



Following Paul's Example in Missions

~Rev Jorge Loo

1 Corinthians 11:1 *"Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."*

I don't recall in the history of humanity if anyone had also said "Follow my example", but I'm sure it'd be very few people if at all, for even among the twelve disciples handpicked by Jesus that none has ever made such a claim. My first impression when I read this passage was that Paul was boastful, maybe even a bit arrogant. Who would dare to make such a proclamation like he did? But as we read Paul's letters in the New Testament we can see he was a faithful servant of God. He truly loved the Lord with his heart, his soul, his mind, and his might, and he has accomplished the work God had entrusted in him. Therefore, before he left this earthly world, he said *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."* (2 Timothy 4:7) I see many examples in Paul's life that we should follow.

In Acts 9:15 the Lord told Ananias *"Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel."* And Paul said in Romans 15:20 *"It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation."* Based on this principle and the burden that was put in my heart, I therefore planned to go to two cities in northwestern Brazil which CIM hasn't visited – Belém (Capital city of Pará state) and São Luis (Capital city of Maranhão state) to preach the gospel to the Chinese there.

In general, the Chinese people in Brazil are mostly small shopowners in various state capital cities, and the book of Acts shows Paul always starts preaching in major cities first in his missions trips. In this January our medical STM team visited São Luis for ten days and discovered that there's no Chinese church, as well as very few Christians. But fortunately we established a good relationship with the local Chinese community during that trip.

In early April when I made plans to go to São Luis again, I received a call the next day from a sister Zhang in Belém, inviting our medical STM team to hold a free clinic there and preach the gospel. I've always wanted to go to Belém for STM and now God actually opened the door for me. Later I found out sister Zhang's invitation originated when she audited the class on Acts, which I taught at the South America Chinese Christian Seminary in February of this year. She heard the testimony of the medical STM team in the class which inspired her to bring it to Belém as well. Our team departed to northern Brazil for a STM in April 16-26 at Belém, a city I visited for the first time in my 55 years living in Brazil. There are about 300 Chinese in Belém, mostly from Fujian, China. Through sister Zhang's connection, we were able to use two classrooms of a local church at Belém for our STM work, for which we gave thanks to God!

During that Sunday night's worship, Senior Pastor Filipe of a local church introduced our STM team and our missions work with the local Chinese people. After his remark, his wife, Rebeca, went to the pulpit and shared with everyone that she had a dream the night before. In the dream, God gave her a vision to preach the gospel to the Chinese people, and in turn she asked God where would she go to do that? So she was amazed after she heard her husband's introduction of our STM team, and it moved her to tears. She said our God is truly a living God, a wonderful God, and a God of miracles who speaks to us. Her sharing also moved Pastor Filipe, who continued and said he believes Belém will have a Chinese church in two months. Praise the Lord for His action far exceeds our expectation. The Belém Chinese Christian Church actually started on June 20 by borrowing the second floor of a building of a local church, and God has raised sister Zhang to be the person in charge. Currently the Sunday worship is held at 2pm, with Bible study on Tuesday nights and prayer meeting on Friday nights. On September 2-13 I'll again lead the medical STM team to Belém and São Luis. Please remember our itinerary in your prayers, and may God have all the glory.

CIM Board of Directors

Rev. Yoman Man
(Chicago)
Rev. Andrew Ho (L.A.)
Rev. Samuel Law
(Houston)
Peter Chang (Milpitas)
Theresa Poon
(Cupertino)
Grant Zhang (San Jose)
David Chiang (San Jose)
Christine Pi (Bay Area)

CIM Hong Kong Board of Directors Chair

Rev. Joseph Lee

CIM Canada Executive Director

Rev. Isaac Quan

CIM Australia Board of Directors Chair

Rev. Sunny Tse

CIM Brazil Committee Chair

Rev. Jorge Loo

Committee Vice Chair

Minister Yeh Dan Liuson

CIM Staff

Executive Director

Administrative Assistant

Alice Wong (Part time)

Editor

Debbie Cheng (Part time)

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Rev Douglas Wu's treatment for the COVID 19 has been completed. Only physical decline is left; please continue to pray for him. Thanks to God that Whitney's COVID test report was negative on August 6.
2. Nicole has recovered from COVID 19, but she still has the side effect of facial neuralgia (severe pain due to damaged nerves) from time to time. She needs to take painkillers and ask the Lord for continued treatment.
3. The government was able to temporarily control the riots in South Africa in July, but the cause has not yet been resolved. People's livelihood has also been hit harder. Ask that the Lord will have mercy and gives peace to this land.
4. The epidemic situation in South Africa is still serious, with more than 10,000 new cases every day. Please pray that the Lord will keep the brothers and sisters safe and ease the pandemic as soon as possible.
5. Almost no one is working in government agencies and departments in South Africa. They all ask for leave from COVID. All applications that need to be processed are piled up, and it's almost the same in all departments. Please pray for normalcy to return.
6. Pray for the Brazilian discipleship training classes on Tuesdays. Participants include the churches in Belo Horizonte, in Belém, in Salvador, and the Chinese Baptist Church.
7. Pastor Jorge Loo will lead a medical gospel STM team to the two cities of Belém and São Luis. Please pray for this trip that will run from September 2nd to the 13th.
8. Pray for the family for CIM Canada board member, Siu Lui Ho, as he passed away from cancer on June 24.
9. Pray for home assignment for CIM Canada worker in Ghana, Janice Wong. She will be in Canada until Sept 27. Pray for a time of renewal, fellowship with supporters and opportunities to share about our ministries. Pray also for the upcoming Ghana Info Session on Aug 21 which she will lead.
10. Pray for the recruiting effort underway to fill job vacancies in CIM for a Director of Ministry to oversee STM and daily operations, and an Executive Director successor.
11. Pray that God will move more brothers and sisters to join the ministry so God's kingdom would be more prosperous. Pray for God's abundant provision for all the financial needs of CIM.

NOTE

Beginning March 1, please call 408-596-4567 to contact CIM for questions or comments. Thank you for your continual support.

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 2021

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	\$6,246	\$1,617	\$4,629
Missions	\$18,409	\$9,370	\$9,039
Total	<u>\$24,655</u>	<u>\$10,987</u>	<u>\$13,668</u>

To contribute to CIM ministries:

- 1) Make checks payable to "CIM" and mail to: P.O. Box 700185, San Jose, CA 95170-0185, USA
- 2) Donate online via credit card, go to: www.cimusa.org
Click on "Give" and follow directions. Thank you!



P. O. Box 700185 , San Jose, CA 95170-0185 · USA
 TEL : (408) 489-3508 www.cimusa.org
 E-mail : cimusa1992@gmail.com