

July 2017

Focus on



Missions

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Up Coming Mission Trips

6 Aug - Rev Daniel Khoo to administer Holy Communion to Batam Churches

3 Sep - Rev Quek KK to administer Holy Communion to Batam Churches

1 Oct - Rev Charles Seet to administer Holy Communion to Batam Churches

5 Nov - Rev Daniel Khoo to administer Holy Communion to Batam Churches

3 Dec - Rev Charles Seet to administer Holy Communion to Batam Churches

9-16 Dec - Missions Trip to Ratanakiri



The “White Unto Harvest Missions Seminar” was held on 1 April 2017 at the Beulah Multi-Purpose Hall from 3 - 6pm and it was followed by a fellowship dinner. Speakers included Rev Charles Seet, Rev Colin Wong, Dr David Cheong, Dn Dr Clement Tan, Sister Lim Meng Kean, Bro Tan Thiam Hong, and Sister Ong Chuay Ying. Attendees were given an insight into missions and God’s work in Singapore as well as overseas. The attendees were also challenged to obey the Great Commission. The seminar was attended by about 100 Lifers and friends.

Some of the presentations are highlighted below.

“Occupy till Christ Returns” by Rev Charles Seet

In His Olivet Discourse, Christ mentioned several signs which indicate that the End is coming, e.g. wars, rumours of wars and pestilences. However the sign which marks the End times more than any other is the worldwide proclamation of the Gospel (Matthew 24:14). This is being fulfilled today in the ongoing missionary movement.

We have the privilege to be a part of this worldwide movement. We are living in a very crucial moment and should thus be occupying ourselves with the task of bringing the Gospel to all nations. As time is running out, concerted effort is now required in both missions and evangelism to warn unbelievers that the End

is near. We do not know exactly when Christ will return, but let us press on to do this faithfully until He comes!

“Ratanakiri Mission Trip – 17-23 Dec 2016” by Sister Lim Meng Kean

Thank God for journey mercies as the team of 7 embarked on a mission trip to Siem Reap and Le Village, Ratanakiri in Cambodia from 17 to 23 Dec 2016. Five members led by Bro Lim Pin proceeded to Banlung, Ratanakiri, a 7-hour overland route (see Map). Sisters Charlene and Alice remained in Siem Reap to minister to the First Bible-Presbyterian Church and its village churches.

At Le Village, we were joined by our missionary Sister Chan Pui Meng. The Le Village team, comprising sisters Chan Pui Meng, Lim Meng Kean, Low Law Hoon and Helen Heah, conducted VBS for some 100 children while Bro Lim Pin and Dn Mark Heah ministered to about 30 youths. The team also conducted visits to three families in Le Village as well as a local church in Kong Village. The mission trip was blessed by God as His Word was preached and we had Christian fellowship, good weather and safety in travel.

More details of the mission trip is in the Jan 2017 Focus on Missions newsletter which is available on the church website: <http://www.lifebpc.com/missions/focus16.pdf>.

“Going MAD?” By Dr David Cheong and Eld Dr Clement Tan

Christian medical ministries can be traced to OT & NT periods and the 18th to 20th centuries. Our pattern in the 21st century should be that of Christ and the Early Church. Healing was not a trivial part of Christ's earthly ministry. The Early Church was gifted in caring for the sick and the needy, both within and outside their community. Christians today continue to be involved in community services and development, primary, hospital and step down medical care, training of local healthcare teams, to name a few.

Holistic health brings blessings of peace - spiritual, social, emotional, physical. There are golden opportunities to graciously care and serve our neighbours (Can we say we love God



and not love our brother?). If we claim that we are too busy, we must pause, seek to be ministered to through the Word of God and prayer. We must seek to be ministered to even as we minister to others. May God shower us with sustaining, satisfying and sanctifying grace to be that Mary who sits at Jesus' feet and also that Good Samaritan who is not too busy and uncaring. (Dr David Cheong)

Singapore is a shiny modern city with an enviable healthcare system. And yet, all around us are countries where many people have poor access to healthcare. Measures like the maternal mortality rate demonstrate the stark contrast between modern Singapore and its neighbours.

