



# Chinese International Missions, Inc.

09.01.2016

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## Mission Trip Reflections

[ Christy Kwok ]

This was my first STM trip and Brazil was my first attempt at missions. Even though we heard many talks about the political instability, deteriorating civility, and all kinds of viral infection, especially the fiercest one of them, Zika, I felt no fear at all. I deeply believed that God will guard our steps. And there were powerful prayer warriors supporting us on the home front. That allowed me to be at peace and be bold to share the Gospel, sharing the Good News to the ends of the earth. When we put everything in His hands, what else is there to be afraid of!

Our first stop is Salvador and it was kind of a feeling like back in the days before China opened up. Many people on the bustling streets, with many shops and roads mostly dirty. I especially



noticed there was not one Chinese walking on the street. Turned out they were all manning their stores. Most Chinese operate their own shops, starting the day at seven-thirty in the morning and ending at seven at night. Their lives are monotonous and mind numbing. All they care about is to make a living to support the family, with no sustenance spiritually and no hope. I feel that they really need salvation. May God shine His light on them and set them free.

What touched me the most in Salvador was the group of

brothers and sisters who love the Lord very much. There are only six in their core group, but they do take up a functioning church model already. They do not have a church, but they are earnestly willing to open up their restaurants and homes to be used as gathering venues.

They do not have time to

share the Gospel, but they take advantage of their only days off, Saturdays and Sundays, to visit stores owned by other Chinese, even to cities that require one-and-a-half hour driving. They do not have a pastor or a teacher, but they rely on four pastors from Sao Paulo who rotate to come

once a month to preach to, and to disciple, them. They learn from each other in the Lord, support and grow in each other. I really hope our Lord can bless them with a church soon. Those of us in North America have cozy churches, shepherding pastors, preachers, elders, and full church lives should really treasure our blessings!

We experienced God's power in Porto Alegre, our second stop. He is a God who listens to prayers. Most of the week while we were there it rained and yet God blessed us with a beautiful and sun-drenched Sunday. This allowed the Sunday worship held at the farmland to go smoothly. And the rain began to come down again on our way home.

I was also impressed with the group of young people who have been serving in the church. There were only five, six of them and yet they love the Lord very much. Even with the pouring rain, they were very willing to come to the



English Corner we prepared for them to learn. May God continue to use them to be the

light and salt.

I thank God who blessed me with the opportunity to join in this STM trip and blessed me with such a great team to serve the Lord, experience His presence, and to learn skills to share the Gospel on the front line.

[Sunny Sun]

Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving, giving thanks to God for guarding and leading our team the whole way, at the same time allowing me to experience His abundant grace and presence. I thank God who allow me to receive my Brazil visa just one day before our departure so I can travel with my team, letting me to experience His extraordinary grace.

As we landed in our first stop, Salvador, we learned there was another team who came a few months back and my heart was a bit worried. Are we to pick up the crumbs after those who have already harvested. But God still used us to lead eleven brothers and sisters to Christ there. It was indeed an abundant return.

When we first started visiting the stores, I was not feeling comfortable to talk, only observing how others shared about our Lord.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Please intercede for all Chinese churches in South Africa that brothers and sisters will fellowship together, with one accord in the Gospel and raise up more coworkers to serve.
2. Pray for the year end retreat that God will bless all the program arrangement, retreat registration, and all logistics for everyone.
3. Pray for the health of Rev. Douglas and Mrs. Wu. Also pray for their eldest daughter, Sharon, that she will adjust to the academic life in Chicago soon.
4. Pray for this last year of studies at the seminary for Alex and Nicole Ko to go well.
5. Praise the Lord that the Brazil STM team had a successful trip. Pray for church coworkers there to effectively follow up with the seekers. Pray for those who had made their commitment to Christ and those who had been baptized. May God guard and strengthen them.
6. Pray for the Happy Kids and Happy Teens ministries that the teachers will lead their students to realize Christ is the most precious
7. Continue to pray for the coworkers at the Belo Horizonte church that the Lord will lead the body in Christ and support each other, learn to complement each other and serve Him with confidence.
8. Pray for the Belo Horizonte church as they are in the process of application with the government for registration as a religious entity. Also ask the Lord to prepare a new gathering venue.
9. Ask God to lead the brothers and sisters in the Salvador church to grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually, to love the Lord and each other, and to willingly complement each other's ministry.
10. Ask the Lord to raise up brothers and sisters in the Porto Alegre church to willingly serve, prepare their hearts to share the Gospel.
11. Pray for the youth fellowship ministry at Porto Alegre. May God bless these young brothers and sisters that they may be filled with mercy and grace, success / competent in their serving, and benefit others while glorifying God.
12. Pray for the political, civil, and financial situations in South Africa and Brazil, allowing the believers to live a peaceful
13. Pray for Rev. Isaac Quan, the Executive Director of CIM Canada, to share cross-culturally through short-term missions in the local people of West Africa.
14. Pray for the various ministries in Ghana and Togo of West Africa. Ask the Lord to raise up more brothers and sisters to join in short-term mission trips and support the ministry.
15. Pray for the Annual Board Meeting to be held at the end of October and for all the logistics.
16. Ask God to bless coworkers on the home front with wisdom; that they will offer their best to accomplish what the Lord has bestowed upon us.
17. May God raise up more coworkers to join CIM, and more brothers and sisters to be used by Him in missions.
18. Ask God to provide abundantly in finances regarding all areas of ministry.
19. Please continue to pray for the health of the Executive Director that even with the many ministries she will not be burdened. Ask the Lord for mercy.

But as we visited more and more stores, my confidence began to increase gradually. I was then able to share the Gospel with others systematically. God blessed me with the wisdom and the



corresponding words to respond. Towards the end of the trip, we approached any Chinese to share the Gospel with them whenever we came across one.

Before this trip, I had very few opportunities to openly speak in front of a crowd. During this training, my

confidence increased, laying the foundation for me to serve our church in the future.

In Matthew 9:36, it said *“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”* Only when we go

out will we see the needs of others and experience Jesus' tender mercy. When we saw these kinsman coming to Brazil, with their pains and bewilderment, only God's Good News can bring comfort and salvation to them.

To go on missions is not just about sharing the Gospel, it is to help with our individual growth in our lives. Dear brothers and sisters, when the Lord calls you to step out of your comfortable pasture and quiet waters, do not delay, and let us walk into the crowd. Go into those thirsty souls to share the Gospel with them. Let us embark on next year's STM trip together!

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July 2016

### FINANCIAL REPORT

	Income	Expense	Balance
<b>General</b>	\$5,345	\$7,778	-\$2,433
<b>Missions</b>	\$3,743	\$3,222	\$521
<b>Total</b>	\$9,088	\$11,000	-\$1,912

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!

