Chinese International Missions, Inc.

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Interview with Dr. James Hudson Taylor IV

~Theresa Poon CIM Board member

[Dr. James ("Jamie") Hudson Taylor IV is the great–great grandson of the founder of the OMF International (previously China Inland Mission). He was born and raised in Taiwan. Dr. Taylor served as OMF's Chinese Ministries' Director for Personnel and then as the Chinese Ministries' Field Director, focusing on mission mobilization and cross–cultural missionary training. Beginning August 2020, he has been serving as the president at China Evangelical Seminary in Taiwan.]

T: Good morning, Jamie. It's been a while. Trust you're doing alright. Thought I get your thoughts on a few things on the topic of missions. What do you see as the overall landscape for missions post-COVID?

J: Yes, I'm doing just fine.

During COVID I think there had been more people searching for salvation, for hope. But after some time, those who have been fortunate enough not to be infected or recovered from the infection slowly reverted to their lives as before. But missions have returned slowly now and there have been more short-term mission trips since last year.

T: Any area of the globe, or people groups, have you seen with the most changes in the need for missions? Good or bad?

J: Muslims will continue to be the group that needs the Gospel the most as their population is the largest.

If you have a niche or special opportunity, there are many places that need you worldwide.

T: How about in China? Are there more nationals stepping up to be involved in missions? Do they have the necessary and sufficient resources and manpower to do that?

J: Before COVID, the nationals and the local churches did not realize or totally grasp the use of the internet as much as a tool to learn, to train, to evangelize. Now technology has opened up a whole new forum and means for them to use.

T: How about in Taiwan? Walking around Taiwan these last few days, I see there are many temples and shrines. You've grown up and been around the island for most of your live. What's changed and what hasn't?

J: Yes, that's the folk religion.

Taiwan mission work has a large need. I think some churches are very active but there are still many needs, especially in the outlying provinces. There are pockets, churches, in Taiwan who are working really hard, engaging in outreach work. But some churches seem like they're stagnant and lifeless.

Mission work in the central and southern areas is still very big. In places like Taixi (in Yunlin County) and Penghu County, Christians make up less than one percent of the population.

T: Of course, knowing each is to be called by God to be involved in missions in a particular way, but what would you say to mobilize people to be involved in missions nowadays? What would you say to mobilize the seniors? There are many seniors who are barely in their 50's and 60's who could and would like to participate.

J: There are many, many opportunities other than just staying in the back. You don't have to retreat to the second or third line at the back. But also, don't forget that the mission field is right at our front door.

Not everyone has to go to far-off places to share the Gospel.

For example, instead of sending missionaries from Taiwan to Indonesia to reach out to the Muslims, God already brought the Indonesian foreign workforce to Taiwan to work as domestic workers.

I think we need to get out of a geographic perspective, a paradigm shift, to break away. Of course, we cannot completely ignore geography completely. There are some places we should still go.

Retirees might not be willing to move to areas such as the Douliu City (a county-administered city and the county seat of Yunlin County, Taiwan), or *Taisi Township*.

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Going to Nepal and having to learn their language is not suitable for, say, someone in their 50's—after he learns the language, he might be too old already.

It isn't necessary to take a long plane ride to go on missions.

T: Yes, just like we can serve the Afghan, Ukrainian, and Russian refugees who are right at our doorstep as well.

J: Going to Bhutan is not easy for most people but there are Bhutanese living in Australia. As such, it's easier to send missionaries to Australia to reach the Bhutanese.

T: Thank you, Jamie, for your time. God bless! J: God bless as well!



PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1. Please pray for Rev Douglas Wu to integrate the online Bible study on Wednesday night and hope to join Jo'burg and Rustenburg to study the Bible together.
- 2. Rev Wu asked a local cardiologist if he could examine his pacemaker, but the doctor only agreed to see him on the 15th of next month first to understand. Please pray for the oncologist's ability to check and adjust the heart rhythm.
- 3. Please pray that Rev Wu's thigh and pelvic pain will subside while walking. It has been more than two months since the operation. Please pray for God's healing mercy.
- 4. Thank the Lord, through the activities of the recent holidays, Pastor Alex and Nicole Ko had more contacts with unbelieving parents of the children in the Sunday school. They also get along with and get to know other brothers and sisters. May the Lord let them see the love of the Lord, and gradually know the Lord.
- 5. Pray for the on-line joint Discipleship Training Class that includes the Curitiba Chinese Church, the Campinas Chinese Church, Sao Paolo Taiwanese Presbyterian Church and the Chinese Baptist Church.
- 6. Pray for Rev. and Mrs. Jorge Loo's ministries at the Belo Horizonte Chinese Church (April 20-24). This includes a training camp meeting will be held on the 21st and young people are specially invited to participate.
- 7. Also pray for the retreat to be held at the Porto Alegre Chinese Church April 28 to May 1.
- 8. Please continue to pray for peace in Ukraine. The invasion rages on and innocent lives are lost each day. Pray for House of Mercy as they take care of refugees, physically and spiritually. Pray that there will be donors for our Ukraine Crisis Fund as there are tremendous needs for the refugees.
- 9. Pray for the pastors and teachers that we support in Ghana and Togo. Inflation is still greatly affecting their lives. Pray that there will be donors for our benevolent fund so we can help with some of their physical needs. Pray for the formation of STM teams this summer and for 2024.
- 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

Mar 2023

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
General	\$18,854	\$3,795	\$15,059
Missions	\$32,542	\$35,107	-\$2,565
Total	<u>\$51,396</u>	<u>\$38,902</u>	<u>\$12,494</u>

To contribute to CIM ministries:

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



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