



Chinese International Missions, Inc.

10.01.2022

Brazil's STM Reflections 2022

~Abby Yin

I am one who needs help and grace very much. For example, I often lose things and move about slowly. This STM trip made me see that my weakness happens when others don't accept my current situation and I feel bad. But the advantage is: I will think about why I feel uncomfortable because of others' disapproval? Therefore, frequent self-examination before the Lord allows me to spend less time on aggravating people and more time in positive living.

Another plus is for me to have a willingness to help others and a willingness to sacrifice oneself for the good of others. The downside is that sometimes I'm not being rational, and thinking that I am a good person, so that things go wrong. It seems that any good, if not in Christ, can become a shortcoming. And any shortcomings, if turned into obedience to the Holy Spirit, will instead become an opportunity for a person's spiritual growth.

God knows much more than I know. His love is much greater than I imagined, because seeing that Brazil is such a country rich with natural resources and yet people have not maintained and managed well, He still tolerated us.

God can do everything by himself, but He wants to give me another chance to experience Him through me, a person with many flaws.

At Belo Horizonte Baptist Church: As Mrs. Lim recounts the church history, hearing how God made a worship place from one or two to a church of many. But because of the pandemic and other reasons, there was only one person left in the church. And yet that brother persisted so that the line was not broken. This time, through Mrs. Christine Pi and the STM team, brothers and sisters who care about the church are gathered together again. At the first in-person gathering, there were more than 30 adults and 6 children. No matter what happens next, this is a starting point for a revival. No one can stop a church that is established by God.

The most touching thing is that an elderly brother Xie came to the temporary free clinic set up by CIM on the third floor of a shopping mall in Belo Horizonte, leaning on crutches and calling himself the "three-legged man". While waiting, brother Xie told us that he did not use to read the Bible. When the pastor assigned him to edit the weekly newspaper, he had to look up the Bible because the outline of the sermon had to be published every week. In addition, he told us that although he was ill-deserving, his wife never gave up on him. Thinking of the unbearable past and the belated repentance, he started tearing up and couldn't speak. The brothers and sisters who heard it all fell silent. When I saw this scene, my first reaction was that a sad and contrite heart, God does not despise, even when it's an old man entering his twilight years. It's never too late to repent!

Serving with those I did not know before for the first time was amazing. If we do not have the same Lord and the same Spirit, it will be difficult to work in harmony. Our team is a very complementary team. If it were not for the love of God among us, it would not be possible for everyone to help each other so spontaneously. This is one of the most gracious and fun teams I've ever been on.

In this STM trip, Mrs. Jorge Loo had the greatest influence on me. Her respect and support for her husband, her service to others regardless of race, rich or poor, any knowledge in medicine, her sincerity and sense of humor toward others, and her zeal in evangelism are all my role models. Her love history with Rev. Loo is particularly intriguing.

It's easy to get lazy at home. During the STM period, team members got along with each other everyday. It's very empowering and exciting that we have a plan, we're being supervised, and we work with each other. I can see what I'm lacking is those living together with the same goals.

I am willing to submit to the Holy Spirit moment by moment. Every time someone from the church asks me to do something, I won't judge my willingness to participate by my ability as soon as the task comes up. Instead, I am willing to rely on the Lord to live and perform the tasks He has given me. I will strongly encourage brothers and sisters to participate in CIM's short-term or mid-term missions in Brazil.

Recalling that I came to Brazil with the late brother Clarence Pi more than 30 years ago and I wanted to work with him, but the Lord took us to Central Coast in California and the Midwest in U.S. to serve. Unexpectedly, more than 30 years later, all can witness the fruits of Mrs. Pi's continued cultivation during Rev. Pi's lifetime and after his return to his heavenly home. Their fervent love has been with their Brazilian compatriots for decades.

It is an honor to work with God on STM's. To be sure, God knows there is nothing we can do on our own, yet He still insists on choosing us to cooperate with Him to bless us. Our God is willing to bless us in every way if we only allow Him.

