

July 2018

Focus on

Missions

Special Feature on the Hilltop Missions in the Philippines

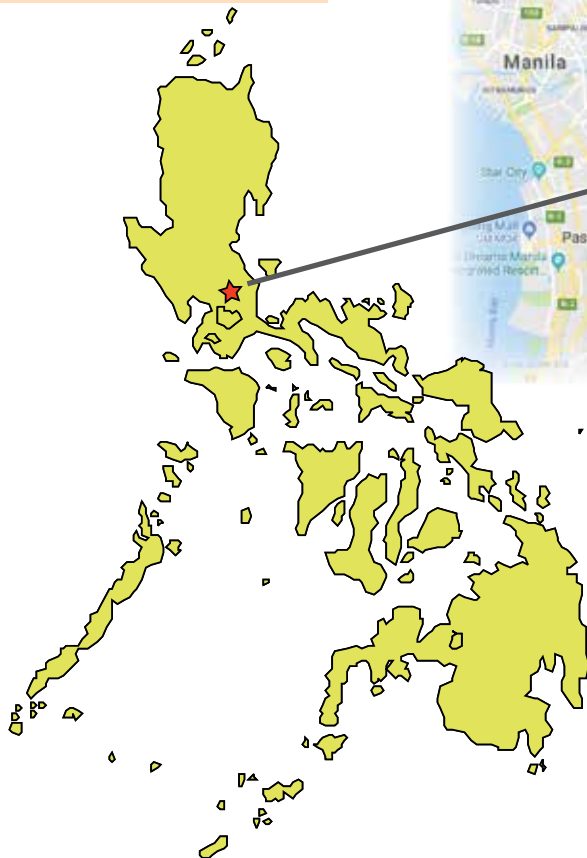
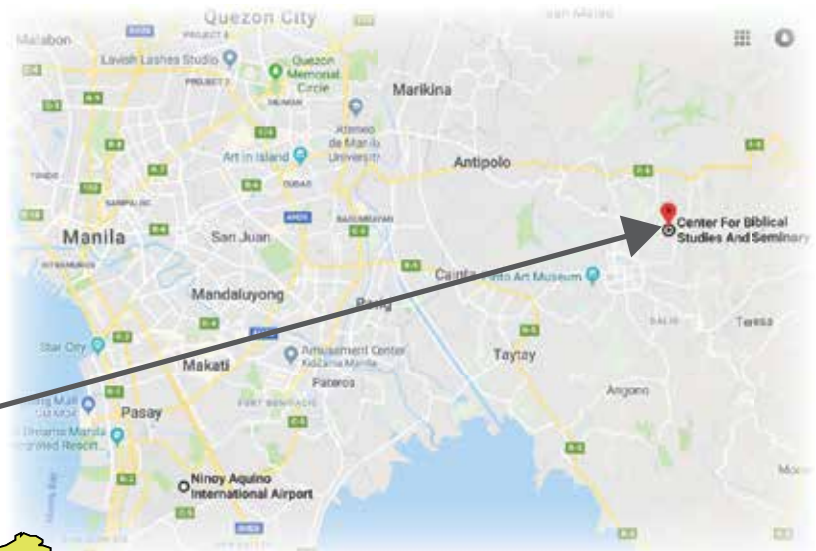


Developmental History of Hilltop Missions

Hilltop Missions is a name that Lifers are familiar with; the actual name of this mission station however, is **Centre for Biblical Studies, Institute and Seminary** or in short, **CBSIS**. It resides in Antipolo, 20km east of Manila and is a merger of two entities – the Centre for Biblical Studies (CBS) under the Eberts and the Metro-Manila School of the Bible (MMSB). MMSB was the name given to the new Bible School founded by the faculty and students who left the Fundamental Baptist Bible Institute (FBBI) in 1989.

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Life B-P Church has been supporting this mission for the last 20 years; first through the Missionary Fellowship (MsF) and later through the Missions Committee (MC). The support is in the form of a “Rice Fund” amounting to USD 1,800 annually. This level of support has been increased to USD 30,200 annually (equally shared between Calvary Jurong B-P Church and Life B-P Church) since July 2017 when Calvary Pandan B-P Church decided to withdraw support from CBSIS.



L-R: Dan Ebert IV,
Bill Ebert, Dan Ebert III

The short timeline below traces the developmental history of this mission that has been passed on through three generations of the Ebert family (Dan Ebert III to Dan Ebert IV/Bill Ebert to Teri Ebert, daughter of Bill).

