



羅威爾華人聖經教會

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今年主題：愛人如己

# 禾田

宣道大會

主題：禾田與工人

時間：一九九四年九月九、十、十一日

地點：羅威爾區華人聖經教會

## 信心與事實

劉清清

基督教常提及要有信心，聖經也說：人非有信，不能得神的喜悅。但另一方面基督教又經常引用歷史事實印證神的作為，使神的子民增加信心。究竟信心與事實的關係如何？信心是否一定要埋沒理智？只看重事實是否不是信心？

聖經中討論信心較為詳細的一段是希伯來書十一章，它引用了舊約中許多信心偉人的生平來印證信心的意義。第一節中：信賴是所望之事的實底，是未見之事的確據。它指出信心的特點。實底(Hypostasis)在希伯來書出現了三次。第一處在一章三節：「……神本體的真像……」，意思是本質

(Essence)。第二處在三章十四節：「……我們若將起初確實的信心，堅持到底……」，意思是把握(Confidence)。在十一章中的信心是所望之事的實底「可以有二種可能的意思，其一是本來所盼望的事是不存在的，但因著信心便賦予實質；但這不是作者的意思，作者的意思是有些將來要成就的事，如今沒有實質的根據，但透過信心，我們便有把握這些事實的存在，並且肯定這些事實必能實現。這兩種意思乍聽之下好像沒有太大分別，但其實是完全不同的兩回事。前者是沒有客觀的事物存在，只是主觀的賦予實質。後者是有客觀事實的存在，而透過信心我們可以預先

看見。換句話說就是：對別人來說是將來的事，對有信心的人就是今天的事；對別人來說是看不見的事，有信心的人就能看見。

一節的下半句「未見之事的確據」，是上半句的加強語氣，「確據」有證據，證明的意思，也有法庭證據的含意，也就是說不單只是內在有把握關乎將來的事，更有外在行動的表現，有信心的人一定活出他的信心。十一章中所引用的例子，都是因著信心的緣故，使他們在人生裡做了一些抉擇。「亞伯因信獻祭與神」，「以諾因著信，被接去」，「挪亞因著信……使他全家得救」，每一位被介紹的偉人都用「因著信」開始，而且都有

行動表示他們的信心。因為聖經中所說的信心，不單是頭腦的同意，也是生命投資的一種委身(Commitment)。舉一個例子：1860年一位走鋼絲的專家Blindin在尼加拉瓜瀑布上表演，當他成功地從瀑布的一端走到另一端時，引起觀眾熱烈的掌聲，接著他將一輛手推車推過去，觀眾又熱烈鼓掌。他問觀眾相不相信他可以把一個人放在手推車上一同推過去，觀眾說相信，他又問：誰願意坐在這手推上讓我推過去呢？全場鴉雀無聲，沒有一個人願意將生命交在他手裡。這個例子很清楚的說明，我們可以很樂意認同某些真理，但未必願意將生命放在這些真理上。相信一些真理與用生命活出這些真理是有很大的距離。

有人會問，既然這信心要求我們把生命投資上去，除了信心又沒有其他憑據，是不是很冒險？感謝神，祂沒有要求我們憑自己的幻覺去產生信心，祂是要求我們對祂賜的啓示有信心。神將啓示賜給我們，並且用客觀的事實作為根據，幫助我們產生真正的信心。聖經中就有許多這樣的例子：神呼召摩西，摩西因在曠野牧羊失去了一切信心，但神

用很多明證幫助他，以致他在年老時，仍能作成震撼歷史的工作；基甸被神呼召時也缺乏信心，他一再要求神給他客觀的證據，先是要求羊毛上有露水，地是乾的，既而要求羊毛是乾的，地有露水，神都一一應允；耶穌復活後第一次向門徒顯現，多馬不在，當門徒告訴他，多馬不信，除非他能摸到基督的釘痕和肋旁的洞，耶穌滿足了多馬的要求。可見神是要把事實擺在我們面前，讓我們產生真正的信心，而不是憑構想出信心。我們乃是根據神所賜的啓示，作出適當的回應，這回應就是信心。

