing the piano at the age of 18 or 19 to pursue his childhood dream of being a musician. His first teacher quit as he considered it impossible for someone to play with their toes. However, Liu, who was studying music theory, persisted and taught himself in secret how to play, despite cramps and abrasions, often practising seven hours a day. As he said, the melodies he can play are limited due to the length of his toes and he cannot play certain pieces he loves because he cannot reach across octaves. Nevertheless, he aimed to become such a good pianist that people would not notice that his arms were missing.



### Success

In his first appearance at the China's Got Talent competition, Liu received a standing ovation from the audience, many of whom were moved to tears, for a performance of "Marriage D'amour" by Richard Clayderman on August 8, 2010. The semi-finals took place on September 12. He played "You're Beautiful" in Shanghai Stadium and won at the Finals on October 10, accompanied by his singing.

After the finale, Liu was invited by Taiwan singer Jolin Tsai to be a guest performer on her world tour which would give him the chance to perform in Las Vegas for three months. There were other attractive offers from Fremantle Media and Sony Music Entertainment.

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In 2010, Liu also won the Guinness World Record of typing the most letters alphabetically in 1 minute, using the feet: 251 letters.

## Liu's Quotes - Impactful Life Anchors

"To me, there are three things that cannot be missed in life – air, water and music."

"There were only two paths in my life for me – either to die as fast as possible, or to live as brilliant a life as I could."



"I don't feel that I am that different from other people. Normally everyone is used to do everything with one's hands so your hands are more flexible. There is no rule saying that you can't do things with your feet."

"A man should be responsible to his dreams. My dream is to become a great musician."

"I know if I want to do it better than other people, I have to put in more effort."

On the note he wrote after winning the Finals of China's Got Talent, it says: "Walk on, at least I have a pair of perfect legs."

## On working hard ... and making a New Ending

"There are no shortcuts to any place worth going." – Beverly Sills

When you're young you have this fantasy that super successful adults – writers, musicians, doctors, businessmen, etc. – have some kind of magical chest of tools allowing them to build masterpieces that are larger than life. You fantasize about a hammer of creativity, a pliers of efficiency, a saw of wisdom, and so on and so forth.

But then you grow up and you realize, for the most part, everyone is working with the same set of imperfect, rusty, old tools – desire, commitment, honesty, kindness, love, persistence, etc. And as flawed and bent as they may be, they work wonders against the odds when you truly put them to the test.

As Maria Robinson once said, "Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending." Nothing could be closer to the truth. But before you can begin this process of transformation you have **to stop doing the things that have been holding you back**. And with a positive 'to do' list, start doing things for yourself.



Here are some great ideas to get you started:

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- **Stop spending time with the wrong people – especially those who suck happiness out of you.**
  - Start spending time with the right people – these are the people you enjoy, who love and appreciate you, and who encourage you to improve in healthy and exciting ways.
  - **Stop running from your problems – face them head on.**
  - Start facing your problems head on – it isn't your problems that define you, but how you react to them and recover from them. Problems will not disappear unless you take action.
  - **Stop lying to yourself – you can lie to anyone else in the world, but you can't lie to yourself.**
  - Start being honest with yourself about everything – be honest about what's right, as well as what needs to be changed.
  - **Stop putting your own needs on the back burner – the most painful thing is losing yourself in the process of loving someone too much, and forgetting that you are special too. Yes, help others; but help yourself too.**
  - Start making your own happiness a priority – your needs matter.
  - **Stop trying to be someone you're not.**
  - Start being yourself, genuinely and proudly – trying to be anyone else is a waste of the person you are. Be yourself. Embrace that individual inside you that has ideas, strengths and beauty like no one else.
  - **Stop trying to hold onto the past – you can't start the next chapter of your life if you keep holding on your past.**
  - Start noticing and living in the present – right now is a miracle. Right now is the only moment guaranteed to you. Right now is life. Stop dwelling on what did or didn't happen in the past.



## The Bible

### Joshua 1:9

"Do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

### Isaiah 46:4

"I have made you. I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

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**Psalm 46:10**

“Be still and know that I am with you.”

*Our Editor, Nancy Chu at [nancy-chu@cornerstone-group.com](mailto:nancy-chu@cornerstone-group.com) would love to hear from you if you have special thoughts to share.*

### **About Cornerstone International Group**

**Cornerstone International Group** is ranked by Forbes as one of the Top Ten Best Management Consulting Firms in Executive Search. Our mission is to accelerate the success of our clients by providing top-quality consulting services in the field of talent recruitment and leadership development. Our clients partner with us because we deliver **better results faster**. With 25 plus years of track record across the globe and some 70 offices worldwide, we know how to attract top leaders you need for your business and we take the time to know your business. Visit us at [www.cornerstone-group.com](http://www.cornerstone-group.com) and see how we can help you to have a '**Healthier Business and Life**'

