

SPREAD the GOSPEL KEEP WATCH for HIS RETURN

廣傳**語音** 迎**主**再







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宣教的源動力(二)

蔡健強牧師

時光飛逝,轉眼就是高潔林自立中華基督教會第 37 屆的差傳年會。我撰寫「牧者的話」時,人雖身在出生地—香港,心卻在居住地—溫哥華,因為我在思想禱告,我該如何落筆,以鼓勵會眾不忘主的囑咐,並且更是不錯失蒙大恩的契機。蒙主開啟,給我感動,還是以去年的題目:宣教的源動力,來撰寫此隨筆。

新冠疫情的種種限制,雖然正式解除,然而,新冠的病毒並沒有完全消除,並且還出現一些「長新冠」的後遺症。 「長新冠」不單仍然威脅著我們的健康,也使一些神的兒 女對宣教有所「避忌」,不像新冠前的那麼熱切。究其原 因,或許是在宣教的源動「力」上失去了信心和勇氣。

宣教之『源』—聖父

如果亞伯蘭是第一個宣教士,我們就不得不承認那差他出去的那位——聖父—就是宣教的源頭了。聖父不單差派一個宣教士去傳遞祂的心意,歷世歷代祂都呼召先知去責備那世代的人,最終祂差派自己的愛子,不單傳遞神的心意,更是完成神的旨意。

宣教之『動』—聖子

當聖子耶穌完成救贖工作,返回天家之前,祂「動員 Mobilize」當時的門徒:『天上地下

所有的權柄都賜給我了。所以,你們要去,使萬民作我的門徒···』(太廿八 18-19)。這

「動員」的囑咐又豈只是對當時的門徒說呢!「大使命」是對所有蒙神恩,不至滅亡,反 得永生的基督徒說的,我們既蒙了深恩,該如何回應聖子耶穌的「動員囑咐」。

宣教之『力』—聖靈

我們雖然知道聖父是宣教之源頭,聖子耶穌基督是號召信徒遵命而出的動員者,但為何仍然有無數的信徒有「感」而不「動」呢?很多信徒喜歡聽宣教士的故事,特別聽到他們如何轟轟烈烈的為信仰作出犧牲,實在令人敬佩不已。但當聽到「我可以差遣誰呢?誰肯為

我們去呢?」(賽六8),卻不多人願意說「我在這裏,請差遣我!」(賽六8)

原因之一是「害怕」。怕苦?怕髒?怕離開自己的舒適?怕…怕…怕…

有誰不會害怕呢?「害怕」是人類的本性,從亞當開始,直到今天,人總有他所怕的。

要戰勝害怕,就需要靠「外來的力量」。

當耶穌離地升天後,門徒害怕,害怕甚麼?不用多講解吧!

教會成立之初,需要有外來的力量幫助。使徒行傳二章告訴我們:「1五旬節到了,門徒

都聚集在一處。2 忽然,從天上有響聲下來,好像一陣大風吹過,充滿了他們所坐的屋子,

³又有舌頭如火焰顯現出來,分開落在他們各人頭上。⁴他們就都被聖靈充滿,按著聖靈所

賜的口才說起別國的話來。 |

一班原本害怕得要死的門徒,因著外來的力量幫助,被聖靈充滿,竟然作出他們一生從未 做過的事:說起別國的話來。

接著,「14彼得和十一個使徒站起,高聲說…」。

一個曾經因怕死甚至指天發誓否認耶穌的彼得,因著被聖靈充滿,竟然公開佈道,有膽色, 有內容,使三千人聽後受感,悔改歸主。試想他(他們)的力量何來?

到了第四章(使徒行傳),彼得(也包括約翰)受苦了。

因著他們的公開佈道,觸動了當時宗教高層的惱怒,就把他們收押下監。但第二天準備公審時,彼得約翰不因受苦而懼怕,反而「⁸ 那時彼得被聖靈充滿,對他們說…」,再一次公開放膽的講論神的道。使徒的膽色反而使反對者懼怕,他們只有釋放彼得和約翰。

「²³ 二人既被釋放,就到會友那裏去,把祭司長和長老所說的話都告訴他們。²⁴ 他們聽見

了,就同心合意地高聲向神說•••31 禱告完了,聚會的地方震動,他們就都被聖靈充滿,放

膽講論神的道。」因著聖靈充滿,門徒放膽講論神的道。這就是因著外來力量,除去害怕 的心,天國福音得以廣傳的原因了。

弟兄姊妹們,你願意繼續受到屬靈的「長新冠」影響,使得你們在「害怕」中生活下去嗎? 還是你們願意被聖靈充滿,除去心中的恐懼,被神使用,開拓天國國度呢? 因著「新冠疫情」,多少人失去起初的信心,甚至早把主恩典忘記了。

因著「長新冠後遺症」,多少人起初的希望和愛心都失落了,以至把那動員者聖子耶穌基督的大使命都放下了,只知陶醉在歡樂中,活得不像一個真信徒的樣子。這是你所願意的嗎?

起來吧!讓我們趁著還有今天,向聖父聖子聖靈發出我們的心聲;願那靈火復興我!

詩歌: 願那靈火復興我 May The Spiritual Fire Revive Me

願那復興我的靈火,重新再來一次復興我;

起初的信心,何處失落,

我願悔改,重新再得著。

在明媚的春光裏,在幸福的生活中;

我們陶醉,我們歡樂,早把主恩典忘記。

願那復興我的靈火,重新再來一次復興我;

起初的希望,何處失落,

我願悔改, 重新再得著。

在穩妥的事業裏,在迷人的笑聲中;

我們遊戲,我們沈迷,早把主恩典忘記。

願那復興我的靈火,重新再來一次復興我;

起初的愛心,何處失落,

我願悔改, 重新再得著。

在艱苦的歲月裏,在百般的試煉中;

我們禱告,我們儆醒,毋把主恩典忘記。

願那復興我的靈火,重新再來一次復興我;

起初的信、望、愛, 何處失落,

我願悔改, 現在就得著。

The Source/Mobilization/Power of Mission (2)

Time flies, and in a blink of an eye, it is the 37th annual mission conference of the Coquitlam Christ Church of China. When I wrote 'A Word from Our Pastor', I was in Hong Kong where I was born; but my heart was in Vancouver where I live; because I was pondering and praying how I could write to encourage the congregation not to forget the Lord's command, and not to miss out on the opportunity to receive His great blessings. I was then moved by the Lord's Spirit, so I wrote this sharing with last year's topic: The Power of Mission.