讓我們仔細來看十一章所舉的例子。一、神在創世以前已揀選了我們，並為我們預備了救贖的計劃，當人墮落後，神的咒詛中已預言了耶穌的救贖，因此整個舊約中猶太人的獻祭都是預表基督的來臨和工作，於是我們能有把握相信神啓示亞當、夏娃、該隱，和亞伯獻祭。亞伯誠心的獻祭得到神的悅納，也是因他對神的啓示有信心。二、創世紀中以諾生了瑪土撒拉後與神同行三百年。以諾是得了神的啓示，動了敬畏的心，因為他兒子瑪士撒拉的名字隱含了意義，瑪士是

延長、長成，撒拉是死後有審判。瑪土撒拉死時九百六十九歲，正是挪亞六百歲，瑪土撒拉是挪亞的祖父，這一年洪水氾濫。所以我們可以相信以諾生瑪土撒拉時得到神的啓示，神會審判全地，所以動了敬畏的心。三、耶穌基督的福音，神也早已啓示了，林前十五章說：基督照聖經所說，為我們的罪死了。耶穌未生之前，舊約已預言有關祂的事。據統計舊約中關於彌賽亞的預言超過三百處。其中對他的家譜，出生地點，要做的工作，別人對祂的反應，死時的情形，和埋葬地方的預言有六十多處，全部都在耶穌身上應驗。

神要我們基於所看見的，所明白的，去接受那未能看見的，這就是信心。故此第一步信心是基於事實，第二步是信心要長大，趨於成熟，也就是由有事實根據的進展至超越事實的信心。十一章的這些例子也說明了這點。挪亞時代，從來沒有下過雨，然而神告訴挪亞洪水將要降下，並吩咐他在乾旱的地方建造方舟。他成為當時人的笑柄，但挪亞的信心是超越事實的信心。亞伯拉罕離開吾珥時，不知道目的地何在，基於信靠神的帶領，

他一步一步的跟下去，這也是超越事實的信心，因為事實是流落異鄉，舉目無親。

當信心成熟時，會到一個地步產生違反事實的信心，因為我們承認自己所看見的只是永恆裡的一瞥，既然無法看清整幅圖畫，我們必須承認一些如今看似不合理的事，其實在神的計劃裡是配合的天衣無縫。撒拉生以撒時已過了生育的歲數，雖然與應許相違背，但因為神的應許，他們仍然相信；亞伯拉罕獻以撒時，也沒有懷疑以撒是他唯一子嗣，神應許他的子孫要如天上的星那麼多，基於神過去的信實，亞伯拉罕信服神的要求，真的獻上以撒，他深信神還能讓他死裡復活。

當我們的信心達到剛才所說的地步時，我們便得到真正的自由，可以放膽地跟隨神，不會為環境因素和目前所能見的限制了我們，因為我們曉得在神沒有難成的事。

究竟這信心是否可以真的達致？這信心在二十世紀九十年代，科學發達之際，是否仍行得通？也有人問我，「你是從事科學研究的，你的信仰是否與訓練衝突？」一般人以為

從事科學研究是純粹講求客觀證據而不牽涉主觀信心，這是不了解科學運作所產生的錯覺。其實從某些角度看，科學與信仰是相似的。譬如從事科學研究的人，相信一些表面現象的背後有更深一層的事實，只是目前未能觀察得到，於是一些有洞識的科學家便窮一生的精力，把這些本來已經存在，但暫時未能看見的事實找出來，當科學家如此做時，其實已運用了信心，而且這信心和希伯來書十一章所形容的類似。當科學家研究一項課題時，不只根據客觀的資料去證明這题目的重要，而且根據個人的確信，然後將自己委身在這研究上，這豈不是如希伯來書中所說：「信心是所望之事的實底，未見之事的確據」。

另一個錯覺是以為科學完全講求理性和實驗，沒有證明便不能接受事實。這也是時下年青人對信仰的態度。其實科學也注重權威，一切科學研究範圍都在一些領袖公認的典範下進行，至於這些典範(Paradigm)是否有絕對客觀的證明，不是最重要的，重要的是大家都認為這些是有價值和有用的，於是一些基礎知識不是因為實驗而被接受，乃是憑信

心接受，以使用它進行下一步的研究，直到研究結果指出先前的假設有誤，便重新修改一下舊的觀念，以容納新的結果。這和聖經所提供的模式相似，神要求我們有一種開放的態度，基於一些客觀的證明，憑信心接受神所賜下的啓示，繼續信仰的探索，只要有從聖經而來的亮光，願意隨時更新一些與聖經不符合的舊傳統觀念；另一方面又因著我們願意按照所明白的啓示行出來，逐漸更多經歷神的大能，於是我們的信心也逐漸成熟，能夠洞見別人所不能看見的，在眾說紛紜中仍有定向，在人心不安時仍有安全感，在苦難中仍有真正的平安和喜樂。

