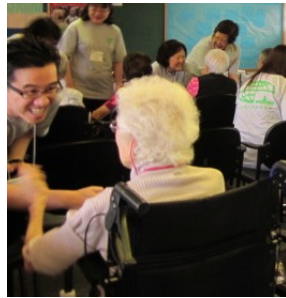




The 2012 CCM Hawaii Short Term Mission Trip Journal

Date: June 27th to July 2nd, 2012

Team: 2 Instructors (Speaker and Team
Leader), 12 Members



第十八屆實用個人佈道/短宣訓練課程 2012年 1/14 - 4/14

June 27th Wednesday

The short term mission team gathered together at 7AM at the San Francisco airport. Everything seemed to be fine until one of the team members discovered that the name on her ticket did not match her ID. Therefore, she could not get her boarding pass. She went with her husband to negotiate with the ground hostess while we prayed for this matter. They had prepared for the worst and decided that even if they had to buy an extra one-way ticket, they would not give up this trip. During this time, the airline company announced that there was a 45-minute flight delay, which was just in time for that sister to get a reissued boarding pass without buying an extra ticket or paying a penalty. A flight delay seems to be a hindrance in human eyes, but it turned out to be God's clever arrangement of His care. This incident reminded us that Satan did not want us to go to the trip to share the gospel. We knew that it was just the beginning of spiritual warfare and that we must pray to God at all times. He Himself will turn the whole situation around.

We arrived at Hawaii around noon time and went immediately to Hawaii CCM Gospel Center where an orientation of "Medical Day" ministries was given. We then had a rehearsal of the Gospel Skit for the ministries of the following day. Our team members were coming from 10 different local churches ranging from 20 to 80 years old; each has one's own unique background, character and temperament. Though everyone got along fairly well at the beginning, during the rehearsal, the old self within each individual got the upper hand and the atmosphere became not cordial at all. The team leader asked us to stop and take dinner first after the first rehearsal.

After dinner, two instructors decided that we must have a 40-minute retreat; otherwise, we would not be able to handle spiritual warfare the following days. Satan wanted to defeat us with a variety of methods. The only way for us to deal with the challenge was to come and rest before God and let Him lead us to fight this battle. The theme of the retreat is "Mission and Sending" by Dr. Law. He pointed out in particular that the purpose of the short term mission trip was to lead people to Christ. We must unceasingly fight the spiritual battle against Satan throughout the trip. The retreat ended with a small group prayer. We all knew that each of us must let the Holy Spirit take charge of our hearts, confess our sins and repent, because a sinful man would not be pleasing to God and would not be used by God. All of us prayed and asked for God's forgiveness.

June 28th Thursday

After our sincere prayers last night, we witnessed the work of the

Holy Spirit in all of us today. Everyone practiced humility and obedience, loved one another, cooperated in all ministries, and humbled ourselves. It was such a beautiful picture!



Our first ministry was to visit the Day Care convalescent homes. The elderly there were bright and responsive to hymns and bible stories. Moreover, they were able to follow us with joy. More than 10 people raised their hands to accept Christ during calling time. It was our first harvest. Praise the Lord!

We held a medical workshop in the afternoon and had a full house. Another 10 people accepted Christ.

In the evening, we drove to “Harvest Gospel Fellowship” to evangelize the farm laborers there. When there were traffic jams, we prayed earnestly for our safe trip as well as the evening programs. Praise the Lord that we arrived safely after a one-hour-and-20-minute drive. We purposely planned a buffet dinner so that we could talk with the farmers while we ate. Most of these farm laborers were illegal immigrants from mainland China who borrowed money to pay for their trips. They were always living with fear and lonesome. They felt helpless and hopeless. The only thing on their minds was working hard to pay off their debts. What was going to happen in the future or whether they could stay in the US was out of their control. When we showed our concerns and started singing, they were comforted by the lyrics of the hymns and totally expressed their sorrow and all the inner feelings through songs. We experienced the powerful work of the Holy Spirit when many laborers accepted the Lord that evening. At the end of the program, they were reluctant to go home.