Although various restrictions on the COVID-19 epidemic have been lifted, the COVID-19 virus has not been completely eliminated, and there are still some sequelae of the COVID-19.

Coronavirus not only continues to threaten our health, but also continues to affect some of God's children. They have lost confidence in their faith, especially their motivation for missions. Perhaps we will all ask for an explanation, and even want to find a panacea to cure this abnormal phenomenon. I will use the 'source', 'mobilization' and 'power' of missionary work to let us review the past of missionary work and look forward to how missionary work can move forward.

The 'Source' of Mission—The Holy Father

If Abraham was the first missionary, we would have to admit that the one who sent him—the Holy Father—was the source of the mission. Not only did the Holy Father send a missionary to deliver His will, throughout the ages He called prophets to rebuke that generation, eventually He even sent His Son, not only to deliver His message, but also to fulfill His will.

The 'Mobilization' of Mission—The Holy Son

When the Holy Son Jesus Christ completed His work of redemption and before He returned to Heaven, He 'mobilized' His disciples: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28: 18-19) This mobilization command has been around for nearly two thousand years. This command—the Great Commission—has moved and pushed countless believers to embark on the path of missionary work. Countless people have been blessed because of these missionaries who selflessly obeyed the command. We will not perish but have eternal life, and we are the beneficiaries.

The 'Power' of Mission—the Holy Spirit

Although we know that the Holy Father is the source of mission, and the Holy Son Jesus Christ is the mobilizer who calls believers to obey the command, why are there still countless believers who are touched but not moved? Many believers love to listen to the stories of missionaries, especially how they made vigorous sacrifices for their faith, which is really admirable. But when they hear, "Who shall I send, and who will go for us?" (Isaiah 6: 8), not many are willing to say, "Here I am, send me!" (Isaiah 6: 8)

One of the reasons is FEAR. Fear of hardship; fear of uncleanliness; fear of leaving one's own comfort zone, afraid of this and that...

Who doesn't fear? Fear is our human nature, and from Adam to this day, man has always had his fears.

To overcome fear, you need to rely on external forces.

When Jesus left the earth and ascended into heaven, the disciples were afraid, what were they afraid of? There's no need to tell the details!

When the church was founded in the first place, it needed help from outside forces as described in Acts 2: "IWhen the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance."

A group of disciples who were originally scared to death, with the help of outside power and being filled with the Holy Spirit, actually did something they had never done in their lives: speak in other languages.

Then, "14But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them..."

Peter, who had sworn to deny Jesus out of fear of death, was filled with the Holy Spirit and preached a public sermon with courage and content, which moved 3,000 people to repent and convert to the Lord. Think about this, where did his or their power come from?

In Acts chapter 4, Peter (and John) suffered.

Because of their public sermons, which aroused the anger of the religious elite at that time, they were taken into custody and sent to prison. But the following day, as he prepared for the public trial, Peter and John did not fear suffering, but in Acts 4, "8Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them..." Again, spoke openly and boldly about the Word of God. The apostles' audacity frightened the naysayers, who had to release Peter and John.

In Acts 4, "²³When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. ²⁴And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said...³¹And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness."

Filled with the Holy Spirit, the disciples spoke boldly about the Word of God. This is the reason why the gospel of the kingdom of God has been widely preached because of external forces that caused their fear to go away.

Brothers and sisters, are you willing to continue to be affected by the spiritual sequelae of the COVID-19 that will make you live in 'fear'? Or are you willing to be filled with the Holy Spirit that removes the fear from your hearts and be used by God to expand His kingdom?

Because of the COVID-19, many people have lost their initial faith, and have forgotten the grace of the Lord for a long time.

高潔林自立中華基督教會 37th 屆差傳年會

Because of the sequelae of the COVID-19, many people have lost their original hope and their first love for the Lord, so much so that they have let go of Lord Jesus Christ's Great Commission, and only reveled in their fleshly enjoyment and do not live like a true believer. Is this what you want?

Arise, let us set our hearts to the Holy Father, the Holy Son and the Holy Spirit while there is still opportunity, and may that fire revive us!

Hymn: May The Spiritual Fire Revive Me

May the Spiritual Fire of Revival, Revive me once again today;

My First Faith, I have lost, I repent and pray, LORD, You restore.

When life is in Sunny Spring, With blissful sweetness;

We would revel, We would merry, No longer we mind the LORD's Grace.

May the Spiritual Fire of Revival, Revive me once again today;

My First Hope, I have lost, I repent and pray, LORD, You restore.

When life is in fair wind, With fawning smiles around us;

In our stupor, We seek pleasure, No longer we mind the LORD's Grace.

May the Spiritual Fire of Revival, Revive me once again today;

My First Love, I have lost, I repent and pray, LORD, You restore.

When life is in great distress, With one trial after another;

We start praying, And be watchful, That our LORD's Grace not be lost.

May the Spiritual Fire of Revival, Revive me once again today;

My First Faith, Hope, And Love, I have lost, I repent and pray, LORD, You restore.