- 1955 - Rev Dan Ebert III sent to Palawan, Philippines by the New Tribes Mission (USA) to do translation work and start a gospel station.
- 1967 - Returned to continue to work in Palawan, now under the Christian Translators' Fellowship.
- 1968 - Started working together with a small Bible Institute which later came to be known as FBBI.
- 1982 - CBS started in the home of the Eberts in Manila offering a graduate program in Biblical Studies. The first 3 students came from FBBI and the first 2 lecturers were Dr Dan Ebert IV and Rev Bill Ebert.
- 1993 - CBSIS moved into the current premises, the size of two football fields, funds for which were contributed by God's people including Dr SH Tow.

CBSIS is now headed by Rev Bill Ebert (Seminary) and Rev Laudemar Lubaton (Institute), supported by a faculty of about 20 full and part-time lecturers. The student population is 60 to 70 and it currently has an alumni of almost 300. Our pastor Charles Seet was a lecturer there for 7 years from 1991 to 1998.



Interviews with Rev Bill Ebert & Mrs Darla Ebert

Rev (Dr) William Ebert grew up in Palawan, Philippines. He studied at Tennessee Temple (for his undergraduate degree), Biblical Theological Seminary (MA), Asian Theological Seminary (MDiv), and Trinity Theological Seminary (PhD). He is married to Darla and has three children April, Teri and Billy, as well as five grandchildren. He has spent close to four decades being a teacher-pastor in Manila.



We thank Dr Bill Ebert for participating in this interview so that readers can better appreciate the work of the Eberts - three generations of Americans who started and continue, to this day, to be in the Philippines to further the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Question : Your parents, Rev & Mrs Dan Ebert III, were first sent by New Tribes Mission (USA) to Palawan, Philippines in 1955 to do translation work and start a gospel station. In 1967, after a period of furlough in the USA, the family returned, and under the Christian Translators' Fellowship (CTF), work alongside local churches on the Palawano Old Testament and a Palawano hymnal. Around 1968, Pastor Dan Ebert III started to work alongside a small Bible Institute which later became known as the Fundamental Baptist Bible Institute (FBBI). Would you share with us how FBBI became the Centre for Biblical Studies (Institute and Seminary) or CBSIS in 1989?

Dr Bill Ebert – Pastor Ormeo, whom my father had known since the early 60s, helped him set up the legal papers in the Philippines around 1966. In 1982, three graduates from FBBI started to study further under my brother Dr Dan Ebert IV and I. The start of this graduate study was called The Centre for Biblical Studies. CBS was operating out of the home of the Eberts, so

they started to look for a larger place to rent. In the meantime the Institute lost the ability to use the building they were occupying, so they also started to look for a place to meet. At this time in 1989 the two schools started to share a rented building in the city.

Dr Tow Siang Hwa, when he met Rev. Dan Ebert III through Pastor Ormeo, learned about the work and offered to finance the project. We had looked at three different plots to purchase and finally secured the present Hilltop site in 1990 for USD 150,000, approximately 20,000 square meters, which is slightly larger than two soccer fields. Construction began in 1991 and CBS moved to the Hilltop in 1993 with the completion of the buildings and the Dedication of the school taking place in 1994. Today CBSIS has an Alumni of almost 300, a student population of 60-70 and a faculty of 18-20 full and part-time lecturers.

Question : Being a teaching pastor since 1980, you have taken on increasing workload and responsibilities, first in 1998 when your brother Dan and his wife Sue returned to the USA and then in 2000 when your father was experiencing failing health. Today you are the Academic Dean of CBSIS and two years ago the School received a Special Order (SO) from the Commission on Higher Education Department (CHED) which is national recognition of your undergraduate programs. What were some of the teaching challenges you faced then and even to this day?

Dr Bill Ebert – Our students and faculty are glad to have received this SO. We have to continue to maintain a high standard of teaching and learning. I teach 6-7 classes per semester for



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the College and Seminary programs. We have been working to reach a higher standard in the research writing of our students. We are also trying to emphasize critical thinking and not just rote learning. These are common issues to be addressed in any developing country.

Question : The Philippines is the only Christian nation in Asia, and 85% of the population is Roman Catholic (RC). Do share with us how we can get a RC friend to examine his or her beliefs and practices? Also, what has encouraged and disappointed you as you co-pastor the Hilltop Church?

Dr Bill Ebert – Hospitality and sharing are aspects of the local culture that open doors. Bible studies and meals at homes are avenues for interaction and discussion. We usually spend close to an hour studying the Bible and touching on the importance of salvation by faith alone. There is always time for questions and discussion. During the week we spend time in prayer for those we know who have not made a decision for Christ, and then during the Bible study we try to go over areas they may be struggling with so as to explain the issues very clearly.