Although it was quite late when we arrived at our hotel, we insisted that we should keep our principle to have a 45-to-60-minute daily evaluation/sharing and prayer for the ministries of the next day. It was the only way we could gain strength from God. It was already midnight when we returned to our own rooms.





June 29th Friday

Today, we reached out in two separate groups. Four Mandarin speaking sisters departed first after breakfast and rushed to "Harvest Gospel Fellowship" and had door to door follow-up visitations. All other team members went to visit a nursing home at 11:30am. However, when we arrived, the person in charge told us that we made a mistake and they had been waiting for us for an hour already; and since it was their lunch time, no evangelistic program was allowed. While we were apologizing to them, two instructors were touched by the Spirit and asked simultaneously whether there would still be a chance to gather the elderly again. After thinking for a moment, the person in charge allowed us to share with another senior group in the afternoon.

After lunch, we split into two teams again. Dr. Law brought two team members back to the center. They distributed flyers and prepared for the medical seminars while Christina Hom led another team to the nursing home. When we were about to pray before departure, two sisters suddenly ran back to the center. They told Dr. Law that they encountered evil spirits in the restroom, and they were all shaking and looking pale. Dr. Law called Christina right away and prayed with the two sisters. The whole team prayed together before leaving for the nursing home.

We gave thanks to God! "So are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9). This morning, most of the elderly who we met in the nursing home looked confused and senseless; but when we went to the day care activities after lunch, they were smart and could answer all the questions that we asked. At the end eight seniors accepted Christ. We had learnt another spiritual lesson – the mistake in appointment time was actually God's plan. We further understood that we could not always follow our schedule when it came to evangelism. We must be prepared to be flexible and change plans according to the needs.

We returned to the CCM Center after prayer and thanksgiving. While we were parking our car in the garage, the four sisters who went to "Harvest Gospel Fellowship" also arrived. We were just in time for Dr. Law's calling session at the medical workshop so that we could be

the counselors of the event. Nine people accepted the Lord. We could not stop praising His wonderful work!

We had dinner at a Baptist church around 6:30pm and the joint church fellowship evangelistic meeting was held at 7:30pm. When we performed the gospel skit, the sister that always memorized her lines very well during rehearsals suddenly forgot two pages of her lines in act II. She was so anxious that she almost cried. We immediately prayed for her. Thank God that the skit continued to run and the audience did not even notice that she had skipped a big part of the skit. Although there were only two new converts, the whole team was filled with joy. Through evaluation, sharing and prayers at night, we finally realized God's plans and the importance of teamwork. We also prayed for the following day's ministry - "Medical Day".

June 30th Saturday

The "Medical Day" was one of the main focuses of the mission trip (another focus was "Harvest Gospel Fellowship" evangelism). Early morning we drove to the Cultural Square toward CCM Gospel Center when a loud noise suddenly shocked us from behind. When we turned around, we saw that one sister fell down the stairs. She got up immediately but we were still concerned whether she was injured. Thank God that she was safe and unhurt. If that was a senior team member who fell, the result could be disastrous. Because of Satan's attack, we became more alert and prayed more than we normally would.

From 7am to 2pm, all the team members put on their "Medical Day" blue uniforms, stationed at their own positions and worked with one another as a team. A lot of people were queuing up for registering for blood pressure exam, weight measure, blood tests, lung X-ray, heartbeat exam, osteoporosis exam, etc. All kinds of body checks could be found there. The site was packed with people who had the registration forms filled out in advance. They entered the Cultural Square to receive services. Meanwhile, we seized the opportunity for personal



evangelism. Our goal was to spread the gospel.