禾田 四卷三期

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# 傳喜訊的人 · 傳喜訊的人 ·

## God's Faithfulness

Tony and Ming Perrello

Spring has come to new England with its glorious display of colors! It is hard to believe that we have been living here for over one year and that now our time has come to move on. For the month of July, we will take part in a pre-field training class in Fresno CA. The class focuses on understanding your cultural and psychological background and how that will affect your transition into a different culture. In August, we will have our final church appearances and then fly off to Taiwan for language school.

### Rejoice in God's Faithfulness!!!

Since the very first step of leaving work to attend seminary in 1988, we have seen God faithful in providing for our needs. From our first apartment in Vernon Hills IL to our current living situation, God has gone ahead to prepare for us. Tony's part time job in CT. was another example. His supervisor was very sensitive to his schedule and let Tony make his own hours. He also would share with his customers that Tony was a missionary!! This led to many interesting conversations.

In April we took Kristen in for her four-month checkup and they discovered a heart murmur. We took her to the hospital for tests that showed there was nothing wrong with her. Again we were grateful for God's care over her life and for our good health through out support discovery.

Tony spoke in a Chinese church whose congregation was primarily made up of Chinese from Mainland China. Afterwards a believer in his sixties from China approached him. Through an interpreter, he told him that he was personally grateful that we would leave the states to minister to mainland Chinese. This man was persecuted for his faith in China. He said that while he was exiled to a work commune, the workers were not referred to as humans but as cows! His humility was very moving. The sacrifices that he willingly made for his faith are unimaginable here in the U.S. May God give us the same heart that this brother has.

### Prayer and Praise

Pray that we will continue to learn how to depend upon God in our daily lives.

Praise God for His faithfulness in raising most of our support team!

Pray that we have already secured an apartment in Taichung, Taiwan.

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# 傳喜訊的人 · 傳喜訊的人 ·

Wes Milne

God willing, I shall return to Taiwan on June 15 for an indefinite period of time. I've been invited by the all-Chinese organization "Chinese Born Anew Fellowship"(CBAF) to be a counselor in their prospective "Faith Hope Love Youth Ranch", which will take in young offenders from detention centers and street children off the streets.

CBAF was founded in 1968 to **preach the Gospel in the prisons and reformatories of Taiwan**. Chaplains were appointed to the prisons to teach the truths of the Bible to the inmates and to counsel and assist them after their release from prison. Over the years many thousands in these "captive audiences" have professed to believe, and approx 1500 have been baptized while in prison. **More chaplains are needed, and CBAF is asking God to send them.**

Everyone is familiar with the label "Made in Taiwan" and has heard about the "economic miracle" which has made this island off the coast of China one of the foremost trading nations in the world. But what lies behind the label in terms of the people and their lifestyle? "A wave of Wild Wealth Washes Over Taiwan". This "wave" has taken a devastating toll in soaring social problems — family breakdown, disaffected youth, corruption, drugs, crime, violence and prostitution. Recent government statistics reveal that, in ratio to population, Taiwan has the highest youth crime rate in the world!

All over Taiwan there are young people and children in need of help. Many are homeless, drifting about without direction, loafing in all sorts of unsavoury places, and falling into criminal ways. CBAF longs to extend a helping hand to them as soon as possible — to provide them with a warm and loving atmosphere in a protected environment, with all sorts of facilities and equipment and "breathing space" for healthy recreation and practical training. **Underlying all the above will be the ministry of the Word of God — evangelism and Bible teaching - to establish their lives upon Christian principles.** I look forward to having a part in this.

Please pray for the physical, mental and spiritual health of this OMF retiree — 70 years young!! I want to be a blessing, not a burden to others. May I "still bear fruit in old age" and "stay fresh and green" (Psalm 94:14).