講員簡介

Biography of Speakers

盧潔香宣教士 (國際使命學院院長)



本人在 1989 年由中國到加拿大時信主受洗,蒙主呼召,1998 年底由華人福音普傳會差遣到柬埔寨宣教。 先後創辦金邊基督教恩典堂、甘播竹筍村恩典堂、西哈努克港恩典堂。 宣教事工由同文化到跨文化,由華人到柬埔寨人,由城市到鄉村。

學歷:中文系畢業(1985年)、商業企業管理畢業(1987年)、基督教神學院研究學士畢業(1995年)、道學碩士畢業 M. Div (2015年)、基督教教育事工博士畢業 DEdMin (2023年)。

我們支持的宣教士

Missionaries We Support

宣教士 Missionaries	簡介 Brief Intro
• Biking Beavers -cross-SE Asia 跨文化— TEAM	Biking Beavers 宣教士—東南亞 – 藉呼吸、物理療法傳福音 Missionary Biking Beavers couple – Nepalese group
• Daniel/Debbie Watters -unreached 未得 之民—Wycliffe	華特士夫婦宣教士—支援全球母語聖經翻譯,事奉焦點:講土話之未聞福音群體 Missionary Watters couple - Promote mother-tongue Bible translation world wide
• Matthew Qiu-near 近文化—CCM	馬泰宣教士—門徒訓練,中國主要城市講 普通話之群體 Missionary Matthew Qiu – China Discipleship, Mandarin speaking people group
● N&N-unreached-SE Asia 未得之民— Wycliffe	N&N 宣教士—母語聖經翻譯 - 東南亞講土 話之未聞福音群體 Missionary N&N couple - Mother-tongue Bible translation consultant for the SE Asia minority people groups
• Teresa Leung -near 近文化—Outreach Canada	梁睦宜 宣教士—中國、尼泊爾講國語及尼 泊爾語之群體 Missionary Teresa – China, Nepal Mandarin and Nepalese speaking groups
• William & Juliana Hui-Cross 跨文化— OMF	許樂敏牧師 夫婦—日本語群體 Rev William Hui couple – Japanese speaking groups

我們支持的宣教機構

Missions Organizations We Support

宣教機構 Missions Organizations		簡介(參閱相關網頁) Brief Intro (check corresponding website)
•	ATEK – discipleship training ATEK – 門徒訓練	https://www.atekperu.org/home-page/
•	CanIL Project M 加拿大語文研究國語事工	https://www.canil.ca/wordpress/
•	CCM — Small Town Mission 中信小城宣教事工	https://centre.vancouver.ccmcanada.org/
•	Lighthouse Harbour Ministries 燈塔港灣福音事工	https://sealight.org/
•	OMF Canada 加拿大海外基督使團	https://omf.org/ca/
•	VCCSTMTC 溫哥華短宣中心	http://www.vccstm.ca/
•	Wycliffe – Bible translation project Thailand 加拿大威克理夫聖經翻譯泰國事工	https://www.wycliffe.ca/
•	Wycliffe Canada — Chinese Diaspora 加拿大威克理夫聖經翻譯會華人事工	https://www.wycliffe.ca/

宣教士近況

Missionaries Update

<u>Updates from OMF – Pastor William & Juliana Hui</u>

Jinja 神社

Japan's New Year's Day is on January 1st. It is called 元旦 (がんたん; gan-tan) or some say 正月 (しょうがつ; shō-gatsu). People greet each other by saying: "来年もよろしくお願いします" (Appreciate your continued support next year), "よいお年を!" (Happy New Year), etc.

Many Japanese go to a Jinja 神社 (a Japanese Shinto temple) on January 1st to worship, pray, and get a lucky charm. Japanese churches have a January 1st special prayer (お祈り; o-i-no-ri) and worship service, partly for celebrating the new year and partly, we think, to discourage immature believers from going to a Jinja.

Together with another new missionary couple, we went to a nearby Jinja before midnight for cultural observation. Sadly, we saw so many people lining up; indeed, most of them were young people. Many! They lined up to bow, give money, clap hands, and then draw a $\mathcal{B}\mathcal{A}\mathcal{L}$ (a lucky charm) with which they hope in the new year they would have good outcomes in exams, careers, dating relationships, etc.







This is what many Japanese people practice. It is sad, isn't it? Insecurity in their hearts?

 \rightarrow お祈り: For the people who worship idols, who have no security. Pray to the Lord to give us wisdom to reach out to our Japanese friends who are Jinja-goers.

Jishin 地震

Could the insecurity come from the fact that earthquakes (地震; ji-shin) affect Japan way too much? According to USGC, "For which country do we locate the most earthquakes? Japan. The whole country is in a very active seismic area…" A Japanese neighbor told us that every 5 years or so, Japan encounters a major earthquake. In Hokkaido, the previous major one was a 6.6-scale quake in 2018.

As you know, west-central Japan had a deadly earthquake on 元旦 (January 1st). Our heartfelt thanks to all those who checked in with us via different means. (As missionaries, we really felt touched and cared for!) This quake was particularly hard for the Japanese as many returned home for the New Year. Imagine, if you are Chinese, a deadly accident happens before the Chinese New Year dinner; or before your Christmas Eve family gathering, if you are Canadian. We have been watching Japan news on TV every day. Many stories: A grandpa lost his two daughters who were in town with him. A father in his 40s lost his wife and three kids as his wife so happened to take the kids to their hometown first,... stories like these are still fresh in our minds.

We are aware of one Christian organization and one church involved in helping victims there. Uchinada Bible Church 内灘聖書教会: has become a hub for relief goods to be received, sorted, and transported. OperationSAFE: equips local communities to provide psychological first-aid to children after a disaster.







→ お祈り: For the victims (the children, trauma, people who are still living without water/electricity). Pray for the aids, especially OpSAFE and Uchinada Bible Church.

Other Cultural Observation: Soba 年越しそば

One Japanese New Year's tradition is to have New Year Soba (年越しそば; to-shi-ko-shi so-ba) on New Year's Eve. Noodles are often considered to be a symbol of longevity due to their long shape.

Our OMF leaders organized a soba-making event recently. We had the opportunity to see the making of soba from scratch and also enjoy the freshly made soba for lunch. This workshop was hosted by a Soba-making Club. This group of people gather twice a month together to make soba. Some of them have been making soba for more than 10 years. They start from making and rolling/kneading the dough to cutting the noodles. Each step is full of skills. It shows the passion and the perseverance of Japanese people in perfecting their skills through continuous practice, which is highly admirable.