Medical and Dental missions are one way of building bridges into such communities. By bringing healthcare to those who would otherwise have difficulty accessing it, we help missionaries establish and strengthen ties with the community. There are many inspiring testimonies of how healthcare efforts help to spread the Gospel, such as the Jungle Doctor series of books by Dr Paul White.

May we be found faithful in the exercise of the skills God has given us, showing kindness to those in need, offering them a cup of cold water in Jesus' name. (Elder Dr Clement Tan)

“Door-to-door Evangelism and Street-Evangelism” by Bro Amos Hoon and Sister Ong Chuay Ying

(1) Evangelism is a message of reconciliation

Every fortnight, our regular team would meet at 2 pm in Yishun for door-to-door evangelism. Covered by a brother's opening prayer, confident of God's promise to go before us, we would proceed to go door-knocking, distributing tracts and sharing with residents the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. Recently, a Burmese domestic

helper and a 12-year old girl (who was visited by Jehovah Witnesses regularly) accepted Christ.

Every Easter and Christmas, we go to Orchard Road for street-evangelism. Here, the Lord opens up unimaginable opportunities to reach out to the LGBT community and the women of the night. Last Christmas, a Dubai couple and an Indian national received Christ. A 10-year old girl signed up for the Bible Correspondence Course and is currently faithfully doing the mailbox club bible lessons.

(2) Evangelism is obedience to God

As Jesus has said in Matthew 9:37-38 that the labourers are few—sadly, it is still the same today. Why is that so? Let me share what I think are some reasons.

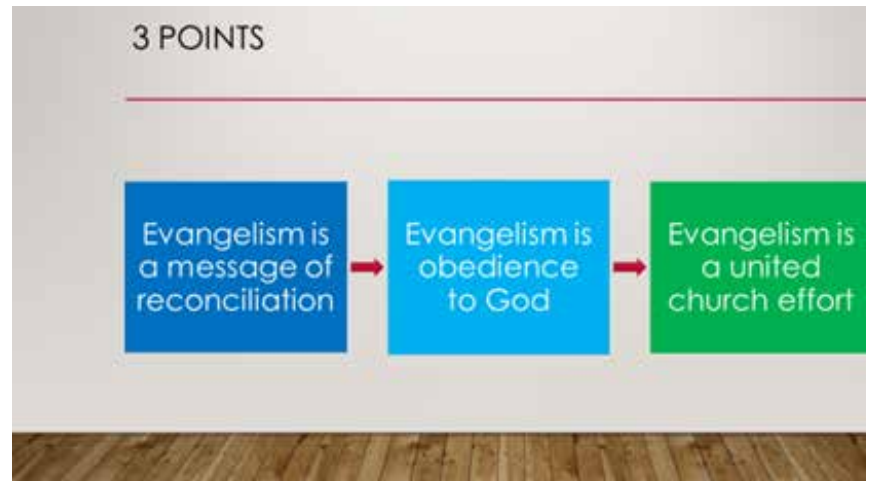
- Some are not aware of the fact that the Great Commission is a commandment, not an option.
- Some may feel they are not equipped with enough knowledge or not bold enough to witness.
- Some are worried that after sharing the gospel no one believes.

If you have never evangelized and have no idea what to say, be assured that joining us is the best way to learn. We don't observe you. You observe us. We do not judge anyone. Evangelism is not about us and how we perform. It is about how much we trust God to lead us to uncharted waters so that many lives will come to Christ. It is learning to trust Him for every word you speak and every person you approach.

(3) Evangelism is a united church effort

We all live very busy lives. We say we have no time to evangelize because we are occupied with the

things of time. Would you pray with me for more Lifers to set aside one Sunday afternoon for 2 hours to participate in door-to-door evangelism? Perhaps one NBC, one fellowship group or one Sunday School class to participate at least once a year? Bring your children and grandchildren along so that they learn their duty to serve God early. One day, when they know our Savior, they will evangelize with their hearts.



“White Unto Harvest?” By Rev Colin Wong

John 4:35-38

Jesus was speaking to his disciples on the outskirts of the city. He seemed to be standing near a wheat field at the time, a position which enabled him to have a wide view of the nearby wheat fields. The disciples were so focused on what Jesus was teaching them that they were not aware of the streams of people coming from the village and making their way through the fields toward them.