Much to be thankful for:

1. Thankful to CIM for accepting me as a member of the STM team to serve with brothers and sisters in Belém and Belo Horizonte. I have been able to learn first-hand about local missions.
2. Thankful to Mrs. Pi in taking good care of me, one who does not understand Portuguese or the Brazilian culture. She helped us arrange, communicate and accommodate our various additional requirements at any time and anywhere. Her sense of humor makes our service a joy.
3. Thankful to the local CIM staff. Rev. Loo and his wife's enthusiasm and attitude to evangelize the Chinese and Brazilians through free clinics showed me the presence of Jesus traveling and preaching in the world. Thankful to Rev. Loo for gifting me a book on how to relate to Chinese diaspora in Brazil. Thankful to sister Ye Dan for her elaboration, which allowed me to better understand the situation of the local Chinese, and how to get closer to the hearts and needs of the locals if I go again in the future.
4. Thankful to our team lead for giving us a clear direction and giving us many opportunities and space for growth. Thankful to CIM's board of directors and coworkers who have supported us financially and prayerfully, especially the brothers and sisters who manage our funds and help us send out prayer requests every day.

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Thankful!

~Judy Lei

1. Grasping the broadening of vision and mind, a group of people who need to study the Bible has been laden into my heart.
2. Being fully aware of the importance of one-on-one shepherding of life from the very beginning of the establishment of the church.
3. Seeing the hard work of the elders and preachers in Brazil.
4. Spreading the gospel to individuals and following up on life cultivation are not easy.
5. I never thought that when I was willing to go, God would give me the strength. I didn't feel tired at all due to my age, physical strength, hours of rest, and journeying around. Instead, God rewarded me with a renewed mind and an inspired heart.
6. Thankful to all my coworkers who helped me in my ministry.
7. All the preparation has been good. The teammates in charge of operation are really role models of working hard without grumbling.



PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Please pray for Rev Douglas Wu and the others in their Saturday night online English class. They have been actively inviting new friends. Ask the Lord to move people to attend.
2. There is no one to play the piano during worship in Sandton Church because of the departure of Rev Wu's second daughter, Helen. Please pray that the Lord will prepare for us, that He will lead someone to fill the spot.
3. Rev Wu's and Whitney's Taiwan health insurance is about to face suspension due to leaving the country for (more than) four years. May the Lord grant them a suitable time to return to Taiwan without being suspended and also have a physical examination. If insurance is suspended, it will take a stay of six months upon entering the country in the future to restabilize the insurance policy).
4. Please pray for the gospel friends in the PECCC Youth Fellowship and Children's Sunday School, and ask the Lord to keep them coming to gatherings and lead them and their families to believe in the Lord as soon as possible.
5. Thank the Lord for taking care of Nicole's father. A blood vessel in the brain withered but did not affect its function. Please pray that the Lord will continue to heal and take care of him.
6. From September 23rd to 30th, Rev Jorge Loo and his wife, along with a dentist from Valéria, went to Teresina and St. Louis for short medical briefings. This was the first time for them to go on a short-term mission to Teresina city.
7. Pray for Rev Loo's physical examination, colonoscopy, gastroscopy procedures, and MRI of the prostate.
8. Please pray for Pastor Isaac's trip to Ghana and Togo and Pastor Matthieu's trip to Togo that began in late September. Pray for safety, protection, and that there will be meaningful discussion with EGCT (Eglise de la Grace en Christ du Togo) leaders in Togo as they seek God's direction for His ministry.
9. Pastor Matthieu's mother's Celebration of Life and also Janice's, CIM Canada's international worker in Ghana, mother-in-law's funeral are both scheduled for October. Please pray for their families during this difficult time.
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. If you know of anyone who is interested and qualifies, please contact us.
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

Please call 408-596-4567 to contact CIM for questions or comments. Thank you for your continual support.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Aug 2022

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	\$46,168	\$14,055	\$32,113
Missions	\$90,231	\$77,335	\$12,896
Total	\$136,399	\$91,390	\$45,009

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!



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