



2011.09.30

SOUTH AFRICA

[Rev. Douglas Wu] This month I've been pondering "the roles of missions" and the central meaning and carrying out of "missions". Naturally, I put my focus on my roles, those with my wife and children. But then I realized, they support my ministry and agree with my ministry; but I never tried to know or understand their inner thoughts!

The Holy Spirit led me into deeper thinking, including the core values of "missions" to our family and God's leading of our "vision"! I observed our missionaries' kids and pastors' kids, their reactions and reflections on things. In the past, I held the expectation of allowing our children the freedom to develop on their own. I only asked that they love the Lord, work hard, strive to advance, and respond to the Lord's love by serving Him in whatever manner. But recently, I have been praying sincerely and earnestly that they can all serve God full-time in the future.

Through sharing with my family, I realized that our children did not have the ambition to go into full-time ministry. Of course they love the Lord, but they are still seeking in their lives. They do hope to shine for the Lord in any way they can. It's great that they have a pure heart, but this time of reflection has allowed me to appreciate perhaps that missions must begin at home. May Joshua's efforts be planted in their hearts so that our family can serve the Lord for generations to come.

BRAZIL MISSION TRIPS



I really want to give thanks to God for leading me to this STM trip. This was the first time I went on such a trip and I encountered many things that I would not have otherwise. I was also greatly inspired spiritually.

We arrived in Mogi to invite the local Cantonese to attend a gathering at the church with the hope of sharing the gospel with them. Frankly, this was quite difficult for me, as I do not talk to strangers. I saw many of my inadequacies while handing out the gospel tracts, especially in interpersonal sharing and communication. However, now that I think back, God arranged for me to overcome my weaknesses. Even though I was quite fearful at the time, my heart was filled with joy because I was going out in God's name.

During the few days afterwards we were very busy running the VBS program. It was a lot of fun playing with the little kids. My heart was filled with thanksgiving when I saw that they were able to know Jesus from

such an early age and that they got along so well with each other.

Arriving in Rio, people greeted us warmly but I was quite uncomfortable. Ester and I had to prepare two sets of worship songs and so we did not participate in much visitation ministries. As a result, we got to talk to the brothers there. Many of them came from Wenzhou, earning their living in small businesses. Because Brazil's tax rate is very high, many engage in tax evasion and money laundering. After they came to the church and got



to know Jesus, they had many spiritual struggles but were willing to give

up their old ways. They exchanged their livelihood with their belief—this compelled me to learn from their faith.

[Ester To] My husband and I deeply believe that this trip was an opportunity given by God to allow us to experience Him more.

I also saw many of God's faithful servants serving Him quietly. Seeing how the teachers from the Happy Kids and Happy Teens Ministries dedicate their service allowed me to have a different understanding of serving the Lord "with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind." Most of the teachers started teaching at a young age and have taught for more than ten years. We also met a lot of pastors, elders, deacons at the local churches and saw how the Chinese community dedicated their time and efforts; this greatly humbled me.

This STM allowed me to understand why missionaries are willing to dedicate their entire lives in engaging things that the world see as "ridiculous," to tell others that that, "Lord Jesus loves you!"

[Christine Cai] Thank God for His love and mercy giving me an opportunity to join this team with CIM to experience mission work in Brazil. As the saying goes, "The longer you live, the more you learn." However, even more important is that in Christ we are renewed everyday; transformed by Him to be more like Him.

The brothers and sisters in Mogi all love the Lord very much and zealously serve for the sake of the Gospel. They do not have the convenience of driving like we do in the U.S. When we went with them to distribute Gospel tracts, we first went on the subway and then had to transfer to a train, taking more than an hour to reach our destination. Afterwards we walked to different shops to



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hand out the tracts. Even though we all felt a bit tired, our hearts were filled with joy because we knew we played a part in sharing the message of the Gospel.

I thank God for allowing me to learn the lesson of entrusting. Before I left for Brazil, I had many worries—worry about the safety of our children at home; worry about our safety in Brazil; and worry about the STM trip to Panama our oldest daughter was attending. However, God showed me that “Those who depend on Him will be safe”. So we went and returned in peace, and in plenty. He also taught me how to number my days and step out for the Gospel. Praise the Lord!

[Elim Wong] Wednesday, July 13, was our last day in Brazil. It was also the most exciting and happiest day because I saw God’s amazing work. Even though we were at our busiest, we were also at our happiest.

As planned, we arrived on the top floor of the shopping center that morning and used two small rooms for a free clinic with four doctors working side by side. We jumped right in with sharing the gospel—when the patients were waiting to be seen; after they were seen; when they were in consulting; and when they were led to the cafeteria. Not only were the patients weak physically, they were also weak spiritually. When we shared the Gospel, we also shared our testimonies. They were very willing to accept Christ as their personal Savior. The Lord prepared their hearts for this amazing salvation. When we are diligent in bringing people to Christ, we will reap a good harvest.



The same happened with the children’s ministry.

Through the hymn singing, Bible verse reciting, crafts, the story of

the Prodigal Son, as well as Ana using Portuguese to explain the salvation Truth. The children were all willing to go to Heaven.

Thank the Lord for giving us such a wonderful day, allowing us to have a bountiful ending to our journey. May He receive all the glory!

GHANA

Recently, a STM team began their three-week journey in Ghana. May God lead their beautiful feet, provide a safe journey where they have a seamless partnership with the local workers in serving. May the Truth of the Gospel shine in that land. Pray that the Holy Spirit will touch the hearts of the people there, that they will know the Truth, and that more souls will be saved.

PRAYER ITEMS

- 1. For the University of Pretoria Students Fellowship to have wisdom and leadership from God in the area of communication so that they will have mutual respect, obey those in authority, and serve the Lord together.
- 2. For Rev Wu, that God would help him train church leaders and coworkers to develop a good habit in reading the Bible and seeking in the Spirit so that they may be used by the Lord to lead future Bible Studies and worship.
- 3. For the year-end Family Retreat in South Africa. The five members who are going from Chicago have begun their visa application. May the Lord guide them in this process. Also, pray for the local coworkers there.
- 4. For Rev. Wu’s rash to be completely healed.
- 5. For the Happy Kids Ministry— that God will bring new students and new teachers for the new semester. Pray for their adjustment to the new environment and that they grow as one in God’s love.
- 6. For the STM team that is serving in Ghana.
- 7. For the Lord to grant wisdom and power so that CIM may effectively partner with the local churches and communities in Togo to spread the Good News with great success.
- 8. For the Board meeting to be held at the end of October. Ask the Lord to prepare the directors’ hearts, grant them wisdom and give them insights as they plan for the ministries for the coming year according to God’s will.
- 9. For the Lord’s mercy with CIM’s website and that he will provide coworkers for other ministries.
- 10. For the Lord to have mercy and heal Mrs. Pi’s eye, that she will quickly adjust to the new prescription glasses, so can serve the Lord without hindrance.

FINANCIAL REPORT: September 2011

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

	Income	Expense	Balance
General	\$ 3,921	\$3,795	\$126
Missions	\$ 8,455	\$3,586	\$4,869
Total	\$12,376	\$7,381	\$4,995

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