Jesus saw them coming to them and lifted his eyes and said, “Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”

What is Jesus telling us? First, do not think that it will always take a long time before you see people respond to the Word you sow into their hearts. The souls of men are often ready to be reaped for the Kingdom of God very quickly after the initial sowing.

Second, do not think that your role in sowing seeds is small and insignificant.

Third, do not allow Satan to tell you that you are wasting your time sharing the Gospel with someone.

Fourth, when the harvest is ready to be reaped, do not be threatened by people who join you in the reaping process of what you have sown.

The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, let us pray fervently for the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest (Matthew 9:37, 38). Amen.

Medical & Dental Mission Trip to Pekanbaru Bahru

28 Apr - 1 May 2017



Arrival at Pekanbaru Airport
Warmly received by Dr Dr Risma
and Ibu Roska





Penjuru Bangsa
(Cornerstone) Primary School

Warm welcome by
Mr Gabriel Wohon (Principal),



Registration and vitals taking



Medical & Dental Mission Trip

Medical clinic

Total of 308 medical patients,
including those who came for
health check



Eye consultation
Diagnosed various clinical eye
conditions

Dispensed a total of
15 pairs of distance glasses and
50 pairs of reading glasses



Pharmacy



Dental clinic



Total of 111 dental patients:
Extractions: Fillings:
Adults: 59 10
Children: 34 8





Children's Ministry



**Adult Ministry/
Health Education**



Worship Service at Libo B-P Church



Song item by the team



Message by Elder
Dr Clement Tan



Medical and Dental Outreach
at Libo Ceria School

Registration and vitals taking

Dental Clinic





Medical Clinic



Children's Ministry

Home Sweet Home!



Ratanakiri Mission Trip Report

May 2017



Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to all who have supported us through prayer, helped us with message and story preparation, or donated clothing, stationery and sweets. The time leading up to the trip was trying. From an original number of 9 interested participants, it fell to 3. Even then, God blessed us with helpers who aided us greatly in message and craft preparation. Our team of 6 was finalized 3 weeks before our departure, comprising of Bro. Sonny, Bro. Kwong Pui, Sis Amanda, Sis Elizabeth, Sis. Joyce and Sis. Sally-Anne. We thank God for going before us and preparing the way, giving us a meaningful time of service.

Unlike the previous team's trip, this trip saw the simultaneous execution of both the Children's and Adult-Youth program. The Adult-Youth program was helmed by Bro Sonny and Bro Kwong Pui, with Bro. Dym (student of Kompong Som Bible School) and Bro. Bun Theoun (former church leader from Le Village) translating. On the Children's side, the four ladies were aided by Bro. Huot and Bro. Chantha, both also students of KBS.

11 May & 12 May

Thank God for journey mercies as we departed from Singapore at about 2pm and arrived at Siem Reap International Airport before travelling by Tuk-tuk to the hotel. We set off in the morning to Ratanakiri after spending the night in Siem Reap.

The 7.5 hour journey brought us to Ban Lung where we met up with Sis. Pui Meng, visited the market, had a Khmer barbecue dinner, and also prepared and packed the children's gifts.



13 May

About 25 adults and youth attended the morning session where Bro. Dym led the group in worship with songs and prayer. He then handed the time over to Bro. Kwong Pui who shared on the Story of Hope. The message was followed by a personal testimony by Sis. Amanda. Both sharing sessions were translated by Bro. Bun Theoun.



The afternoon session saw about 35 adults and youth in attendance, where Bro. Bun Theoun led the worship and Bro. Dym translated. Bro. Sonny gave a message on Overcoming Temptation, as well as a personal testimony. We thank God for the youths who helped out with cooking managed to find time to attend the afternoon session.



The children's program began with songs led by Sis. Elizabeth, where the children sang songs they had previously learnt, and were taught a new song, 'I've got Peace like a River'. Sis. Joyce gave the 80 children a story on Joseph being betrayed by his brothers. The children then enjoyed a time of craft led by Sis. Sally Anne. They did colouring on paper plates that were cut to form a heart shaped hat, where the hats acted as a reminder to them and their friends that Jesus loves them. The children's program was translated by Bro. Huot and Bro. Chanth.