Since my youth, O God, you have taught me,  
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.  
Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God,  
till I declare your power to the next generation..."(Psalm 78:17-18)

# 傳喜訊的人 · 傳喜訊的人 ·

親愛的肢體：

偷空提筆，驚覺已有半年未向您請安和報告我們的近況，相信主必保守您身、心、靈都健壯。我們也靠主恩典走過了非常的半年。

這半年最緊張是小女申請美國大學，在各校申請入學，各項表格，文件截止前一個多星期，德國的中學尚未把成績單翻譯完整，我們只有連夜趕工，將成績單譯成英文，緊急趕去請校長簽名公証，一共簽名蓋印一百六十份，然後快寄到申請的十間學校。

在這焦急懸念的時期，主以祂的話語和神無比的溫和扶持我們，使我們交托孩子的前途在祂的手中，四月間收到許多學校的回音，我們由孩子自己選擇她愛讀的學校，她已決定到 Cornell 讀 Human Ecology。這兩個月小女正振翼準備離巢，她一離世將擱走我們的心，實在依依不捨，多謝您分担我們心裏的担子，關心小女入學的事，主報答您。

這半年的行程及發生在我們周圍的事大要如下：

一月

1. 我們有機會參加維也納教會成立五週年限恩和佈道會。
2. 應邀往柏林主領婦女聚會，學生團，契福音聚會主日講道。
3. 夫婦分別在意大利十二個華人聚會處，探訪，輔導及講道，到二月中才回漢堡（二月初小女的生日，我們外出，無法為她慶祝，六月廿五日景吾要學短空隊考波苗也無法參加她的畢業典禮，求主補足我們對孩子的虧欠）

三月 ·

1. 歐洲雞犬不寧，雞瘟，豬瘟，牛瘟 (Mad Cow disease) 肉食者，見肉怯步。
2. 本月漢堡有人決志信主，外地信徒通電話作輔導談話，繼續往德國中部及瑞士北部主領例聚會。
3. 德國新納粹黨的活動有增無減，在 Lübeck 一間猶太人的會堂 被焚毀。

四月

1. 數間小女申請的學校已有回音，有的學校以專送信通知，有一間學校來信到德國的中學報告小女被錄取，感謝主為小女預備了學校和獎學金。
2. 在德國及瑞士等地主領查經班，團契，教會的例常聚會。

五月

1. 特往 Lübeck 看望信徒家中病重的親人。
2. BETTY 應邀往 Giepen 的專題講座，景吾去考 Giepen 信徒索取講道的錄音帶和 BETTY 專題講座的筆記，他們 慕道之情可見一斑。
3. 月中 (18-23日) 往匈牙利 Budapest 領會，途中探訪 Regensburg 及維也納兩地的信徒。
4. (27-29日) 在柏林主領佈道會及專題有四人決志。
5. (五月卅日到六月五日) 在英國 Quinta 參加 COCH 年會同工會。

六月：景吾由六月十六日到七月一日學隊往波苗短宣。

七月：景吾由七月廿日到八月六日往芬蘭短宣。

半年來主以厚恩得我們走到一處，臨走時信徒都迫切期望我們快快回粵幫助他們，最後多謝您的禱告，支持才有這些結果。

主偕

敬祝

景吾 Betty 敬上  
九四年六月八日

誰肯為我們去呢？ 誰肯為我們去呢？ 誰肯為我們去呢？ 誰肯為我們去呢？

每一秒鐘就有人躺在主的懷裡，每一秒鐘就有人死去而不認識耶穌。莫哭泣，莫哭泣因祂已復活。我們聽到了這福音，也知道只要求告主耶穌的名就必得救。但是那些不認識祂的人如何呢？

那些從來不信祂的人呢？那些從來沒有聽過福音的人呢？假如沒有人傳福音，別人如何能聽見呢？先知以賽亞在異象中聽見主說：

「我可以差遣誰呢？誰肯為我們去呢？」今天神同樣問我們這個問題。

路加福音十章

「這事以後」

這事是什麼事呢？

這事記載在第九章，也就是主耶穌談到如何跟隨主這件事。一個人必須放下自己，背起十字架來跟隨主。然後主耶穌隨即開始門徒訓練。祂差遣了七十人，這也是所謂的第二次短宣，七十是因挪亞有七十個子孫，他們代表了世界上所有的國家。主差遣他們兩個兩個的，可能為要彼此扶持，也可能是為二、三人一起做見證。還有主差遣他們在祂前面，當宣教士出去宣教是要在主耶穌之前，為祂預備道路。然後主耶穌提到要跟隨祂的三個要素：

