Nov 2024 Newsletter

[8] I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." [9] I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord. Psalm 40

This is what I'm working on - that I may know God's Word well, so that I can better share the good news with people. Often, I've found that the needs of people may present differently, but their real need is mainly to know the Lord and trust in Him.

Church ESL class

It has been more than a month since our ESL class started. On a regular basis, we have about 25 students coming each week. Thank God that we are getting to know our students more and had the chance to share about Jesus with them.

A. Juan and Elyssa

Juan and Elyssa, who came last year, have returned to our class. Juan had a brain tumor earlier this year and had surgery. He is very grateful to the church for supporting them financially and through prayers. Recently he had an MRI and was found to have no tumor. He's now working again to support his family. Please pray for his wife and daughter's health as well.

B. Cindy

At the end of Roseann's class, one of the students, **Cindy**, asked for prayers for her son. He's having a difficult time adapting to school life here. We managed to meet up with Cindy privately on a separate occasion. She shared that she and her son only came to the US three months ago. She came mainly for her son's future. He's studying in a Christian school and despite the kindness of the community, her son is struggling to catch up in his schoolwork. Fortunately, a youth from our church happened to be in the same class as her son and is helping him a lot. Cindy has also joined a moms' Bible study group, and a sister brought her to a church. Ruoli shared about her daughter's struggles when she first came to the US and how sister Teming helped her. We shared the gospel with Cindy and prayed for her.

C. Thanksgiving

During the last class before Thanksgiving, we had a celebration. We sang a song, talked about Thanksgiving history and traditions and shared about what we're thankful for. The students shared that they are thankful for the class, for family and friends. I shared that I'm thankful to God for providing the teachers to teach in the different ESL classes and for His love that endures forever. The other students from the beginner class also joined us and we had a wonderful time.

Beatriz, Lei, Juan and Elyssa

Online ESL class

We have been meeting regularly each week and haven't had internet disruptions. A few of the students got baptized recently and Pastor Kenny continues to disciple them. Please pray that their English can improve so that they can settle down and be God's witness as most of them work in restaurants.

Sunharbor Manor Nursing Home

Eight brothers and sisters from 3 different churches visited the home together. We met with some of the residents including **Maryanne, Haque, Jenny, and Angela**. We sang two songs for them and shared what we're thankful for. A few of the nurses there heard it too.

Maryanne complained about pain in her head, neck and back. Sometimes she would scream loudly that she wanted to lie down and it's distressing to hear her. According to the nurses, she does this frequently. The nurses want her to get up and about, so she wouldn't get bed sores. We tried to comfort her and prayed for her.

Haque has four children who live in Pennsylvania. He shared that the most important thing to pass on to our children is knowledge. I shared that to me the most important thing we can pass on is our faith. I shared about my son's situation in college where students drink alcohol, use recreational drugs and have inappropriate relationships. If our children fear the Lord, we can trust them to do the right thing when they're away from home.

Jenny is 96 and wheelchair bound after she broke her hips. She is a Christian and I shared with her that when we know the Lord, we have much hope. Our bodies are wasting away but He will give us a new one. We would be with Jesus forever where there'll be no more sorrows and death. She smiled calmly as we spoke.

Home visitation with Mdm. Chen

Mdm. Chen was referred to us by the Garden of Hope ministry (https://www.gohny.org/). This ministry serves adults and children affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and other forms of violence, as well as promoting family well-being and community justice.

Mdm. Chen has depression while her husband needs dialysis three times a week. She said that her stepson tried to kick them out of the house and threatened to beat her up. One of their disputes came about because she and her husband practiced ancestral and idol worship. Her Russian daughter-in-law doesn't like it and has thrown out the pictures of some of their ancestors. She would like to find a new place to stay as soon as possible.

We shared that family relationships are challenging, especially when we live together. I shared my testimony of living with my mom-in-law and how God helped us. We also shared the Gospel with her and her husband. Her husband said that he has heard about Jesus from the Salvation Army in Hong Kong, but he's not convinced that Jesus is God. Mdm. Chen is more open, and we gave her a New Testament to read. We prayed for God to open the way for her and help her. She came to church one Sun but said that she won't come for the time being because of her husband's poor health.

Outreach

A. **Broadway mall**

Yoyo Li is a Chinese lady, with 2 kids. She's a non-believer but has been to church before because her daughter loves to go. We shared about how important it is for our children to grow up with the right faith and she agreed. She took our church address and said that she would try to come.

Elbira is a Filipino Catholic lady whom I've met before. I shared with her that it's only through Jesus and not our own good works that we can be saved. She asked for prayers for her health and her husband's health.

Tom was with his dog who is a rescue. He said that he's homeless because his family doesn't want the dog. He claims to know the Lord and appreciated our tract and "Our Daily Bread".

Two people were supervising a group of people with disabilities. We gave "Our Daily Bread" to one of them and the other asked for it too. We encouraged them by telling them that they're doing very important work helping people with special needs.

We met a man from Haiti who is searching for the truth and hopes that God can reveal it to him. We shared the gospel with him and said that maybe God sent us to share with him. He received out tracts and material gladly and said that he'll read them.

At the playground, a young girl said "Hi" to us and we started chatting with her mom. Her mom, **Maphish**, was originally from Pakistan. Maphish's parents converted from Hinduism to Christianity. She shared that her eldest daughter is autistic while her younger daughter has attention deficit. But through these difficulties, she learnt to rely on God more. We were inspired by her faith, while she said that we encouraged her. We chatted for a while and prayed for her and her family.

B. Tri County Bazaar

Carol is an African American lady who's a Roman Catholic. We asked her how one can get to heaven. She said that's a good question, but she hasn't thought about it. We shared that many people think that it's through good deeds and she said that she tries to do her best. We shared that we always fall short of God's standard, so we need Jesus' salvation. She said that her 21-yr-old daughter passed away a few years ago and it's been hard. We comforted her that if she knew the Lord, then the separation would be temporary. She teared up and said that we were angels sent to comfort her.

Eileen sells beauty products, and we've made purchases from her before. She opened up to us that she has breast cancer and is due for surgery soon. She's fearful but she said that she trusts in God.

Esmeralda is a very friendly young Hispanic girl. We shared the Gospel with her and encouraged her to trust in God for her future.

Some prayer items:

1. ESL teachers would seize the opportunities to show Christ's love and share Him with the students.
2. The people we encountered would read the Gospel literature we gave them, understand the message and accept Jesus as their savior and Lord.

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.