About 70 children stayed for the afternoon program, where Sis. Sally-Anne led the singspiration. Sis. Amanda told the story of Joseph the Interpreter, and shared about God's guidance. The team then led the children in two games — 'The Watermelon Seed Game' and 'Eagles and Chicks'. The 'Watermelon Seed Game' was played by throwing watermelon seeds into a red plate (we used a plate coloured with a red heart) from a distance, to represent sins blackening our hearts. 'Eagles and Chicks' was played by separating the children into four groups, with the leaders trying to 'catch' the members of the other teams.

14 May

The day started off with Bro. Dym leading the morning worship, with Bro. Bun Theoun and his brother Seng Hong translating Bro. Sonny's message on The Christian Family and Sis. Sally-Anne's testimony. The morning session was attended by about 30 youths and adults.

The afternoon session also had about 30 attendees, where Bro. Bun Theoun led the worship. Bro. Sonny gave a message on Christian Parenting, including a group discussion where the youth and adults were asked to include family time in their busy schedules of farming. Bro. Dym translated the message and Bro. Kwong Pui's testimony. He also translated the second group discussion on

spending wisely, where the participants were allocated an amount of money, and given a list of items they could purchase. Bro. Kwong Pui then shared his spending, where some of the youth realized that they had not included any savings. The youth and adults enjoyed the discussions, actively sharing and participating.



The children's program kicked off with singspiration, led by Sis. Amanda. Sis. Pui Meng then used the Sunday Morning session to have an evangelistic thrust in her message by teaching on the Wordless Book. The 95 children were then gifted with Wordless Book Bracelets made of elastic string and straws. Sis. Pui Meng then used the bracelets to test the children on what the colours meant. The Popsicle sticks were then brought out as a craft, where the children would put the sticks together using double sided tape which we had pasted on the sticks. After they decorated the sticks, we handed out stickers of the theme verse Luke 1:37 in Khmer for them to paste on the cross. The morning session was translated by Bro. Huot.



Sis. Joyce started the afternoon session with songs, and Sis. Elizabeth told a story on Joseph's Forgiveness. Sis. Amanda then taught the children a game using recycled plastic bottles. Split into 4 teams of about 20, the children were to form groups of 4, using one index finger per person to transport the bottle about 2.5 meters. Bro. Chantha helped to translate the songs, story as well as instructions for the games.

15 May

We wrapped up the Youth, Adults and Children's program by Day 2 in the village and set off for visitation on Day 3. We visited three families, with Bro. Sonny and Bro. Kwong Pui exhorting and encouraging them to remain strong in the Lord. Bro. Bun Theoun translated the short encouragements into Jarai instead of Khmer, as some of the older villagers do not understand Khmer.

The first lady we visited, Sis. Mein, suffers from spinal problems and has been unable to walk for some time. When her daughter, an unbeliever, asked her if she believed in God, she said yes.

We also visited Bro. Klon Yon, Bro. Bun Theoun's uncle, who has been suffering from Parkinson's disease for about 3 years. We were greatly encouraged when he declared that he trusts that it is God's will on whether he will be healed.



Ratanakiri Mission Trip

We also visited Sis. Pui Meng's student, Bro. Hley, his mother and cousin Bro. Lom.

We enjoyed a lunch with some of the leaders and youths of the village, along with the KBS students. We then visited the Kachanh Waterfall and the Lake Yeak Laom where many of the youths enjoyed a swim. From there, we said our goodbyes and departed back to the hotel to pack for the following day's long journey.

16 & 17 May



Before returning to Siem Reap, we rounded up our time in Ban Lung with a time of reflection over breakfast. We then took the 7 hour journey back to Siem Reap, joined by the KBS students. We went to the market for shopping and had a farewell dinner with the students.

On our last day in Siem Reap, we visited the Artbox Museum, where we enjoyed a time of illusions and photography. We then headed to the market once more before travelling to the Siem Reap International Airport and flying back to Singapore at about 7pm.