馬益安 傳道

回應  
第一是回應。  
什麼是回應？「要收的莊稼多，作工的人少」，全世界的人如果都已準備好，等待我們去收割，也還是沒有足夠的人去。如何回應？用禱告回應，「當求莊稼的打發工人出去收祂的莊稼」。現在全世界有55億人口，可分為三組，一組是基督徒，第二組是非基督徒，但他們有機會接觸到基督徒，例如學校的同學，公司的同事，這一組大約有24億人。第三組也是非基督徒，他們還未信主，有些人甚至沒有聽過耶穌，這一組大約也有13億人。你們猜現在全世界有多少宣教士？85,000位宣教士。以宣教士對全世界非基督徒的比例是一比四萬一千六百六十六。一位宣教士要面對四萬多人，這是一個不可思議的任務。就算今天做禮拜的人都決定成為宣教士，比例也是一比三萬多人。這就是為什麼應禱告如此重要。沒有禱告，這項艱巨的任務就成為我們的問題，很多基督徒不是陷入絕望就是無助，前者什麼也不做，後者產生彌賽亞情結，認為「我可以拯救全世界」，結果呢？透支。禱告讓我們得著正確的觀念，這一比四萬不是我們的問題，是神的問題，祂或許已有答案了，禱告讓我

誰肯為我們去呢？

誰肯爲我們去呢？ 誰肯爲我們去呢？ 誰肯爲我們去呢？ 誰肯爲我們去呢？

們看清這點。再者，禱告讓我們知道神的答案是什麼。主耶穌讓我們以禱告來回應那些需要的人。不僅如此，你還必須用行動回應。「你們去吧！」你就是禱告的答案。基督徒常自稱是禱告的人，但往往卻不知道基督徒也應該是行動的人。我們誤用了禱告這詞，常常以禱告爲客套用語。七十門徒爲此禱告，他們的禱告立刻得到主的回應：「你們去吧！」他們以爲神會差遣別人，但神差遣了他們。我們不僅要禱告，也要有願意回應禱告的心。所以當神說「你們去吧」，我們也願意爲神差遣，起身而去。

代表

第二是代表。如同大使代表一國，主也希望我們代表祂。主說：「聽從你們的就是聽從我，棄絕你們的就是棄絕我」，這是我們的工作，工作的內容有二：代表的任務是「無論進那一家，先要說：願這一家平安。」這平安不是說聲哈囉，這平安是主的平安，是神藉著主耶穌與人和好的平安。「若有人接待你們，願得平安的，就必得著，不然，就歸與你們。」「若進一城，假若人接

待你們，就醫治他們，然後向全城宣告：神的國近了。假若人不接待你們就到街上抖落鞋上的塵土，表示你和他們無關，仍然宣告神的國近了」。同樣的信息對接受的人是祝福，對拒絕的人是咒詛，這完全看對方，這裡主耶穌告訴我們，工作是要宣傳信息，對方是否接受完全在他們，但同時也告訴我們，基督徒的角色很重要，我們可成爲別人的祝福或咒詛。很多人以爲基督徒不算什麼，我只要過我自己的生活就可以了。我在夏威夷剛加入青少年事奉，一位非常虔誠的年青女孩告訴我一個失敗的見證。她說：我有一個很要好的朋友，他不是基督徒，有一天我有感動想要和他分享耶穌基督，但所有的藉口都在我腦中盤桓，我想或許別人可以向他傳福音，不需要我，或許我可以等到明天再說，但明天永遠不再來，我的朋友在意外中去逝了，這個機會失去了。親愛的弟兄姊妹，讓我們不要小看我們自己，讓我們成爲別人的祝福。

