Feb 2025 Newsletter

[5] As you do not know the way the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything. [6] In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good. Ecclesiastes 11

There're many things about God and His creation that we don't know, and He didn't intend for us to know. Evangelism in many ways is like sowing seeds; without sowing we'd not reap. God is the only one who can cause the seeds to grow. Our job is to sow abundantly wherever and however He leads us.

Church ESL class

The Afghan Muslim family of 8 continues to attend our ESL classes. The father of the family, **Hamdashah,** used to work for the US government. They came to the US a year ago and have been staying in a hotel. Hamdashah works at a store across from our church and saw our "Free ESL" sign. They have 9 children and 6 of them are in the US. The eldest child here, **Masuda**, speaks pretty good English and aspires to study nursing. I invited her to the church Chinese New Year celebration because she's interested in the Chinese culture. Unfortunately, she had to take her young brother to the hospital that morning and missed the program. However, she came later and stayed for lunch, and we got to chat. After that I sent her back to the hotel and met with the rest of the family. I asked how I could pray for them, but Masuda said that it's past their prayer time. Min noticed that they didn't want to read the Bible verse she had for them at the start of class. The teachers would drive them back to their hotel sometimes and Min also bought a textbook for them. May they see Jesus's love for them through the church.

Online student, Nashwa

It's been many months since I last connected with **Nashwa**. But today we chatted on Zoom again. She has found a new job and moved home to be with her parents in Alexandria, Egypt. She also told me that she has Ankylosing Spondylitis, an autoimmune disease. She has changed her diet and started exercising to control it. I prayed for her at the end, and we agreed to meet again the following week.

Sunharbor Manor Nursing Home

Gwendoline McDaniel is a Christian. She wished that she'd be able to walk and go home someday. We asked her some questions to ascertain if she has the assurance of salvation. Thankfully she does seem to have a relationship with the Lord. We prayed for her and gave her "Our Daily Bread".

Annie Taylor, a Jehovah Witness, had been sick and was inhaling medicine for her asthma. It was hard to make out her words. She said that heaven is not for everyone but only for the 144,000 chosen by God. I shared that this number is symbolic and all who trust in Jesus can go to heaven. I read some verses from Revelations 7 for her. I said that I'd talk to her again when she's feeling better.

Mr Cain is Mr Haque roommate. He seems very weak and my previous interactions with him were limited to helping him with small tasks. It turned out that he used to be a judge. Xing shared that our God is a righteous judge and one day we would all be judged by Him. Cain shared that he's a Roman Catholic; he has a good understanding of who Jesus is but believes that salvation depends on the work of Jesus on the cross plus our own good works. Please pray for his salvation.

Outreach

A. Broadway mall

Mrs Hu said that she's studying the Bible with her friend online but hasn't been to church yet. Every Sun, she goes to NJ to visit her daughter. We invited her to the ESL class.

Yudhi and his wife Maria are Muslims from Indonesia. They were very friendly. Anne talked to Maria, while I talked with Yudhi. He's been a Muslim since little but has friends who are Christians. I asked him if he could go to heaven after this life. He said that this is between each person and God, and no one can know for sure. I shared that by our own efforts we can never be sure, but God has prepared a way for us through Jesus. He was surprised to learn that the Bible talks about lust and evil thoughts as sin. He had thought that only evil acts were considered sins. He gladly took a Gospel tract to read.

Andrew, a college student says that he knows God but is not attending church right now. I asked him what he'd say to God if He asked him why he should be allowed into heaven. Andrew said that he didn't know. I shared the gospel with him and encouraged him to find a good church to attend.

Michael is a Roman Catholic 88-year-old who lost his wife and a son. When I asked why God would let him go into heaven, he said that he'd tell God that he wants to see his family there. I shared the gospel with him and gave him a Gospel tract.

Mrs Lee, a Malaysian Chinese, was by herself in the food court. She has never been to church and seems to be interested in the activities we have. We had a pleasant chat and gave her information about our church.

B. Tri County Bazaar

Fi, is a Roman Catholic from Vietnam. She's not sure about her salvation and thought that it's her good works that can help her. I shared the Gospel with her that it's only through the finished work of Jesus on the cross that we can be saved.

A **Jewish lady** was very kind to show us the African costumes sold in her store. She has visited Israel once and I shared that I would like to go too because it has all the places mentioned in the Bible. She accepted a Gospel tract.

C. Source Mall

The stores at the Source are starting to reopen after the Covid era. Several of the businesses target the younger population with activities like rock climbing, pickleball etc.

We talked to a guy who said that his name is **Wholesale Harry** on Youtube. We asked him if he knows Jesus and he said that Christianity is woven into his fabric, and he has a great relationship with God. He used to read the Bible but said that he doesn't need it now. We encouraged him to read again because God's Word is living, and we need it every day. We gave him a gospel tract and "Our Daily Bread".

Alison is a caricature artist. When I gave her the "Amazing Grace" tract, she asked if it's about someone who used to be a slave trader. I shared that his name is John Newton and shared the story about his life and how he was redeemed by Christ.

D. Flushing

It was cold and windy. Few people wanted to receive tracts or speak to us. A lady, **Mrs Chang**, was giving out flyers and I spoke to her. She said that she's been going to church. She came from China by herself in 2014 and friends brought her to church. She's a believer now. We went to a store to buy gloves for Mr Haque and spoke briefly to the Bengali Muslim owner. He said that people shouldn't say "Oh my gosh" because it disrespects God, and I agreed with him. However, he refused to take our tract.

Some prayer items:

1. As Ramadan begins on 2/28, pray for Muslims to be touched by Jesus as they fast and pray. May God release them from their spiritual bondage and open their eyes.
2. Help me and my coworkers to be bold and diligent to sow more Gospel seeds.

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.