Updates on Japanese Neighbours:

In our last newsletter (Yotei Dew 180), we mentioned that NS-san's two children had eye surgeries in December. Both went well and the kids recovered well too. After a 4-week winter holiday, the kids are now back to school. We will resume the English play/class this Saturday. Thanks for praying for them and our English classes.

We also had a chance to share the Gospel with FN-san and her daughter at an English class just before the New Year. Though they are not in Christ yet, they were quite eager to learn about the Gospel. We are discerning the next good time to invite FN-san, her daughter, and FN-san's parents (OK-san) to church.

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→ お祈り: Give thanks that NS-san's children are well. For FN-san, we give thanks for the moments from God to share the Gospel. Please keep praying for our relationships with both families to continue to grow.

Please remember us:

- 1. Sapporo has experienced quite a few snowstorms. Give thanks that we are safe and healthy so far. Pray for some of our OMF peers who have been catching colds/flu repeatedly.
- 2. Pray for our mothers: Vancouver and Edmonton were quite cold recently. They have been not attending churches physically but joining online.
- 3. Also for our daughters to continue to walk closely with their Lord.
- 4. Give thanks for our friendships with NS-san's and FN-san's families. Pray for Gospel opportunities.
- 5. Pray for the Noto Peninsula Earthquake: For the victims and for the Christian aids.
- 6. For the idol worshippers, especially the Japanese youths.
- 7. We'd like to encourage more prayer warriors to join a regional OMF prayer group to pray for not only us but also other frontline workers.

Update from Rev. Teresa Leung

Flashes of Nepali Mission 2023



Mobilizing & Training Trip Jan – Mar 2023





Coquitlam Christ Church of China 37th Missions Conference



DMM Nepal Leadership Retreat Oct 2023











Coquitlam Christ Church of China 37th Missions Conference

Earthquake Relief Nov 2023 & Short-Term Mission Sept 2023



Overview of 2023

Family

We have found a place in Coquitlam and shall move at the beginning of Feb 2024. It was an involved but stressful process. For four months, we faced harassment from a family member of the landlord and went through many twists and turns trying to find the right place.

In the process, we learned to forgive and bless the one who harassed us, to trust the Lord more for His sovereign timing and provision, to care for each other more, and to view the adversity as God's grace of molding in Christ.

Personal

I began serving as one of the Regional Catalysts of the Disciple Making Movement in 2023, involving in three networks: Outreach Canada, Global Church Planting Network, and the Lausanne Roundtable. The focus is to facilitate and coach leaders to saturate the nations with disciple-making or church planning.

One of the offline DBS group that I formed locally experienced transformation. I stay with them and have been blessed by the fellowship. We shares the bonding of the Spirit, become more prayerful, intentional, and persistent in following Christ, reaching the lost, and purring each other on.

The Lord has also changed me through ministries in 2023. I become more aware of my weakness, more dependent on the work of the Holy Spirit, more appreciative of the fellowship of saints, and more 'being' a Christian than 'talking' or 'doing' Christianity.

The Big Country Mission:

A team of 17 from Mainland joined me in Nepal for a short-term mission. Spiritual warfare was intense. Everyone, except me, got sick but there was victory. Miraculous healing took place and the team experienced spiritual breakthroughs.

Soon after the trip, direct connection with them reduced. The more I long to prepare them for Sinification of Christianity, the faster the window is closing on me. So, I entrust them to the Lord and pray that the seed sown would spring up into the biggest branch.

The Nepali Mission:

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I went on a training itinerary for 2 months in Nepal. During the trip, we covered 6 provinces, trained 1600 participants, mostly leaders of 178 churches, and established three local DMM leaders. After the trip we launched the DMM Nepal Initiative to mobilize and follow-up. The Movement gained traction and we formed two headship team after the trip.

For the rest of the year, I dedicated most of the time to coach leaders, build organic leadership structure and system, and develop practical tools and resources to sustain the Movement.

In October, I hosted a 3-days retreat for the DMM leaders in Nepal to build synergy and collaboration. Since then, they have been collaborating to mobilize and train, review progress and make adjustment, and set priorities and goals for 2014. Eight of them are going to join me for a Conference in Batam for networking, collaboration, and national strategic planning.

Earthquake Relief: In response to the earthquake which caused great damage and loss in Mid-West Nepal, I collaborated with three teams in three places to raise fund for disaster relief. Together, we were able to provide relief packages for 500 families. Our Nepali partners enter the second phase of relief operation. One of the three teams continues to fund the operation.

The Big country: As the window is closing on me, I am praying for a new door to open. There may be options either to serve through another network, or switch to serve the diaspora migrants.

Nepal: The Movement in Nepal is expected to grow more rapidly than 2023. I shall focus to coach the Nepali leaders, facilitate them for collaboration and networking, and monitor both the development progress and the financial disbursement.

Other countries: I have been facilitating some other DMM teams in India, Philippines, and Canada. They are growing, and I shall continue to coach their leaders on leadership development and collaboration.

Travel Plan for 2024: Four DMM trips are on the radar, one to Indonesia, one to Regina, one to Toronto, and one to Nepal. The date of the Indonesian trip is Feb 23 to Mar 5th. The date of the other three are still open.

The budget of the 'DMM Nepal Initiative 2024' amounts to CAD50,000. We had already raised 60% of budget. 40% is still outstanding.