The CCM Gospel Center was located in the middle of the Cultural Square. There was a huge Archangiopteris (Guanyin goddess) statue on the left side and many ignorant superstitious worshipers burned incense and prayed for good fortune. A lot of Buddha temples were found in the upper level. Their special “Namo” chanting noise reached our ears continuously. The annual “Medical Day” ministry was held in a temporary tent built outside the gospel center. As it was surrounded by evil spirits and idols, the Satanic power was very strong. In order to fight Satan’s attack, we must put on the full armor of God so that we could take our stand against the devil’s schemes. It was not a battle against flesh and blood but the evil spirit that ruled and took control of the dark world.

There were more than a thousand people that came to receive “Medical Day” services and almost none of them knew God. Our responsibility was to rescue their souls and grasp every opportunity to evangelize – while they were lining up for the medical services, walking on the street or resting after the physical exams. Even though we were in front of the Guanyin goddess statue, we tried to approach them and have conversations about the gospel. Our aim was to lead one person to Christ in each 15-20 minutes. Some team members chose to evangelize Guanyin worshipers and ended up leading many to our Lord.

Our members also distributed a lot of the Evangelistic Meeting flyers printed specifically for “Medical Day” attendants. We were also in charge of the counseling session of the evangelistic meeting. Many people accepted the Lord that evening. Praise God!



July 1st Sunday

Today was the Sabbath. After breakfast and group devotion, we went to four different churches to worship as planned. Dr. Law rushed back from his pulpit duty around 2pm. We gathered in the team leader’s room where Dr. Law finished the second part of the retreat lecture. After a few days of spiritual warfare, we needed to have some quiet time and truly experience the truthfulness of God through the His Word and prayers, which was also the secret to regain strength from Him.

At 6:00pm, we went to the banquet held especially for us by Dr. Chen. Dr. Chen was the host of the “Medical Day” ministry. He shared

a spiritual warfare lesson that he had learnt during this mission trip. On Friday night, he suddenly had severe abdominal cramps, followed by rectal bleeding. Normally, he would go to the emergency room when things like that happened. However, as a doctor, he knew that once he was admitted to A&E, he would be detained in the hospital for observation and miss the opening ceremony of "Medical Day", not to mention that he was the one that would oversee the entire ministry. As he refused to surrender himself to Satan's attack, he and his wife prayed earnestly and continuously. When the "Medical Day" came on Saturday, Dr. Chen was able to follow his plans with God's strength. He ran around not only to officiate the opening ceremony but also to take charge of the Medical Workshop, translation and evening programs. One of the brothers that worked with Dr. Chen also shared his own testimony. On Friday, he was suddenly infected with shingles and could not get up due to severe pain. He took the strongest pain reliever and relied on God's healing power to work with Dr. Chen all day long on Saturday. Dr. Chen then reminded us to always serve the Lord, share the gospel, and not be afraid of Satan's attack. He also encouraged us to rely on God and fight the good fight. Four other brothers and sisters also shared their experiences of participating in "Medical Day". Everyone was pleased to see God's blessings upon "Medical Day". May the Lord be glorified!

We had the daily sharing and prayer meeting after returning back to the hotel. Dr. Law suggested that the evaluation session be postponed to the next day so that we could enjoy more free time that night.

July 2nd Monday

Early in the morning after group devotion, we packed our belongings and waited for the pastor of The Truth Alliance Church and Mrs. Chen to give us a ride to the airport at 10am. After checking in, we found a relatively quiet corner in the waiting room to finish the evaluation session and share our feelings of the mission trip. We were all very excited that we were like a team of equipped soldiers who had just won a victorious battle. Though we encountered difficulties every day, we were able to defeat Satan and return triumphantly with the presence of God, the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the power of the gospel from our Lord Christ Jesus. We had a record of 128 new believers. Our hearts were filled with gratitude; the smile on our faces reflected our joy. May this Hawaii short term mission trip aggravate the burden we had for evangelism, remind us about the power of prayers, and motivate us to continuously serve the Lord. May the Triune God be praised and glorified!