



# Chinese International Missions, Inc.

04.01.2017

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## Is Missions (Still) Needed?

Theresa Poon

Why is missions important... and relevant, to followers of Christ?

“Missions exists because worship doesn't.” This is a quote made by Rev. Dr. John S. Piper, preacher, theologian, and author of many books, including “*Desiring God*”. He added, “*Missions is not the ultimate goal of the Church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't.*”

Even more importantly, as God's followers, we are commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ, in Matthews 28:19-20, *the Great Commission stated, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the*

*very end of the age.”*

I am sure you would agree that we all believe in an all-powerful God. If this is the God who can bring the empire of Nineveh, with more than one hundred and twenty thousand men, back to Him in forty days, He can surely turn other stick-necked brethren around. The truth is that He does *not* need us to go on missions. Not *any* of us. But instead, He is a loving God who delights in allowing us the privilege and opportunity to partner with Him so that we may share in His blessings and witness His might in His Kingdom work with our own eyes. The question, then, is “Am I willing?” “Are you willing?”

Now you might not think you are gifted (enough) or have anything to offer on a missions trip. Fear not. If the

Lord calls you, He will equip you. In fact, I would be hesitant to have someone on my team who thinks he or she has it all figured out or who thinks he or she is a gift to the team. You enjoy getting to know others? Check. Like to play sports? Check. Have a passion for teaching and preaching? Check. Love to cook and clean? Double check. Find your passions and God will guide and direct you to use it for His Kingdom sake.

For our partners who have gone on STM trips with CIM, I thank you in the name of Jesus and would like to invite you to join us again. And for our partners who have yet to think you are ready or willing to step out of your comfort zone and join us in these divine adventures, I encourage you to take that first step, to walk by faith and not by sight.

Are you willing?

## Short Term Mission

Debbie Cheng

After having gone on many STM trips, this was one that I prepped the least and yet the one I was touched the most. From this, I also discovered that God does not care how smart or how prepared you can be but, rather, whether there is a willing heart.

I never asked God to grant me the wisdom of listening or to know what to listen when others are talking. In fact, the

issue has always existed but during this trip, God used different things to once again remind me. Every person's sharing was unique. After an opportunity passed, it would be very difficult to allow the Holy Spirit to work in a person's heart if I was not able to grab a hold of the gap in his or her inner being. God also allowed me to have a chance to put it into practice right away.

During the camp, the last three people who came all spoke Chinese. During our preparation, we failed to take this language factor into account. The worship songs we sang on the first day were all in English. I saw that those three were just not into it so I prayed to let the Holy Spirit to speak to them. During the second day, the attendees were suggesting to separate the groups

## PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Pray that Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Wu will have abundant strength physically and spiritually.
2. Pray for Rev. Wu's son who will apply in April to enter the university next year.
3. Ask the Lord to allow Alex and Nicole Ko to finish their last semester of seminary training smoothly. Prior to them joining the ministry of CIM, ask God to prepare a way for them in seeking ministry partners.
4. Many believers continued to leave South Africa and return to China. The number of congregants from the three churches has been reduced by about half. Ask God to grant Rev. and Mrs. Wu strength and wisdom to continue sharing the Gospel without getting discouraged.
5. Pray that the brothers and sisters of the various churches in South Africa will cultivate their daily habit of studying the Bible and growth in God's Word.
6. The Brazil STM will serve at four churches: in Salvador and Recife from June 28 to July 12; and in Brasilia and Belo Horizonte from July 12 to 27. Ask God to prepare the brothers and sisters who will take part in the trip so that the believers there can be refined and be built up.
7. For God's quick healing for several teachers at Happy Kids in Sao Paulo so their schedules can resume again smoothly. Ask God to bless the students so that more can rely on Jesus from a young age.
8. Ask God to keep the believers of the Salvador church strong and rooted in the Word of God.
9. Pray for the coworkers in the Belo Horizonte church. Ask God to strengthen them and learn to serve God with much confidence.
10. Pray for the BH church for their registration with the government. Ask God to bless the church with a suitable place to gather.
11. The Shopping Mall in BH will open till eight PM beginning in June. If that is the case, brothers and sisters who operate shops in the Mall will not be able to attend the gathering at night. Ask God to open doors so that the management department may change its plan.
12. Pray for the Porto Alegre church as they will hold a Gospel camp in May. Ask God to prepare the hearts of brothers and sisters.
13. The Porto Alegre church began a monthly meeting in downtown area for Chinese who have not participated in any church activities to gather together. Please earnestly pray for them.
14. Pray for the church in Brasilia. Pray for the believers to be willing to learn to share the Gospel.
15. Pray for Rev. Isaac Quan of CIM Canada. Ask God to strengthen him to share to the local people of West Africa.
16. Pray for the various ministries in Ghana and Togo. Ask God to raise up more believers to join in STM trips and support the ministry.
17. CIM is preparing for our 25th Thanksgiving gathering. Ask that the Lord will prepare and bless us to smoothly arrange everything according to His will.

into those speaking Chinese from the English. I was sent to the Chinese-speaking group. I prayed that God will help me to learn how to hear from the hearts. God allowed me to realize that these people really want to jump out of their box but they can't. Faced with the inevitability of having to man their stores day in and day out, they feel trapped in a prison. The Holy Spirit suddenly reminded me that no surrounding circum-

tances can get in the way of God's work. We have been freed, not to be bound by our surroundings.

God reminded me that missionaries do not have to do any great things. Day after day, they deal with trivial matters and listen to people's affair. After some reflection, I wonder if I enjoy listening to others' sharing? Have I been patient? Do I know how to handle things or prioritize the important ones from the

mundane? I pray for mercy and wisdom, learn to depend on the word of God every moment of everyday.

Many a times we talk about searching for the inspiration. But I realize that if we rely on being inspired, there are many things we just will not do. This also allowed me to reflect once again what is the purpose to go on STM trip every year? Is it to go just for the sake of going and getting it done? I will pray in 2017 to seek God's kingdom and His righteousness.

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### FINANCIAL REPORT

March 2017

	Income	Expense	Balance
<b>General</b>	\$7,653	\$4,975	\$2,678
<b>Missions</b>	\$5,913	\$4,260	\$1,653
<b>Total</b>	\$13,566	\$9,235	\$4,331

If you have a burden for the CIM ministries, please go to our web: [www.cimusa.org](http://www.cimusa.org) or send in a check payable to: CIM, and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170- 0185, USA. Thank you!



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