



2013.07.31

South Africa

Lord, along the way with you, till the end of the earth -- Rev. Douglas Wu
Acts 1:8 said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

This year's Taiwan STM team consisted of members who were mainly



young adults. This made them more personable to the people to whom they were ministering, and allowed the children who signed up for the camp to feel something special! Our three kids all shared that they had good conversations with each member on the team. I think this is exactly what the theme of this student camp, "Along the way with You, Lord" meant. The members of the team



were familiar with youth counseling ministry and were able to initiate conversation with the youth. This allowed them to

connect easily. At the end of camp, they clearly knew that in the future they would also have to go out and to witnesses for the Lord, to the ends of the earth. This time, the leader of the team, Elder Huang, stayed for another six days and taught an intensive Bible overview class in the Pretoria and Rustenburg. Elder Huang also accompanied me to the borders of the local villages and mining areas to visit Fuqing brothers and sisters at their shops to understand the lives of the Chinese who live in South Africa. The biggest teaching and benefits I received was from Elder Huang's message was to return to the Bible and serve faithfully. God worked through His servant to remind me to return to the Bible more and to rely on His word to serve Him at the pulpit, prayers, and fellowships. May the Lord use us, these broken vessels, to train all people to follow what He has instructed us so that we can all be a part of His Great Commission.

Brazil

The Splendor and the Struggles of Brazil – Balex Sit

Even though I had been to Brazil to visit missionaries more than twenty years ago, I didn't know much about the

country at the time. Not until July of this year when I led a STM team to help the local Chinese churches run a youth camp and hold a series of workshops on different topics, as well as share the gospel to fellow Chinese from China, did I begin to have a comprehensive understanding of Brazil, a more in depth experience as well as a deeper feel.

Brazil is the largest country in South America. Forty percent of its land is part of the Amazon rainforest. Brazil has abundant agricultural products, especially fruits that are hard to find in the U.S. Unfortunately, things are very expensive in Brazil. Almost everything costs more there than in the U.S. And yet the average Brazilian earns only eight hundred Real (Brazilian currency), the equivalent of about US\$400 a month. Yet even though they do not earn much, they are willing to spend all they earn. What is most ironic is that the Brazilians' habit of spending enables many opportunities for Chinese merchants to make money from selling their products.



The lives of the Chinese in Brazil are getting harder and harder.

Many Chinese merchants are not able to find a storefront to open their shops initially and can only sell their merchandise by laying them out on the streets. However, since they do not have the required legal licenses, they can only get up real early every morning to do some sales before they get evicted, always ready to wrap up everything and flee. Furthermore, these Chinese merchants are often targets for theft and so every house is heavily locked on the outside. Many parents are not able to care for their children, as they are busy running their stores to make a living. They would, therefore, send them at an



early age back to China and have them be cared for by their own parents, thereby creating many problems in family relations.

This year the STM ran a youth camp in Sao Paulo. They discovered that many of these youth were actually born in Brazil but were sent back to China to live with their grandparents and only returned to Brazil when they are eight to ten years old and even teenagers. As a result, besides having to adjust to a new language and a new environment, these youth also have problems living with their parents. I remember during one small group sharing at the camp, when asked what country they would most want to visit or have the fondest memories, many youth shared that they longed to return to China. They especially



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yearned for the homes of their grandparents. It was heart-breaking to hear. What's more heart wrenching was during one gathering, I was talking with a mother who had just started coming to the church. She shared with me that her 14-year-old daughter had just arrived Brazil from China. Within one month of her coming, their store was robbed. The daughter was traumatized and complained to her parents why they sent for her to this God-forsaken place. She felt hopeless so she left a note for her parents and jumped to her death while her parents were out. I could find no words to comfort this mother after hearing this.

Even though the living conditions of Belo Horizonte are not as complicated compared to the big city of Sao Paulo, there is only one Chinese church there. Because they haven't had a pastor for a long time, it is difficult to expand. Thankfully several faithful coworkers are willing to take up all the miscellaneous chores, warmly caring and visiting people and fervently sharing the Gospel with their fellow Chinese. Their love for the Lord is really touching. It's a shame that the church does not have a pastor so the coworkers can only study the Bible together, growing in and seeking the Lord on their own. Since there is no preacher to preach on Sundays, the congregation can only download some messages from websites and listen and learn together. Please ask the Lord to have the burden to go to Brazil and train these coworkers, even considering staying there long-term to shepherd this flock.

Ghana

Rev. Philip Leung made a speaking trip to Australia to visit Sydney and Brisbane from May 29 through June 12. The trip was originally for Rev. Daniel Gbande, the General Overseer of Evangelical Church of Ghana, to join to speak in most of the meetings. Regrettably, due to the failure of acquiring an Australia visa, Rev. Gbande was not able to make the trip. Rev. Leung thus took all the 12 meetings to share the updates of the cross cultural missions ministries in Ghana and Togo.



Rev. Leung was able to speak in seven Chinese churches in the two cities. He was also invited to share at the Ministerial Fellowship where he had a chance to talk with about 40 pastors about CIM's ministries in Africa. The responses have been very encouraging.

☆ PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Praise the Lord for His provision for the STM team from Taipei's Yonghe Church. A total of ten people

- accepted Christ at the PECCC youth camp as well as thirty-three students who dedicated themselves to be used by Him. Please ask that the Lord will train them and guide them.
2. The brothers and sisters in Rustenburg will hold a thanksgiving worship at the end of August for the inauguration of their church. They have invited Rev. Daniel Chuang, the Outreach Director of the Christ's Disciples Training Seminary in Taiwan, to host the service. Please pray that everything will run smoothly.
3. Please continue to pray that the Lord will protect and guide everything for the equipping of brother Alex Ko and his family to Taiwan will run smoothly. Also lift up the couple that they will follow Christ whole-heartedly, willingly receive the equipping and become vessels that are after God's own heart.
4. Elder Chris Chen of Chinese Church in Christ North Valley in California will be leading discipleship training in September in Pretoria. Please pray for safety for his journey and prepares the hearts of the brothers and sisters.
5. The lease for the Brasilia Chinese Church has expired. Ask that the Lord will grant them their new Canaan, a land of milk and honey.
6. Ask that the Lord of harvest will send His workers to reap the harvest in the mission fields of South Africa and Brazil.
7. Praise the Lord that the Brazil STM team had successfully completed its mission.
8. Many churches in Brazil do not have pastors. Ask that the Lord will send workers to be shepherds.
9. Pray for CIM's financial needs, especially in the area of administrative expenses.

☆ FINANCIAL REPORT (June 2013)

If you have the burden for the CIM ministries, you may send in a check payable to CIM and mail it to P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA. Thank you!

Table with 4 columns: Income, Expense, Balance. Rows include General, Missions, and Total.

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Chinese International Missions, Inc.

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