May 2024 Newsletter

[6] I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. [7] So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 1 Cor 3

The saying goes that it takes a village to raise a child, and so it is too with leading someone to know Christ and grow in Him. May the little we do help someone along this path to connect with Christ who does the transformation.

Egyptian ladies

During our conversations, we would sometimes make comparisons between the Bible and the Quran. **Nashwa** said that Satan was cast down to earth because he was asked to prostrate before men, and he refused. I shared that Satan was cast down because he was proud and wanted to be like God (Isaiah 14:12-15). I asked if the Quran talks about forgiveness. Nashwa said that Muhammad said to forgive 90 times when someone wrongs you. I shared that when Peter asked Jesus how many times to forgive a brother who sinned against him, Jesus said 70 times 7, which literally means forever (Matthew 18:21-22). It appears that the Quran often copies ideas from the Bible but changes or distorts them.

Afghan family

More good news! The family has finished their second interview and physical examinations. They're now awaiting the day when they can come to the US. I'm preparing the girls by teaching them about the US culture and life skills needed.

A new ESL student Kusam

Kusam is a new immigrant from India. She works as a seamstress at the Tri-county Bazaar and that's where I met her. She is eager to study English and we started meeting online once a week. Her English is limited so we're starting with the basics.

Outreach

Tri-County Bazaar

I've met **Marilyn** a few times before. It was comforting to talk to someone I know and provide mutual encouragement. However, she still hasn't found a church to attend and I'm praying that she does soon.

Mrs. Xie from Taiwan owns a toy store with her husband. Her sister is Christian, and she has gone a few times with her to church. I shared the Gospel with her, and she agrees with everything. But she hasn't felt a personal touch from God to commit herself to Christ.

I saw **Kusam** and asked her about her fingerprinting appointment yesterday. It was for her work permit, and it went well. As we were talking, her boss Debbie came. I gave her a Mother's Day card. Kusam told her that I was teaching her English. Debbie said that Kusam needs to get back to work.

Broadway Mall

Pat claims to be a Protestant, but her late husband was Catholic. She brought up her children in the Catholic tradition. But when we talked to her about her faith, it seemed like she is very unclear. We

asked if she has the assurance of salvation and she said that when she dies, she'll just go in a hole in the ground. We asked if we could share more with her, but she refused.

Joni and Joniki are from India and works in an Indian fashion store. I shared the gospel with them. Joniki said that she would like to have a good relationship with God but she's not ready to receive Jesus into her life.

Church neighborhood

George, the owner of a Greek store Bakaliko, is an old friend. We've discussed faith with him many times, but he's stuck with the view that religion and churches are only out to get money from people. He said that he has stomach cancer, but he doesn't think much about eternity. We prayed for him.

Hayma is very sweet and works at the hair salon. She recognized that it's God's grace that has allowed her to come to this country. She has a Master's in IT and asked that we help her to find a new job, As I was about to share the Gospel with her, a customer came and I couldn't.

We went outside Maharaja and met two Pakistani Muslims promoting Flushing Bank. We chatted with them, and they received our Gospel tracts. I shared the Gospel with a Sikh man. He said that his daughter and son-in-law are Christians. Just then, an Indian brother passed by, and he prayed that God would anoint us and use us. This is a great place to meet Muslims in the neighborhood!

Cantiague Park

We talked to three Sikh men enjoying time in the park. They said that they're thankful to God for the wonderful life in the US. They believe that they're good people doing their best for God, so they should be fine. We tried to share the gospel with them but was only able to share partially.

Freddy is a Roman Catholic. He tries his best but isn't sure if he's good enough for God. We shared that faith in Jesus Christ is sufficient for our salvation. He said that he prays to Joseph, the father of Jesus, who intercedes for him. We shared that there's only one mediator between God and men which is Jesus Christ (1 Tim 2:5). We gave him Our Daily Bread and prayed for him.

Queens Library

This area is very diverse, and you can meet all kinds of people here – Buddhist, Mormon, Eastern Lightning and Fa Lun Gong evangelists among others. We often meet Christians from different churches too who either join us, encourage us, or pray with us. Some backsliders also asked us for recommendations to a good church. Pastor Liao and Brenda believe that revival will come to this area soon.

I've noticed some people on drugs as well. We met a young man who was disoriented; he tried to jump across a barrier and fell. We cleaned up and bandaged his wounds for him. Then we tried to share the gospel with him, but he wasn't interested and was messing with us.

Mr Wei from Taiwan said that he doesn't believe in God or any religion. He's about 80 years old and in good health. He doesn't think that he needs God, but he respects other's' faith. We shared the Gospel with him, and he listened, but he didn't want to get any material.

One young woman, **Wan Ting**, said she's a Christian but she doesn't read the Bible. We shared the Gospel with her and gave her a bilingual Gospel of John.

While buying food, I talked to **Christian**, who said that his parents are Roman Catholic. He said that he's agnostic but is searching for the truth. I gave him a booklet "Solving the God Puzzle" and he said that he'd read it.

Karkei is a young college student from Stony Brook University. She hasn't heard the gospel before, so I shared with her. She listened attentively and said that she needed to think about it. We encouraged her to attend the Christian fellowship on campus.

Mrs Tao came from China recently. Her mom-in-law is a Christian. We shared the gospel with her and encouraged her to go to church with her husband and mom-in-law.

Mr Zhou is a new immigrant from China. After hearing the gospel, he prayed to receive Christ and felt peace in his heart. He even went to buy some drinks and cookies for us.

Mr Zhou received Christ

Some prayer items:

1. People who received Christ would continue to seek and grow in Him.
2. ESL students (Juan, Elyssa and Esmeralda) and Hayma need jobs.
3. For me to grow in love and compassion for the ones I minister to.

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.