Prayer Request for 2024

- For guidance and a new door to serve churches of the big country.
- For wisdom and strength to monitor the Nepali Initiative, and to coach leaders of Nepal and other places.
- For successful fundraising for the outstanding budget of the 'DMM Nepal Initiative 2024'
- For wisdom in time management and resources allocation
- For protection and fruitfulness for all four trips

Biking Beaver Updates



We are happy to be able to celebrate this 37th mission conference with you on Mar 1-3. We will actually be at a prayer retreat at the same time. Thank you so much for your support and prayers for us. We are grateful and see the fruits of your petitions. We are still officially in the language acquisition phase of our careers, which has been a real blessing to us. We are learning more on how to communicate appropriately with people and people are genuinely appreciative of outsiders making a serious effort to learn their language. Background: It is the goal of practically every young person to leave the country whether by pursuing higher education or work abroad. This is a great social pressure usually placed on the oldest child if there are financial means. This means that we have an opportunity to share the hope we have and the reason for immigrating to their country.

Since the beginning of 2024, I've been inching my way back into the clinical environment reconnecting with various contacts from the past. It has been encouraging to see how the healthcare system here has advanced in many ways from an area where there were no sedation protocols for things like full body burn dressing changes. There is still much room for improvement; but we are also realizing that saving face is important. I am learning how to rephrase various elements in a positive way whether it be in the hospitals to department heads or my children at home. Please pray for wisdom in how to navigate conversations and encourage the game changers in healthcare which we have the privilege of collaborating with. This year, we hope to launch a national training program for nurses to advance their practice.

Becky is our stellar reader as she continues language. She hopes to be done before the global conference in Thailand in June.

We are grateful for our children adjusting well to the international community here. While it is our hope and plan to be more involved locally as a family, we've realized that having an English-

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speaking base for our children at this point in their lives is grounding for them. Please pray that they continue to grow their love for Jesus and relationship with him.

Prayer: 1 Peter 3:15 "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect..."

- Please pray for hearts that revere Christ as Lord. That He reigns in our hearts, minds and home.
- Please pray for our conversations with our neighbours and colleagues. One the surface, everyone seems friendly; however in deeper conversation darkness is palpable and hopeless rampant. Please pray that we know how to encourage people on their journeys of life to the full (John 10:10b).
- Please pray for cultural sensitivity. Periodically we are humbled realizing that we have unconsciously offended people or embarrassed ourselves. This usually ends in a good opportunity for laugher which is wonderful; but at times it can be seen as shaming and that is just hurtful.

Peace,

Biking Beaver, SE Asia

Update from Daniel and Debbie Watters

On February 16, 2024 we will be packing up a U-haul trailer and driving to California to move in with Debbie's parents who live in Gilroy (45 minutes south of San Jose). They really could use our help on a daily basis, while we continue working remotely with Wycliffe Bible Translators. We're sad to leave our church, dear friends and my (Debbie's) students here in Waco, but are already connected to a fantastic church in Gilroy and know that God has wonderful blessings in store for us there as well.



Daniel's New Role:

Over a year ago, the CEO of Wycliffe asked me (Daniel) to consider a new role in Wycliffe. The timing didn't quite feel right at the time, but when we were in Africa in September, he asked me again. This time, it did feel right.

So, the first week of March I'll start training for a **Wycliffe "field coordinator"** role, which is essentially the role of a project manager. I'll be connecting with partners and churches in Mainland Asia, working with them to develop Bible translation programs that can be funded and tracked from start to finish. It's exciting to step into a role that will enable Wycliffe to say "yes" to many new opportunities that He is providing!

Partnership with CCCC:

In my new role as Field Coordinator with Wycliffe USA, the area of the world that I will be involved in is your homeland and surrounding areas. It makes me think that our connection with CCCC is only going to prove to be even more meaningful and perhaps strategic in specific ways. I don't know how at this point, but I get that feeling. After I have been in my role for a time I think some of these things will begin to emerge, but I do look forward to exploring CCCC connection to "the homeland" and how that might fit with the doors that God is opening. I just put that out there so that you can also be listening to what the Holy Spirit might be telling you as well.

Debbie's ESL:

Pictured below: A Conversational English class that Debbie led once a month at our church in Waco.

Debbie will **continue teaching ESL**, online, to leaders around the world who are involved in the Bible translation movement. It has been such a joy for her to teach ESL at our local community college in Waco that she is considering a similar position at the community college in Gilroy. How many students and classes she takes on, however, will need to be balanced with the support that we'd like to give her parents. So she'll make a decision on this after we've been in California for a month or two.



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Please join us in Prayers:

Adjusting to living with Debbie's folks, that we would be a help and not a stress.

Transitioning to new work roles. My (Daniel's) work was going to be changing regardless of the move, and Debbie will be looking into an ESL teaching job at the nearby community college in Gilroy.

Thank you!!!

We're grateful for each one of you! Blessings in Christ, Daniel and Debbie Watters

Update from N&N



We work alongside six different "mountain language" teams in Asia, helping them translate the Bible into their languages. Many of these language groups are small and there are only a few believers in each group.





- N is a translation consultant who checks drafts before they can be published; and N2 is an advisor who helps the team throughout various parts of the translation process. Our goal is to help them make sure the text is accurate, clear, and natural.
- Our hope is to see communities transformed through oral and written translation as well as ethnic arts and media.
- We also help teach at occasional workshops, where translation teams learn and apply the principles of good Bible translation.

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Currently: We came back to the US in the fall of 2023 to have our second child. Right now we are connecting with churches and individual partners.

Upcoming: We will be returning to Asia in May 2024. There we will continue our advising and consulting roles.

Prayer requests:

- Please pray for our family in the many transitions ahead of us in the next few months.
- Please pray for our translation teams, who are working on the books of Acts and Genesis right now. Even though we trained a few of them as advisors, they have less support than normal at this time.
- Please pray for our health, visa, and upcoming study program when we return to Asia in May.

本堂宣教事工分享

Missions Ministry Sharing

差傳部的話

A Word from Mission Committee

我們的五年差傳主題是"廣傳福音,迎主再臨"。有人問: "傳福音"與"主再來"有什麼關係?