Overall, the trip was a fruitful and meaningful experience, as well as a humbling one — Not only for us, but also for the KBS students who translated for us.

Dym Doeun (22)

I am very thankful that the Lord gave me the chance to serve him in Ratanakiri. After some of my friends visited Ratanakiri last year on a mission trip, I too wanted to serve there, and prayed that God willing, He would send me there. The Lord answered my prayer, and Rev. Moses Hahn sent my 2 friends and me to serve in the mission field. The people we met on this trip were very friendly and hospitable. In the few days we served at Le Village, I was overjoyed that the Lord gave us strength to power through our weariness. I also found Le Village to be a nice place to live as it has a good environment, with many trees — even fruit trees! If the Lord is willing, I would like to return to Le Village and serve again.

Seng Hout (22)

In preparation for the trip to Le Village, I prayed, asking God for guidance and skills to teach the children. I prepared the lessons, some hymns in Khmer, and some discipline methods to maintain the order in the class. The Singapore team also guided me on how to teach effectively, using images, crafts and reciting the memory verse. I've also learnt about love in God's work, encouraging and serving with all our heart. I was encouraged by how the team still smiled and worked harmoniously despite being tired. Please pray for me as I will be graduating soon, and wish to continue my studies.

Prom Chantha (19)

One worry I had was about the large number of children predicted to turn up. When I taught children before, I was trembling. I prayed that God would give me courage, as I am quite shy. I prepared the lesson, and learnt some teaching methods. This was a learning experience for me. In the beginning, the children were hard to control and not comfortable with strangers. They were sometimes scared or shy around me, only making small gestures when we sang action-songs. But as we interacted more, they became more comfortable with us. Sometimes, I made things fun for them by increasing the speed or volumes of the songs, and changing things based on the situation. I believe that everything happened according to God's plan and He had total control. We were merely the ones who executed what we were instructed to do through the Holy Spirit.

We also ask for prayer regarding the following items:

1. Village Leadership: Sis. Pui Meng shared about her worries regarding the upcoming change in leadership in the village. The Commune Chief, May Khom is retiring soon, and the 2nd-in-charge (as we understand is a Muslim) will take over his place. We pray that he will still allow Sis. Pui Meng to remain in Le Village to continue God's work.

2. Church Leadership: Bro. Bun Theoun has left the village, and in the meantime, only his brother-in-law, Bro. Somnang, is willing to serve as church leader. He is not supported by our church. From observation, Bro. Somnang seems to be fervent in the Lord's work. He is proactive and he knows when to step to control some of the children who were misbehaving when the Singapore team members were conducting the program or when lunch was given out. May the Lord use him to lead the church further.

3. Insects: Sis. Pui Meng told us of her troubles with her home, as she tends to find 'unwelcomed guests'. During the rainy season, many small insects would enter her home and cling to the ceiling. They will also fall onto the floor and crawl around, forcing her to put up a netting at night to ensure none of them falls onto her in the night.

The insects in the classroom beneath Sis. Pui Meng's home



4. Children, Youth and Adults: May the Lord use our sharing sessions and messages to encourage them in their faith, and that it will be translated into their practical Christian living.

5. Sis. Pui Meng: May the Lord grant her courage and strength in her work in Cambodia. It is tough for her as the living conditions are not ideal. For example, a refrigerator would not be practical as blackouts are common.

6. Future Teams: Sis. Elizabeth and Sis. Joyce were of great help, as they have had prior experience in Cambodia. We ask the Lord to use us to help future teams to Ratanakiri, providing guidance in their preparation. God-willing, we may even be part of the next team.



Mission to Batam by Sunday School

Introduction – Sharon Seow

On 4 June 2017, God gave 25 teens and teachers the privilege of visiting our 3 churches in Batam. We ran a Sunday School program based on the VBS theme of Truerassic Park at Batu Aji, Sagulung Baru and Tanjong Piayu. We thank God for giving us many precious lessons during this mini mission trip.