另一項工作內容是我們的行爲。「你們要住在那家，吃喝他們所供給的，因爲工人得

工價是應當的；不要從這家搬到那家。」你們可能以爲這很好笑。但當我去千里達爲少年短宣找地方的時候，這一點不好笑。我住在一位接待的主人家裡，有一天我們去買菜，我不知道是要買我們要吃的，問東問西，結果我們買了很多奇怪的東西，第二天早餐，我看到盤裡有奇怪的食物，好像是一些蔬菜和一些肉，我還發現黃色的頭髮，聞起來像魚。我才明白這是燻鯪魚，那像頭髮的東西是魚骨頭，這燻鯪魚還比不上中國的鹹魚。因爲主人在看，我不好把它丟出去，幸好千里達人吃很多辣椒，我就放了許多把它吞下去。神祝福順服祂的人，現在我非常懷念那裡的鯪魚。我們每一位基督徒都是宣教士，宣教的工場可能是公司，可能是學校，可能是其他國家，讓我們不要使別人因我們的行爲而轉離神。當我們討論到短宣時，常問的問題是，食物如何？床如何？那裡的文化是否接近我們？我們要求許多的安逸與舒適，讓別人遠離福音的不是福音本身而是我們的言行。讓我們謹言慎言，不論別人是否在看，我們都要注意我們的態度、行爲，和生活。讓我們不要成爲福音的絆腳

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石。  
喜樂

最後是喜樂。「當七十位門徒歡歡喜喜的回來。」為什麼他們歡喜？因他們已使魔鬼順服。耶穌對他們說「我已經給你們權柄可以踐踏蛇和蠍子，又勝過仇敵一切的能力。」弟兄姊妹，神賜能力給順服祂的人，但耶穌並不因鬼順服而歡喜，祂要因你的名記在天上歡喜，行神蹟是一次經驗，顯示你的能力，但將名記在天上是永遠的記號，是神的能力。如果你只誇你的能力，你只是停在短暫的事工上，要讓你的心志定意在天國之事，那是永恆的。有人問，假如我們的名已記在天上，那為什麼我們還要在地上呢？什麼是基督徒在地上的目的呢？做神的工作。祂給我們能力去做祂的工作。

「耶穌因聖靈感動就歡樂說：天父啊！因為你將這些事向聰明通達人就藏起來，向嬰孩就顯出來。」因為孩子是全然順服和信靠的。當門徒願意為耶穌出去，他們就看見撒但墜落而神國興起。當基督徒順服，他就經歷了神，這事讓耶穌歡喜。前一陣子慧儀生日，她想要一幅耶穌的肖像掛在工作的地方，有很多耶穌的肖像，可是她一定要一幅耶穌笑的像。我沒有找到一幅，我想耶穌是不是從來沒有笑過，因為任何笑話他都已經事先知道了。我終於找

到耶穌笑的時候，21節。因為門徒回來完成了祂所託付他們做的，祂就歡樂。耶穌樂意與我們同工，祂樂意將喜樂給我們。弟兄姊妹，神不需要我們工作，神有許多的天使為祂工作，如果神願意，祂可以叫一個石頭、一塊木頭工作，但神選了我們，為什麼？讓我們經歷神。很多人服事主是為了責任，當神呼召，他們眉頭緊鎖說：「我在這裡」。主希望我們歡喜快樂，下一次當神呼召我們時，讓我們歡喜快樂的說：「是我，是我，請差遣我」。

需要是很大的。有很多人去逝時尚未聽到福音，耶穌說，看到需要你們要回應，用禱告回應，禱告禾田，禱告神差工人去收祂的莊稼。用行動回應，願意是神差遣的工人。教會成人短宣還在初期階段，你會為這事禱告嗎？當神說你去，你會去嗎？我們還代表神，記住我們的任務——是祝福還是咒詛。記住我們的行為，莫讓別人轉身離去。最後讓我們喜樂，歡喜神已將祝福給我們。神希望我們快快樂樂的出去，讓我們服事不是因為罪惡感，不是負擔，而是喜樂。當神說：我能差遣神呢？誰肯為我們去呢？我要用喜樂的聲音回答：我在這裡，請差遣我。

(三月二十日證道)

(本稿經馬益安傳道同意刊登)

# 少年短宣隊・他們的腳蹤何等佳美

## Milestone

Elaine Eng 吳鳳珠

I recently went on a mission trip to Richmond, VA. We served at Sacred Heart Center in the inner city of Richmond. We had a chance to serve by gardening which was mainly pulling out weeds, and cleaning out trash. We also cleaned windows and the cafeteria after breakfast and lunch. In addition to these, we served breakfast, lunch, and snacks to the children there. Through all of our work of ministry, teamwork played an important part. But the most important part was the strength that God gave us. Through both of these we served efficiently.