彼得前書 4:17 因為時候到了,審判要從神的家起首。。。。

當主再來之時,我們每一個人都要接受主耶穌的審判。好像考試一樣,如果我們預先知道考題就好啦!從下面的經文我們嘗試找出主耶穌要審判我們的範圍。

馬太福音 25:21 主人說: 你這又良善又忠心的僕人。。。 馬太福音 25:26 主人回答說: 你這又惡又懶的僕人。。。

從以上的經文我們看到主耶穌的判詞有兩方面:

- (1) "良善, 忠心"與 "又惡又懶"是指我們的<u>品格</u>。求主幫助我們努力追求擁有神的屬性, 使我們可以彰顯神的榮耀並能吸引世人來認識祂。
- (2) "僕人" 是做工的。這裡是指我們有沒有做傳福音的<u>工作</u>。求主幫助我們努力將福音早日傳遍天下,向萬民作見證,主耶穌便會早日回來。

馬太福音 24:14 "這天國的福音要傳遍天下,對萬民作見證,然後末期才來到"。

這就是"廣傳福音" 與"迎主再臨" 的關係啦!

感謝主我們是一個著重差傳的教會。在此誠懇鼓勵弟兄姊妹們要把握時機,積極參與教會 提供的宣教項目:

- 。每月一次的社區外展事工
- 。差傳主日學
- 。差傳問答比賽
- 。透過禱告,金錢奉獻和參加短宣,我們可以用行動來實際支持宣教事工和宣教士
- 。每年一次的差傳年會提醒我們要積極參與主的大使命

求主賜下"宣教的靈"給教會! 阿們!

Our five-year mission theme is "Spread the Gospel, Keep watch for His return"

People asked: how is "spread the Gospel" related to "Jesus Christ's return"?

1 Peter 4:17

For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God......

Each one of us will face final judgement when Jesus returns. Wouldn't it be great if we know how Jesus is going to judge us so that we may prepare for it? According to the scriptures below, Jesus will judge <u>our character</u> and <u>our work</u>.

Matthew 25

²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant......

With the above verdict from Jesus we may come up with 2 categories how Jesus is going to judge us.

- 1. "good and faithful" OR "wicked and slothful" refer to our <u>character</u>. We should strive to attain a Godly character. Pray that God's glory is manifested through us and people are attracted to come to know Jesus.
- 2. "servant" refers to our <u>work</u>. The kind of work in here is specifically referred to "bear Gospel fruits"! Pray that we'd strive to spread the Gospel around the world so that our Lord would return soon!

Matthew 24:14 "When the Gospel is proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, the end will come."

That's how "Spread the Gospel" is related to "Jesus Christ's return".

Thanks to God that CCCC is a missional church that offers many opportunities to us. We encourage you to take the opportunities to get yourself involved in missions.

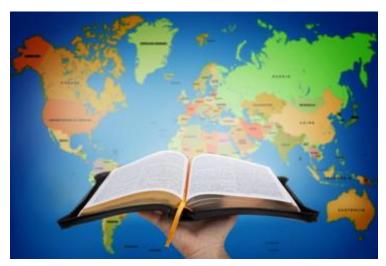
• We host a local outreach ministry that allows us to reach out to the community.

²⁶ But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant!.....

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- We meet missionaries from around the world and learn about their work and lives during our Sunday school sessions.
- Through quiz competitions we could know more about our supported organizations and missionaries.
- Through prayers, monetary offering and short term mission trips we could physically participate in missions and experience God.
- Last but not least we have an annual mission conference which reminds us of Jesus Christ Great Commission!

Pray that the Spirit of "a heart for missions" rest upon us all, Amen!





溫哥華島小城短宣 Small Town Mission in Vancouver Island

【梁沈玉玲姊妹分享】

2023 4月17-21 小城短宣感恩篇

週一下午探訪第一個福音對象時,我開始發病了。大傷風,鼻塞,頭痛,發冷等大感冒症 狀如洪水般奔放出來。本以為今次惨啦!一開始就病得如此厲害,會否影響隊工呢? 但一切自有神的安排,真是要凡事謝恩啊!

感恩之一, 我是出隊之後才發病。

如果出隊之前發病我是不會参加的,因害怕會傳染給隊友。但如果我不参加,我會心不安,因我是唯一認識其他隊友的人。本堂的 Shirley Tam 及 Rebecca Yeung 姊妹與非本堂的 Ella 曹牧師並不認識。她們三位與領隊的中信同工 Otto 又不認識。而且這三位姊妹同樣是首次参加小城短宣,情況可能會很不自然。

感恩之二,神安排了 Ella 牧師担起牧師的重任,加上 Rebecca 及 Shirley 從傍和諧合作,互相配搭,互補不足。我雖然咳嗽聲沙大傷風,但基本上我不用開聲談道,我只是在傍默默代禱,生病卻不影響團隊作主的工。

感恩之三

其他隊友都沒受感染、身心靈都健康服侍神。

感恩之四

雖然生病不適,但得到各隊友及接待我們的主人家特別關懷照顧,非常感恩在主內的愛心 看顧!

願我們今次出隊所傳的道,所分享的見證,所派發的福音單章,神都會五餅二魚,化為大用,完成主的旨意,榮耀主的聖名。阿們!

小僕 Sharon Leung

【曹醒雄牧師分享】

2023 年 4 月 Nana i mo 短宣扎記

祝福滿滿的短宣

Nanaimo (乃磨市) 2023 年 4 月 17 號至 21 號

「所以,你們要去,使萬民作我的門徒···... 凡我所吩咐你們的,都教訓他們遵守,我就 常與你們同在,直到世界的末了。」(馬太福音 28:19-20)

感謝讚美主! 祂保守帶領我們去遵行祂的大使命! 4月17日上午9時,我們在0tto帶領下,一行五人Sharon, Rebecca, Shirley, Ella,乘BC渡輪去Nanaimo市,作五天的短宣。 非常感謝招呼我們住宿和豐富早餐的Dorothy夫婦。



感謝 Dorothy 夫婦熱情接待短宣隊

在這五天裏, 我們一共探訪了五個家庭、五間餐館、三間商店、兩間客棧和一間大型超市,

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還分別探訪了一位牙醫和跟一位老姊妹共進晚餐。探訪中,有些弟兄姊妹信靠主的心很堅 定。我們除了為他們的家庭兒女和生意禱告,也留下福音單張和真理報。有一位有老闆說, 對我們的探訪,感覺很有溫情,是神的祝福! 哈利路亞!