Reflections

Brandon Ong (YT1B)

At first, I was intimidated by having to communicate with the Batam children as I did not speak their language. I was worried that I would not be able to teach them and help out with the crafts. Thankfully the children were able to understand my broken Bahasa and were able to complete the craft despite the language barrier.

During the Batam trip, there was a power cut halfway through the service. Despite that, the church members still continued singing and acted as if nothing had happened. I learnt that I should be grateful that I am able to worship with proper facilities back home.

Evangelyn Tan (YT2G)

I thank God for the opportunity to serve at the Batam churches this year. Having fallen ill a few days before the trip, I was unsure whether I would be well enough to go. Thankfully, God helped me to recover in time. Through this trip, I learnt to be grateful for the many things God has blessed us with. In Life BP Church, there is nothing much for us to worry about and we can comfortably attend church service. In Batam churches, I have seen broken chairs and tables. Yet, everyone, including children, comes enthusiastically to worship God. I learnt that we should not take these blessings for granted and we should come to church with a ready heart and mind. The little children in Batam were enthusiastic to learn God's word. This is also something to learn from; to hunger and thirst for God and His word. I thank God for seeing us all through this trip and I hope to help again.



Vanessa Ong (YT2G)

I would like to thank God for the opportunity to serve Him by going on this Batam Mission Trip, and it has truly been a fruitful trip.

It was my first time being assigned to be one of the song leaders. Not being very comfortable with speaking in front of many people, I was intimidated by the thought of having to stand in front and lead the singing. What if the children did not participate in the singing? What if they could not understand and sing the lyrics? What if they could not follow all the actions? Furthermore, two days before the trip, my friend who was supposed to lead the songs with me was down with a fever, and there was a possibility that she would not come. For me, the task done by two people was intimidating enough, and the thought of doing it alone almost scared me out of my wits.

However, after the trip, I realised that my worries had all been unnecessary. By God's grace, not only was my friend well and able to come, the children were also enthusiastic and responsive. God also blessed us with two members of our group that were fluent in Bahasa and helped us with the translation, ensuring that everything went smoothly.

Through this trip, I have seen for myself that God is truly in control of everything, and He was with us every step of the way. I thank God for showing me, over and over again, that with Him, anything and everything is possible (Matthew 19:26). All we have to do is to fully trust and depend on Him.

Prudence Lim (YT4G)

I am extremely thankful and grateful to have this opportunity to participate in this trip. I am thankful for journey mercies, for the good weather, and that we were kept safe throughout this trip. I am also thankful for the people that I have met and interacted with throughout the trip, and the experiences that I have gained through this trip. I was originally slightly hesitant about participating in this trip, especially due to the recent terrorism scares. However, I trusted God, and He kept us safe. I also had many other worries about this trip too, such as the language barrier, bad weather, food poisoning etc., but thank God, everything went smoothly.



Through this Batam trip, I stepped out of my comfort zone and tried things that I have not tried before. Previously, I have never taught or presented to others who spoke a different language from

me. However, through this trip, I experienced doing just that. I also learnt how to communicate with the children. While I could rely on the translators for the main children's program, when it came to teaching the children one on one, I faced the difficulty of the language barrier. It was already hard for me to communicate with the 6 to 8 year olds who did not understand my instructions, and the rather complex crafts aggravated the problem. Thankfully, with my extremely limited knowledge of Bahasa and a lot of hand gestures, I managed to successfully help a few children to finish their crafts. The translators were also very friendly and they helped me to translate a few words that I was struggling to explain in Bahasa.

All in all, I really thank God for enabling us to have a smooth trip, and for guiding us in carrying out the program. I am also thankful to the very kind and friendly aunties and uncles who were with us throughout the trip. The adults were all very patient and kind, and I am very blessed to know and work with such godly Christians. It was a very interesting and fruitful trip, and I would definitely take part in more trips like this in the future if given the opportunity.

Mrs Susan Ong

My daughter went for the same mission trip last year and the first thing she told me when she saw me at the ferry terminal was "Mum, you must go next year! We need you to translate." Initially, I was hesitant about going as I get seasick easily. The last time I took a ferry was more than 10 years ago, and I felt really sick on the ride. And since then, I have avoided taking ferries. However, since I speak the language and I could use it to do God's work, I bravely signed up for it. By God's grace, the weather was good and the sea was calm and the ride was relatively smooth. I didn't get sea sick on both ferry rides!

