October 2024 Newsletter

[38] For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." Mark 8

Do we lack motivation and boldness to share God's words with others? Do we let opportunities slip by when there is a chance to share? Maybe we overthink things or lack confidence. May God's commands and His spirit compel us to not keep silent and seize the chance when it comes.

Church ESL class

We were encouraged that over 50 students registered, and a few had to be wait-listed. About half of the students are Chinese, a third are Hispanic and the rest includes a Nepali, an Afghan and a few Indians. Two thirds are new students, and the rest are return students. So far, however, we've had about half the number shown up during each class. But all the teachers felt that the lessons went well.

Aziza is waiting for her physical therapy sessions to be approved. She is suffering from severe back pain and depression. When her health improves, she'll like to attend the class. Please pray for her.

Online ESL class

I started a new class for some new immigrants from Fuzhou, China. This group was introduced to me by a guest speaker at our church, Pastor Auyeung. Pastor A has been discipling them for 4 months and realized that they needed to learn English. They were praying for a month for an English teacher. When Pastor A read my newsletter and saw that I teach English, he shared the need with me and that's how we got started. For the first two lessons, our lessons were cut short when my internet connection got interrupted. After prayers, the third lesson went well with no disruptions. We all felt encouraged.

Sunharbor Manor Nursing Home

Seven brothers and sisters visited. We greeted **Angela** who was very happy to see us. She was singing and dancing in her wheelchair. Pastor I-Hsiu sang a hymn for her.

Martin's wife, **Jeanette**, was not having a good day and Martin said he would talk to us next time. We managed to pray for them to ask God to give Martin strength and bless them both.

Katherine was very happy to have us surround and talk to her. Judy brought a large print Bible for her, and she received it gladly. She grew up in the church but doesn't have the chance to go now.

Haque had a long talk with us about spiritual things. His belief system is mainly Islam based, but he admires Buddhism. He said that he took religious studies and has read the Bible. He feels trapped and doesn't have a way out. He is searching for the truth but hasn't quite found it yet. We prayed for him.

Outreach

A. House of Muslim, Flushing

Ma Yong had invited us to his friend's restaurant, but he couldn't finish his work on time. Instead, he invited us to the House of Muslims, which I've wanted to visit since I got to know about it last year. It's

a place where new Muslim immigrants can stay temporarily for free and where they have weekly fellowship. There were about 20 people there, who are all Muslims from different parts of China such as Gansu, Liaoning, Xinjiang, Henan etc. They were hospitable and gave us tea and food. A few people talked to us. They shared about the persecution that some of their family members and friends went through. Ma Yong's uncle was recently released from a concentration camp after 7 years. He didn't talk much about his time there, but his health has obviously deteriorated.

Currently, Ma Yong is working for a healthcare company driving an ambulance. His boss is a very nice Korean Christian. Ma Yong had to go back to work, and a Muslim man was giving a seminar about his overseas travel experiences. A young man sent us out and we gave him gospel tracts to read.

B. Broadway mall

Recently, I started short training sessions on evangelism with Ruoli before we go for outreach.

Steve is a Vietnamese vendor. We've spoken to him on many occasions, but he is not open towards Christianity. One time, he said that if we weren't friends, he'd have kicked me out for talking about Jesus. On this day, he was talking to a Vietnamese woman who's a Christian. We asked him to visit the Vietnamese church, and he said maybe one day he will.

Sasha, a Chinese lady, works at the massage station. She opened up to us about her life. She has been to church before, but she said that she'll always be a Buddhist. I told her that I used to be a Buddhist too. We shared the gospel with her, and she seemed to be receptive.

In Ikea, we met a sister called **Joan**. When she heard the name of our church, she said that it sounded familiar, and she may know someone from there. I asked for her friend's name and it's indeed a sister from our church. Joan said that they're good friends and she would visit us.

C. Maharaja Indian store

Swarm Singh is an Indian Sikh. When we asked if he knows about Jesus, he showed me the cross he's wearing and said that he prayed to Jesus for a child and He gave him a son whom he named Simon. He doesn't have a job now and we prayed for him. I briefly shared about Jesus with him. He called me up later in the day to register himself and his two daughters in our ESL class.

D. Cantiague Park

Sam is from Nepal and has been here for 3 years. He's a Buddhist but respects all religions. He had been to church and said that he felt peaceful when he was there.

Daniel is a Roman Catholic from the Philippines. I asked him how one becomes qualified for heaven. He said it's through repentance and belief in Jesus Christ. As I was about to share more, he was called away by his family.

At the playground, we met **Connie**, who came from Taiwan when she was in her teens. She was with her young son and husband. I invited her to the church fall festival. She said that she's not a believer in Jesus Christ and asked if she can come. I told her that we welcome everyone to our church.

Some prayer items:

1. ESL teachers would have wisdom to teach well and share more about God and His words with the students.
2. The health and spiritual needs of Aziza, Martin, Jeanette, Katherine and Haque.
3. Ma Yong and his friends to be delivered from the darkness of Islam and be transferred to the Kingdom of light.

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.