為餐廳老闆夫婦祝福禱告

行程中,特別讓我感動的,是第一天探訪的老姊妹。 她女兒剛去世,在沉痛之餘,她的虔誠,令人欽佩! 她從小要幫家,替人洗衣服、燙衣服和把衣服送回去。在述說往事的當中,她無怨無悔,心中充滿盼望、喜悅、信靠和面容上的安穩、祥和,深信女兒脫離了「痛苦」! 她不停讚美主,流露出因信主而來的「平安喜樂」。在臨走前一天的下午,我們參加了她女兒的喪禮。

第五天返回溫哥華之前,我們去了 一個大型超市探訪。 感謝主賜一路平安順暢,完滿結束了這次短宣,榮耀歸主!

主的使女 Ella Cho

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探訪餐廳老闆夫婦,堅固他們的信心



探訪餐館老闆夫婦,激勵他們多讀經禱告。🚨

【楊麗儀姊妹分享】

溫哥華島小城短宣分享(楊麗儀妹妹)

不由你喜歡與否,我們都要聽命於神,我們的元帥,差派我們去,馬太福音 28 章 19 至 20 節記述耶穌吩咐我們「要去使萬民作我的門徒」。

在 2023 年 4 月 17 至 21 日,我和 Sharon Leung 姊妹、Shirley Tam 姊妹、 Elle Cho 牧師和 Otto 弟兄懷着非常愉快的心情踏上了溫哥華島短宣之旅,就如路加福音 8 章第 1 節中所說,「耶穌周遊各城各鄉傳道,宣講神國的福音,和他同去的有十二門徒。」

我們在短宣的五天中體會到很濃厚的小城人情味,可能是 0tto 弟兄做了很多鬆土的工作,當我們在小城裏探訪當地華人時,他們都很熱情招待我們。在 Campbell River 一間餐廳的老闆 Tony,他毫不吝嗇地將自己的烹飪技巧和我們分享,亦樂意分享他的生活中的喜與憂,短短的一個小時相聚彼此都非常感到親切。

另外在 Duncan 市,令我們印象最深刻的是探訪了三位老人家,起初我們以為到小城短宣是去安慰和關心這些人,怎不料這三位老人家卻給了我們很大的鼓勵。最令我們鼓舞的是探訪的一位年長印尼華僑姊妹,她的家人為怕她擔心而沒有告知她的女兒因乳癌而病重,但當她由印尼返回 Nana imo 後才知道女兒剛剛病逝,當我們探訪她的時候她卻表現出很大的信心說:「現時跟女兒只是暫時離別,將來會在天上再重見」,可見她對神的信心是非常的大。

第二位探訪的是 Amy 姊妹,她在十二歲時已經決志信主,她對主有極大的信心,她說現在 丈夫雖然體弱多病,但她仍確信神一定會醫治她的丈夫,即使不是在這人世上醫治,在天 上也會醫治。她沒有侷限於眼前的痛苦,而是看見天上神的榮耀,深信神會在她們的生活 小節上都會派天使幫助她們,無論是日常生活或是出席她們侄仔的婚禮上都有神的保守和 帶領。

第三位是謝姨,她是在林献羔牧師(Rev. Samuel Lamb)時代信主,當時的廣州人都在拜別的偶像,她的家庭成員亦不例外,更說她所敬拜的基督是邪教。在那彎曲乖僻的世代她仍能站得穩妥,作主的見證,現在她更為遠在故鄉南海的親友在 Zoom 上帶領查經。

以上三位老人家對我們來說是莫大的鼓勵,起初我以為小城短宣是去堅固受訪人的信心, 萬萬想不到原來最得益的反而是我們自己。神的意念比人的意念高出何止千百倍,我相信 神會使用我們每一位多作主功,將福音廣傳,使我們能夠負起屬神子民的「大使命」以至 「無論得時不得時,總要傳道」。另外在 Campbell River 的飯店(北京人家)的店主為我們安排了一個派對,他們還邀請了另外四個家庭出席,我們把握當中這個機會向他們傳講福音,而他們也有很坦誠的分享。

我們在傳福音的過程中都有得着從神而來的能力,衷心的感謝神給我們機會在大使命中有 份。



高潔林堂短宣申請者須知

Guidelines for STM Applicants

基本要點:



- 「短宣申請表」和「短宣津貼申請須知」可到差傳網頁www.cccconline.ca/missions 下載。首次申請者需呈交個人得救見證。短宣津貼申請截止日期為每年6月30日。牧 者與差傳部與申請者會面;
- 倘若申請者需要短宣資助,請參閱「短宣津貼申請須知」;
- 假若首次申請者從未接受短宣或個人佈道訓練,差傳部將舉辦相關訓練給申請者;
- 隊員需專心以禱告傳道為念。不要抱著「神聖旅遊」SACRED TOUR的心態;
- 保持每日有規律的靈修生活,敏銳於聖靈的感動,委身基督;
- 不是要「大展拳腳」以滿足自己的成功感和工作慾,乃是以學習觀察、體驗為目的;
- 謙虚、勤勞、與當地人認同、學習「放棄權利」地予他們一同事奉;
- 隊員並非個人的參與, 而是教會的代表者;
- 短宣隊非單為隊員提供個人宣教體驗機會乃是希望教會也蒙受益處,參與差派、關懷 及代禱等支持,故此,在宣教期間,隊員應按時以電郵或電話方式與教會保持聯絡及 寄上代禱事項:
- 隊員需學習接納與文化各樣的處事方式:最危險的錯誤,就是輕視異文化,特別是那些生活水平較低的民族。
- 故不要常以異文化來互作消極比較;不要批評;絕不可驕傲或藐視他人;觀察學習: 宗教觀念、思想模式、(語言)表達方式、家庭倫理,事物、價值觀、待人處事態度、 社會結構,及當地人的生活習慣。