I was assigned to lead the children in "Memory Verse". I felt very challenged at first as I have never seen how "Memory Verse" is conducted. I was also told to expect 50 children from ages 3 to 12, with some children not being able to read Bahasa, not to mention English. Further, I only had 10 minutes to lead them in memorizing a relatively long verse in both languages! I was really skeptical whether I could succeed in my task. That day, about 35 children turned up: one as young as 8 months old, one or two with milk bottles in hand, and most were between 5-7 years old, with a handful between 10-12. I asked a few 6 year-olds and they told me they are not able to read yet. I was a little disheartened as I was not sure how many would be able to memorize the verse. By God's power, most of the children memorized the verse in Bahasa after repeating it 3-4 times. 4 children raised their hands and volunteered to come up to the front to recite the verse. I was very encouraged by their responses! We even managed to recite the English version as a class within the 10 minutes! All things are indeed possible with God.

Mrs Veron Cheong

I thank God for his goodness in seeing us through the running of the Sunday School program at Sagulung Bahru in Batam. I am grateful to Him because in every situation, He has provided everything we need for us to serve him. God's timing is always perfect. At about 40 minutes before the boarding closed, I discovered that I accidentally took my sister's passport instead. Thank God that my sister was not working that day, and offered to send down the passport. By God's grace, I managed to retrieve my passport about 10 minutes before the gates closed. All honour and glory be to God.



Lilian Lee

Thank God for once again giving our church youth the chance to get involved in mission work. It is always a rewarding experience whenever we get young people involved in missions. Never mind if it is their first time and it may be awkward as they are inexperienced and shy. When they look back someday and recall how the Lord has used them even in their young heady days, they will know how He never despises willing hearts and ready hands.

I hope the next mission project with the youths will take them further to Cambodia where they can spend a few days rather than just a few hours serving the Lord and His people.

Another reason why this Batam Mission trip was special to me was that Rev Patrick Tan was on this trip too. I am touched that the Lord has granted me this opportunity to serve with Rev Tan again in missions since that wonderful experience in Kenya. This time we also had his lovely wife Mrs Tan and their granddaughter Evangeline with us. This was truly special.

It was also good to meet up with our Indonesian missionaries face to face. After praying for them weekly, we finally had a time of sweet fellowship with them and experienced first hand the wonderful works of the Lord in their ministries.

Thank God for a blessed Sunday well spent for we were all tired out by the end of that day. Not the least our pastor Rev Charles Seet who had to preach twice and seeing him in his coat and tie speaking with his usual vigor to encourage God's people in that sweltering oven-hot environment really humbled me. Thank God also for Sis Sharon who undertook to oversee myriad details for this work and Dn Shao Sheng who came just to cheer us on — even bringing his 9-year old daughter just to expose her to mission work. Then there were all the parents who came to receive their children on our return — truly, this is what missions are all about as they involve the whole church.

Bernard Bagtha

I'm happy, and honoured to be of service to our Lord Almighty for this year's Batam mission trip, conducting my first ever Sunday School for the children at the Batu Aji Church

Conducting Sunday School for children between the age of 3-12 was indeed daunting. How can I tailor the lesson such that children will understand the theme of putting their trust in the Word of God, and not in man's ideas? I just want to thank God that I was able to maintain the level of enthusiasm, and to deliver the learning points of the lesson. Thank God too, for an equally enthusiastic interpreter. My prayer and preparation had indeed paid off. Only God was able to deliver me through such an endeavour. His guiding hand was evident throughout as I taught the lesson to the earnest kids, who were listening intently.

I was also encouraged and heartened to see how our young teens conducted the memory verse segment, and the art & craft segment. I'm sure both students and teachers have been blessed richly in this Sunday School's outreach. My prayer is that the children will continue to grow and put their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our hands must always be ready to be on the plough, and be a vessel ever fit for God to use, and ever ready to echo the words of the prophet Isaiah: "Lord, here am I, send me."

To God be the glory.

