



Brazil's STM Reflections 2022

~Sugar

I have had short-term missionary experience in Asia in the past, but I do not limit God's leadership based on past experience. I am willing to allow God to expand my horizons, maintain flexibility in changes, receive the Lord's grace by accidents, and inspire joy in serving.

Due to the limited physical strength because of my pregnancy, I can only try my best to complete the main ministry, and it is difficult to maintain high-intensity caring serving in my spare time. But God said, "My grace is sufficient for you, or my power is made perfect in weakness." So I choose to boast about my weakness so that the power of Christ can surpass me. I am grateful to the brothers and sisters I met along the way for caring for me with the heart of Christ. My husband, Fisher, undertook a lot of serving and housework, so that I can have enough rest, and experience everyone working together in my weakness to accomplish the good things of the Lord.

God turned troubles into blessing: During our short-term journey, the elevator fell, the hotel door broke down, and the power went out, but God did not let Satan's tricks succeed. Let us come to the great blessing and let us witness the beauty of the Lord in unity.

God's lively Word revives people's hearts: our daily serving echoes the scriptures of our morning devotion, and the Lord uses His words to lead us forward. Local young people eager to know more about God's Words, gather spontaneously, and discuss with us faith issues that they don't understand.

And all the families of the nations will bow down before Him: Brazilian believers who do not understand Chinese or English at all are willing to come to the meetings just to worship God. Missionaries provide translation services for these Brazilian believers to help them understand the content of the meetings. Language and culture are different, but we all worship the same Lord, which is awe-inspiring and incredible.

The local church: sheep without a shepherd, God Himself shepherds them.

The team: God fills us with joy, without worrying about tomorrow, and with faith beyond what is beyond our grasp.

Mrs. Loo: Six families from the Changhua Province in Taiwan immigrated to the city of Mogi das Cruzes, Brazil 60 years ago. Before building their own houses, they built a church together and became a beautiful witness. This wonderful story of faith made me long to follow the example of these faithful forerunners, "seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Sister Zhang Qiong: She has devoted herself to serving the Lord for more than three years, hosting short-term mission teams, arranging visitations, and connecting with the resources of the Chamber of Commerce, sparing no effort. Her energy motivates me to give my all to the Lord and experience His bountiful rewards.

The Lord allowed us to experience the leading of His Word every day, so that we live in His Word and live it out for the world to see.

I hope that brothers and sisters, you as readers, can also appreciate that mission work is rooted in God's words, initiated and led by Him, and what a blessing it is for us to participate in it.

- Join in the Ministry of Missions
- Pray for and care for missionaries who are serving
- Link to mission agencies resources
- Mobilize members to participate in missionary work
- Continue to care about local needs and invite more people to pray for them.
- Continue to seek God's calling for us, and if God opens a way, we will gladly follow.
- Daily reading and devotion, ask the Lord to continue to use His Word to lead us forward.
- Pray for the unreached and ask the Lord to send workers to reap the harvest.
- Share the short-term missionary rewards and ask the Lord to help us continue to be enthusiastic in our missionary work, and not be afraid or discouraged.

During our stay in the United States, we organized short sharings about the harvest in words and sent them regularly to intercessors and contributors.

After returning to Taiwan, we will make an appointment to share the experience in the short mission process in person and invite intercessors and contributors to continue to support the mission work.

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I need to learn to trust God more. When the flight from SFO was delayed, I started worrying about connecting flights. It was only later that I turned to God in prayer and God did fix everything.

God did amazing things. He solved the problem of the flight delay. He protected the other team from the elevator accident. He kept us safe throughout the trip. He moved people's heart to Him with the gospel message.

Even though the local people were all busy engaging in the livelihood, God still preserved people who love Him. We could feel the love for God from the local church leaders. They serve God in a difficult environment.

As for our team, God protected us from harm and that each member can complement the other in carrying the gospel message.

We visited an old couple who are in their 90's in Porto Alegre. They have been Christian almost all their adult lives. The husband have lost his most of his memory, but he still hummed with praise songs. Their daughter, as a 2nd generation, also loves the Lord. This reminds me that too often we have failed to pass on our faith to the 2nd generation, not to mention even third generation.

If I live with the same intensity as I was on the trip, more people would be able to hear the gospel and co-workers would get strengthened. However, there are other entanglements as we are back in our own environments.

Our hosts in both cities were fervently in love with God. They took a lot of time to drive us around, guided us through the neighborhood, took us to lunch and dinners. Materially they do not need anything from us., but they are fighting a spiritual battle there that few here could understand. I will continue to remember them in my prayers.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Please pray urgently for the normal power supply in South Africa, please pray for the abolition of electronic tolls on highways in Gauteng Province.
2. Please pray for Jo'burg Stanton Church's gospel development work and contact with new friends, ask the Holy Spirit for help, lead the lost sheep outside His circle, and add the number of saved souls to His own church. Pray the same for Rustenburg.
3. Please pray for the follow-up lawsuit of Brother Wang in Rustenburg who shot and killed a robber, and the Lord grants peace.
4. Whitney's abdominal cyst has not disappeared. The doctor prescribed medicine and found a small lump in her left chest. She made an appointment with the oncologist for an ultrasound examination on the 15th of December. Please pray for the Lord's peace.
5. PECCC is planning the Christmas Sunday, evangelistic visits in shopping malls, Christmas choral singing at the airport. Ask the Lord to lead brothers and sisters to actively participate and provide for all needs.
6. Please pray for the restoration of the physical worship at the PECCC Church and the love feast service early next year. May the Lord restore the hearts of brothers and sisters and prepare co-workers to serve.
7. The Youth Fellowship of Belo Horizonte Chinese Baptist Church is looking for a seminary student to lead them. Pray that God will send a suitable person.
8. Pray for the Discipleship Class at Belo Horizonte Chinese Baptist Church on Tuesday nights and the Bible study class on Thursday nights.
9. Praise that CIM Canada's annual meeting went smoothly and was productive. It was the first time that we held it in Toronto. Because of COVID, some of our board members had not met each other in person before and it was a good time of bonding.
10. Pray for peace in Ukraine, and also for safety for those traveling there as well as for our partners at House of Mercy as they minister to refugees.
11. Pray for the training and discipling of pastors in all our ministry areas. Pray for CIM's guidance and direction as to how we can come alongside and assist.
12. **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.
13. 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

Oct 2022

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	\$63,641	\$16,161	\$47,480
Missions	\$117,699	\$93,860	\$23,839
Total	<u>\$181,340</u>	<u>\$110,021</u>	<u>\$71,319</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!



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