Alice Chen 陳藝丰

During various days of our missions trip to Richmond, VA, we held Vacation Bible School for the kids at the Sacred Heart School. The kids quickly memorized the Bible verses and listened to the Bible stories. A fifth grade kid named Tamica seemed critical of the VBS and was scornfully making noises. I went over and talked to her, asked her name and chatted. It turned out that she just wanted someone to talk to her; she didn't mind when I asked her to repeat her name about ten times. When we finished memorizing the Bible verses and the game, she had no trace of her contempt. The hard, emotionally devoid faces only hid the vulnerable child inside. There are plenty of people who will accept the Word of God, who will welcome Jesus into their lives. We only need more willing people to go about the task of spreading it.

Jed-Sian Cheng 程至先

For the two shortest weeks of my life, I was spreading the love of God to the people of Trinidad. This trip changed my life so profoundly that I have yet to fully understand all the changes.

We visited an orphanage, elderly home, correctional center, and squatters' area. For a week we taught VBS. 22 teachers taught 156 children. The children of Trinidad need love. There were too many children for too little a group to give our attention.

## 少年短宣隊 • 他們的腳蹤何等佳美

At the correctional center for teenage boys, I prayed with a young man. I prayed for him and he for me, and I remembered being touched by his prayer thanking God for the missionaries and wishing us the best. A young man came up to me when we were leaving. He said "See you in heaven!" "Yes, see you in Heaven," I replied.

I met an 84 year old Muslim man in the elderly home who has never heard the name of Jesus Christ. All his life, not a single person told him about Christ. I had explained everything about Christ and our God to him. I was astonished to understand that he did not know what the Bible or crucifix is.

We had 54 people come to Christ and 300+ people contacted or influenced. Yet there is sadness in the air because Trinidad is a perfect example of the Bible verse, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." I come away from this trip a new man. This is the biggest milestone I have come to in my life. I have gotten closer to God from this mission, and I am also going off to college. The world looks very different to me now, maybe because I see it through God's eyes. As I think about my college major, I ask myself, "can this major help glorify God?" Whatever I do, I want to help spread God's word.

Eldy O'Young 歐陽凌宇

I like to share some of the leaders we met over in Trinidad. The leaders in Trinidad have very deep commitment and very deep devotion to serving God. I was wondering how come that commitment went so deep. After I talked to them, the reason became apparent. The leaders had clear understanding that God was working. They had seen God working in their lives and others. They knew God was there with them. For example, there was this man called Steve Paul who went through local school to preach about Christ. Trinidad school required one hour every week of religion instruction. Steve saw this was an opportunity to share and speak about Jesus Christ. During school days, he went to 4-5 schools every day. This amazed me because it takes so much energy. We saw Steve's action once. He was so energetic. In front of children, he was singing and jumping. He really knew how to share the message. To me, going to 4 or 5 schools every day and doing these every single day were tiring. I asked him if he ever got tired and wanted someone to do this. He answered me, "yes, I do get tired and weary. But when I see what God has done in the past, and I know He is behind me. It gets me even more excited and I want to tell others even more."

As I was watching Steve and other leaders, it became apparent to me that the reason they love God so much is that God answers prayer and because He is faithful. That's encouraging to me because lots of time I feel tired and don't want to do any more.

# 少年短宣隊 · 他們的腳蹤何等佳美

Joanne Tao 陶中玖

Orphanages are usually reserved for little children. However when we were in Trinidad, we visited an elderly home. It was much like an orphanage. There were many elders were left there by their families. They were abandoned and unwanted. If they have family, they visited there once or twice a year. We went there, sang songs for them, talked to them, and prayed for them. As I left the nursing home, I felt really frustrated. I thought why I did fly all the way down to Trinidad and just spent a couple of hours with these people who I would never see them again. What's the point? Every week a different team from different church went to the nursing home. Each team probably did the same thing as we did. Sing a few songs, spend a few hours, and then disappears, out of their lives. It was like an assembly line, team after team. I began questioning why going to church missions. You spend a lot of your own, a lot of others' time and money. What can you accomplish anyway in two weeks, such a short time? However God is faithful even I have no faith. He assures me that our team is part of the assembly line. Like an assembly line, if one piece is missing, the whole operation fails. Without our team, that elderly would have no team that week. The church would not have VBS. People who turned to Jesus Christ in those two weeks would never have turned to Jesus Christ. I want to thank God with bless of my life and allow me to share those blessing in Trinidad.

Thank you for your prayer and support.  
Hope you will continue  
praying and supporting future missions  
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