April 2024 Newsletter

15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5

This is my prayer for myself and for you - that we can use our time well and not be distracted by things of this world such as the news, social media, entertainment etc. May God give us wisdom to live in a way that brings peace to ourselves and glory to His name.

Egyptian ladies

We talked about dreams and both **Nashwa and Noha** believe that Allah communicates with us through dreams. The story of Joseph interpreting dreams for Pharoah is also in the Quran and they know it. However, they didn't know about Daniel interpreting the dream of King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 2). I shared about his dream of the statue and which kingdoms the different parts represent. Finally, the kingdoms were replaced by the kingdom of Jesus that lasts forever. Before we ended, I prayed for the healing of their sickness and for God to bless them during the last days of Ramadan and Eid.

Afghan family

Good news! The family was recently called up by the US government to have their screening interviews. They're now waiting for their second interview and physical examinations. Pray that they can complete the process soon.

Church ESL

I've started to meet with students individually after class to understand how they're doing, and to share more with them. So far, I've met with two students. **Selina** came from Hong Kong and has been attending the class since early 2023. A Christian friend in Hong Kong has been reaching out to her and she was touched by the love of her friend and her church. I shared the gospel with her, and she said that her family practices ancestor worship, so she can't commit to Christ. I shared my own story of how after I came to Christ, God opened the way for me, and I was spared from ancestor worship.

Judy is a new immigrant from China and started coming to class since the fall of 2023. She's not sure if God exist, but her husband feels that God opened the way for them and helped them when they came to the US. We encouraged her to attend the church whenever they can.

Outreach

Sunharbor Manor Nursing Home

We brought the youths to the nursing home. We sang "Lord I lift your name on high" and "Because He lives" to the residents. They liked the songs, and a few were singing along with us. At the end, I shared a short Gospel message with them based on John 16. I encouraged them to pray to Jesus whenever they experience any need. In this world we'll have difficulties, but in Him we can have peace because He has overcome the world. We gave out cards decorated by the youths to the residents. Judy said that one of the residents, **Angela**, had wanted to wait for her husband and didn't want to attend our event. But after some persuasion, she came, and she was very moved by the songs. I saw her as we were about to leave, and she was full of joy. We ended by praying for them.

Broadway Mall

Steve is a Vietnamese vendor whom we have spoken to a few times. He's a Buddhist and doesn't believe in God. He said that it's good to have a belief but one shouldn't be too immersed in it. He thinks that religion can blind people to the truth and gave the example of Muslim extremists who kill people. I shared that following the right faith is very important because it helps us to live correctly. Since Jesus is our creator, His Word is a manual for us. Steve thinks that the Bible is written by man, and no one should follow a man-written book.

Jacob from El Salvador had a twin brother, Esau, who was killed by gangsters in his country. He's very thankful to God for all His mercies and protection in his own life. He regularly attends church. We encouraged him to spread the good news to others around him.

Sanjay, an Indian man, thinks that faith is good and sustains us, but it's just a way of thinking. He said that he doesn't believe in God and thinks that all things happen because of natural laws. However, he was friendly and accepted a gospel booklet.

Tri-County Bazaar

Cindy and Henry are a couple from the Philippines. They came from a Roman Catholic background, and they used to go to mass every day. But after they started their business, they haven't been to church. We encouraged them that it's very important to walk with the Lord and with other believers. They said that they have set up a chapel at home and they're fine.

Anna is Chinese and owns a children clothing store. Her mom-in-law is a Christian. I shared the Gospel with her, and she listened. She has never been to church and is curious about it. We invited her to bring her young son to church.

Riya is an Indian Hindu. She believes that she needs to do good works to get to heaven. She's busy right now but hopes that one day she'll have more time to do it. I shared the gospel with her that the only way for salvation is through Jesus Christ. We prayed for her, her business, and her family.

Captain Tilly Park, Jamaica

Van is from Guyana. His parents are Hindus, but he claims to be an atheist. I said that that's a huge difference in their beliefs– from many gods to no god at all. He said that there are three main gods in Hinduism, and I said that the idea is taken from the Trinity in Christianity. He said that Christianity has taken many ideas from other religions. He said that our ancestors must be displeased with us because we changed our religions. We tried to share the Gospel with him, but he kept urging us to be more open-minded to other religions.

Rashid is a Muslim from Bangladesh. His knowledge about Jesus comes from the Quran. Like many Muslims, he said that the Quran is the final word of God and only that is preserved. We shared that the Gospels are eye-witness accounts and are accurate. There were many witnesses to Jesus' death and resurrection, and they would have discounted the gospels if they weren't accurate. He kept urging us to read the Quran and to follow the right path. He received the Gospel of John and gospel tracts.

Queens Library

Mr Liang is interested in searching for the truth. He has read the Bible and Buddhist writings before. He said that what one believes in depends on their culture and all religions are good. I shared that following the right path is important. I shared the Gospel with him, and he listened. I offered him a Bible, but he didn't accept it.

Liu Jun is from China. He has read parts of the Bible before and watches videos about the Bible. He could even recite some Bible verses. He has been invited to the Mormon church and they told him that Jesus' crucifixion wasn't important. Somehow, he felt that their message wasn't right, and he stopped going. He has also been to a Catholic church, but he was disappointed that the church condones same sex marriage. We shared the Gospel with him, and he prayed to receive Christ. Shimu invited him to go to her church on Sun.

Tom was walking by, and we shared the Gospel with him. He said that he tries to do the right thing, but it's not always easy. We shared that when we accept Jesus and have the Holy Spirit, we'll have the power to resist evil. He prayed to receive Christ and Pastor Liao invited him to church.

Some prayer items:

1. As the ESL school year is coming to an end, that all students would have the chance to hear and respond to the Gospel.
2. People who received Christ would continue to seek and grow in Him.
3. We would be focused on Jesus and his mission for us, and not be distracted by the world.

Thank you for your prayers! Please let me know how I can pray for you and your ministry. If you do not want to receive future communications from me, please let me know and I will take you off my mailing list.