隊員之間:

隊員之間應在基督裏互為肢體, 學習配搭事奉, 故此

- a) 需要彼此更深入認識和瞭解;
- b) 不斷為各組員祈禱;
- c) 彼此接納, 並以愛心、忍耐及包容;
- d) 學習欣賞各人的恩賜及互補不足。

隊員與工場:

宣教士是工場的導師, 各隊員應把握學習的機會, 並緊記:

- a) 接受及服從宣教士及領隊的指導而不抱怨, 凡事必須先徵詢宣教士同意方可;
- b) 觀察宣教士的生活、態度、人際交往等,以便瞭解工場,進而能更有效地事奉;
- c) 自發地作廣泛協助宣教士及其他雜務;
- d) 投入工場行政組織,按工場一貫宣教策略,辦事慣例行事。因此,凡事要有美好的見証,謹慎自守,以免留下壞印象,影響日後的工作;
- e) 在任何程況下;不能批評,嘗試諒解和用愛心包容。

倘若有任何關於短宣問題,請與牧者或差傳部查詢:電郵 missions@cccconline.ca

Fundamentals:

- The STM application form and subsidy guidelines can be downloaded from www.cccconline.ca/missions. The submission deadline of subsidy application will be June 30 of each year. Pastors and Missions coordinator will conduct interview with the applicants. First time STM applicant requires submitting personal testimony.
- Please refer to Subsidy Guidelines when applying for church subsidy. Pastoral reference is required.
- For first time applicants who's never taken any personal evangelistic training, Missions Department will conduct the related training prior to their departure.
- Focus on prayer and sharing the Gospel; do not have a mindset of going for a "sacred tour".
- Maintain a regular quiet time with God; be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's prompting; and remain committed to Christ.
- You are not there to boast your qualifications, to fulfill your own success and desire to work, but to learn through observation and experience.
- Be humble and diligent, identify with the locals and learn to serve with others by yielding your rights.
- Team members are not participating on their own, but representing their home church;
- Short-term mission trip does not only provide personal short-term mission experience, but also seeks to benefit the home church, enabling the church's role in sending, caring and

supplicating for the team members. Accordingly, it is necessary for team members to maintain regular contact and send regular prayer requests to their home church either by email or by telephone during the mission trip.

Team members should learn to accept other cultures and approaches: The single biggest
mistake is to disrespect other cultures, especially toward people whose standards of living are
inferior to ours. Refrain from comparing cultures; Do not judge; Must not be conceited and
condescending; and observe and gain knowledge of: religious background, ideology, verbal
communication, family ethics and ways, value system, attitude and approach in inter-personal
relationships, social structure, and local way of life.

Between Team Members:

Team members should learn from one another and serve together as the Body of Christ. Therefore, they should:

- a) Get to know and understand one another on a deeper level;
- **b**) Pray unceasingly for one another;
- c) Accept one another, bearing with one another in love; and
- d) Learn to appreciate one another's spiritual gifts, complementing one another.

Team Member and the Mission Field:



Missionaries are teachers in the mission field and every team member should make good use of this learning opportunity and observe the following:

- **a)** Willingly accept and submit to instructions from the missionary and your team leader and to carefully obtain approval from the missionary before taking any action;
- **b)** Observe the day-to-day life, attitude and inter-personal skills of the missionary, which will enable you to understand the mission field and to serve more effectively;
- c) Voluntarily assist the missionary in every way and with regular chores;
- **d)** Abide by the administrative structure and conduct yourself in accordance with the strategies and management schemes of the mission field. Therefore, it is imperative to have a good testimony, exercising self-control so that you would not leave a bad impression and have a negative impact on future ministries; and
- e) Under all circumstances: try and have understanding and bear one another with love. DO NOT JUDGE!

For any inquiry, please feel free to contact pastors or Missions Department and email at missions@cccconline.ca

會歌 Theme Song

異象的承擔

主啊,我願承擔這福音的異象, 無論何往我必跟從, 獻我的身心,成為活祭, 讓我一生榮耀主名。

A Vision to Fulfill

I'll follow my Christ who loves me so
Wherever He leads me I'll go
A living sacrifice, surrender I will
A vision I must fulfill

差傳宣言 Mission Statement

基於神的愛和耶穌基督的使命,我們願意依靠聖靈的能力, 藉著禱告,奉獻和行動,投身普世宣教,不分種族,不分語言、 同心合意將天國的福音,傳到地極。

In response to the Love of God, to the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ, And by the Power of the Holy Spirit, we are committed to worldwide evangelization Through praying, giving, and going, transcending race and language So that the gospel of the Kingdom is preached to the ends of the earth.

特別鳴謝 Special Thanks

大會講員 : 盧潔香牧師宣教士

差傳手冊編輯 : 許詠傑

封面設計 : 岑建威

2023/2024 差傳部 Mission Committee:

部長 Co-ordinator : **梁沈玉玲 Sharon Leung**

部員 Members : **陳嘉雯 Stella Chan**

許詠傑 Lawrence W.K. Hui

洪英燕 Eva Hung

梁煒滔 Raymond Leung 楊麗儀 Rebecca Yeung

執事代表 Deacon Reps : 胡偉文 Steve Wu

願榮耀頌讚歸與三一真神!

May all the glory and praises to the Triune God!





講員: **盧潔香**牧師宣教士

週五晚聚會 March 1st 7:30 pm 宣教的異象與生命 約珥書 2:28-32

週六晚聚會 March 2nd 7:30 pm 宣教的使命與勇氣 以賽亞書 61:1-4

主日崇拜 March 3rd 11:15 am 宣教的機會與行動 以斯帖記 4:13-17

