



# Chinese International Missions, Inc.

11.01.2018

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## Notes from 2018 Brazil STM

Grace Lin

**Continue from last month ~**

### **What God accomplished exceeds all we can think of Prospering the Lord's Gospel:**

The three cities have seen a fast increase in Chinese population. Most of the church coworkers are engaged in retail and wholesale of household items, restaurants, Chinese school, etc. Facing economic downturn, they continue to hold fast to their faith, earnestly sharing the Gospel and bear witnesses!

**Not stopping to gather:** Even in lacking a regular pastor and limits from their rented gathering place, brothers and sisters strive to absorb their spiritual nutrients. They study the Bible, listen to sermons online, reading spiritual materials, hosting teams to learn and care for each other, organize a choir, and diligently teach the next generation.

**Brother Lin:** That night, our team members, even Christine Pi, heard the most from him for the first time.

**Yue-Jin:** "My heart is full of thanksgiving. I am a villager, not even finished with second grade and cannot speak Mandarin well, I've always been shy, lack self-confidence, and not dare to share among people." After our encouragement and praying, she gave her witness that Sunday!

**Mr. Li:** We were praying to God for a local brother to act in a skit. Unbelievably, he showed up the first night. And he was such a young and funny brother. No one even came close to play

that role!

**Christine Pi:** Because of over-fatigue, Christine has been coughing from the beginning of the trip, finding it difficult to speak. And she's scheduled to preach the very first afternoon after we arrived in Belo Horizonte. The result: her voice cleared up, the teaching was powerful, and her testimony touched many people!

**The establishment of the Youth Fellowship in Belo Horizonte:** God wants to bless this land and raise up these children to prosper the Gospel!

### **Enjoyed the joy and peace from God's presence**

Every STM member took up several roles, having to be responsible, self-initiated, flexible, compliment each other's work. God looked after our health and safety and our families so that we lack nothing. May God help every local coworker of the church even more, enabling a united love in Christ.

### **Special workshop used by God**

Christine Pi knows the needs of the local Chinese churches, selecting "Emotion Management" as the theme. In Salvador, we made it to the World Cup, with lots of noises all around. In Recife, we had enough time and strength for the challenge. In Belo Horizonte, even after three nights of continuous workshops, no one wanted to leave. Instead, they continued to play games, sing hymns in response, and finally after prayers they

reluctantly went home.

During the workshops held in three places and nine sessions, I thank God for blessing me to have new opportunities to learn from Him, resting my burdens on Him, being obedient to the Holy Spirit's leading, and sharing with others in a relaxed and joyful way. I also received support and encouragement from many feedbacks.

### **Unexpected Reward**

First time I tried the Acai bowl, green coconuts, fresh sea cucumbers, fresh seafood, Brazilian BBQ, etc. Even among the busy schedules, we took time to visit historical museum, precious gem museum, Catholic Church, local markets. We even strolled on the Recife seashore, known as the Venice of South America.

### **A blessed journey**

During the STM, I daily went near God, asking for His mercy for my weakened body:

**Deaf and blind**—lost the ability of the language. I only learned "good morning" and "thank you" in Portuguese. In asking for hot water and handling air-conditioning matters with the hotel, I had to use Google translate to manage.

**Rotten leg**—Other than where we were staying, we couldn't go anywhere else!

During daily devotion, visitation, workshops, Bible study, praying, we need His leading! Living a disciplined community life, bathing in His words, focusing on His

## PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray for Rev. Douglas Wu's and Alex Ko's ministries in Pretoria, Rustenburg and Johannesburg. Ask God to lead and bless them with a joyful heart and to safeguard their coming and going.
2. The economy in South Africa has worsened, greatly affecting brothers and sisters with their businesses. Ask God to keep them that they may grasp on to Him in times of difficulties.
3. Pray for God's leading on the year-end family retreat for smooth arrangement.
4. The youth have been invited to participate in the children Sunday School class to help them in knowing God and that they may be able to lead in the future.
5. Pray for the Christians who have not been to service at PECCC for a long time. Ask the Holy Spirit to rid them of any obstacles so that they may return to worship God.
6. Many coworkers at churches in Brazil are young in their spiritual lives. They really need regular pastors to go and lead them in church administration, discipleship training, deepening of their faith, and gospel development. Pray for them.
7. Pray for Belo Horizonte youth fellowship to be serious about Bible study, persevere in fellowship meetings.
8. Pray for the brothers and sisters at the church in Recife that they will not only focus on making a living and forget about our Lord the Creator. They need to understand that God is the source of their strength.
9. Pray for the Recife church believers to follow Elder Chen's teachings and be diligent in reading the Bible, participate in Bible study and church gatherings.
10. Pray for the Salvador church believers will attend church gatherings to study Bible together, to know God more.
11. Ask God to bless the Porto Alegre church elders and pastor to revive the gospel together and compliment each other's serving, to solidify church brothers' and sisters' faith, learn how to study the Bible to mature their spiritual life.
12. Pray for the Happy Teens' monthly gatherings that they may know God and trust Him.
13. Pray for Ghana, Togo, and Ukraine ministries. Ask God to call more to join and be part of the cross-cultural ministries.
14. Ask the Lord to bless headquarter coworkers with wisdom to fulfill their responsibilities.
15. Pray that God will provide for CIM's various financial needs abundantly.

teaching, gaining wisdom and strength.

### Enjoyed a harmonious relationship with the locals

Everyone missed their loved ones the moment they left. Every time I thought of those who care about me, I felt warmth inside! Our team spent three weeks together through thick and thin, getting to know each other deeply. We thank the local coworkers for picking us up from the airports, doing the visitations, lovingly hosted us, blessing and praying for us! I treasure

every soul and relationship.

### Broadening my knowledge

Brothers and sisters in Brazil usually just mind their own businesses. Yet their sharing has touched me: all too marvelous! They could all be written into stories and made into movies! I received much encouragement, far exceeded what I could offer. God's amazing grace was manifested in their lives.

### My little wish was fulfilled

I had only wanted to visit the young people and share Christ's gospel with them. After joining the team, I prepared

special workshop materials and devotions. Even the praise songs I prepared were for adults. I almost forgot that wish. God's love was indeed amazing. He blessed me with the opportunity to dive into talking about faith and live with the local youth, fulfilling my small wish. With social media, I now walk with those kids from the Southern Hemisphere. God is love. Inside His loving son's kingdom, Brazil is no longer very far!

**Our God deserves all the thanks, praise, and exultation!**

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September

### FINANCIAL REPORT

	Income	Expense	Balance
<b>General</b>	\$6,992	\$4,666	\$2,326
<b>Missions</b>	\$11,379	\$7,570	\$3,800
<b>Total</b>	\$18,362	\$12,236	\$6,126

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Please make checks payable to "CIM" and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA Thank you!



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