I have been encouraged by conversions, reconciliations, and progress in the lives of Christians. Disappointments come mostly over small disagreements in the church, many times interpersonal. Other problems are more serious. These may result in splits and are always difficult for any pastor emotionally. But we praise the Lord, knowing that the church is His and He will care for it.



Question : Tell us a bit about your daughter Teri, who continues to sink new roots in the Philippines. Married to Stephen, who himself grew up in the Philippines, they have four children. Three years ago she started a small pre-school for pre-kindergarten children in her apartment. Today she works with another co-teacher and has 8-10 young children in a set-up which allows an expanded ministry – training CBSIS students taking a module in Early Childhood Education. She is the third generation Ebert raising the next generation. How do you and Darla feel about that?

Dr Bill Ebert – Teri did her AA in Childhood Education at the College of DuPage, Illinois, and then obtained her BA in education from Liberty University. Her current involvement with CBSIS is as a teacher. CBSIS students taking Christian Education come up and observe her classes, often unseen, and then get hands on experience. We continue to wait and see how God will use Teri and Steve in their future ministries. Darla and I fully support her in this work.

Question : Any final words for our readers?

Dr Bill Ebert - As we minister for the Lord, we must always keep our focus on Him as our Saviour and Lord. One of the best benedictions for us as believers as we serve God daily in whatever profession He has called us to is: Hebrews 13:20-21 "Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."



Mrs Darla Ebert (Darla DeHart) the eldest of three girls, married Rev William Ebert in 1977. Originally from Virginia (population 8.4 million), she has been in Manila (population 12 million), Philippines since 1980. Mother to April, Teri and Billy, she has five grand-children, ages 4 to 11. The Eberts have resided at the Centre for Biblical Studies, Hilltop Ministries, Antipolo, Manila, since 1992.

The interview was conducted by David Cheong at Rev and Mrs Bill Ebert's residence at the Hilltop. The following answers are mostly verbatim, edited for clarity.

David: Mrs Ebert, what I'd like to ask about is your relocating to the Philippines in 1980, just 3 years after marriage, from the south-eastern state of Virginia, to follow your husband and his family to do the Lord's work in the city of Manila. It was quite a change wasn't it?

Darla Ebert: Yes, indeed it was. Bill was in his final year in seminary when we were married and I had known all along that he was to return to the Philippines to augment the family's ministry. When we arrived in 1980, I did not feel homesick and thanked the Lord that I assimilated rather well to the changes. That is not to say that we did not have to deal with the noise, pollution and humidity – we all did but God was gracious to me. If there is one thing that I miss, it would be the mountains - the Appalachian Mountains and the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

David: Your three children were all born in the Philippines. What was it like raising missionary kids in an urban setting?

Darla Ebert: They say, home is where your family is. It is not a geographical location. Perhaps that is why I did not experience home-sickness. I had my children over a span of eight years and when each was old enough, they attended a Christian International school, Faith Academy, established in 1957. This was a school for missionary children and children of expatriates, which in those days were mostly Westerners. Today, the school caters mostly to Chinese, Koreans and other Asians. God was merciful in their growing up years – double pneumonia requiring hospitalisation for April, deliverance for

Teri from dengue haemorrhagic fever—(almost needing blood transfusion with all the risks of communicable diseases), and provision of an uncommon antigen against rabies when Billy was set upon by the family German shepherd and bitten on the neck, head and cheek. Those were anxious times but He delivered, just like those times from malaria and other tropical diseases on the island of Palawan for Dad Ebert and his young family.

David: What does it mean to be Pastor's wife?

Darla Ebert: My husband, his parents and brother Dan love the Philippines. I have been here for almost forty years and there is still much to do and learn. I taught the English language at CBS in the 80s, and to this day I have fortnightly Bible study with some ladies of the Hilltop Church, as well as weekly tea fellowships and meetings to encourage other ladies. Over the years I have been particularly encouraged by my participation in the Prisons Ministry. Bringing small gifts, Gospel tracts and sharing my faith with them, I have seen small steps taken by these women to come to the Saviour. I was there for Bill when he suffered from chronic irritable bowel syndrome (which was finally cured with the right medication), and surgery for his spine, (where the pain was managed by not sitting down for long periods). He supports and assures me whenever I have an attack of sleep paralysis. Truly we are each other's "helpmate".

David: What are you doing these days and is there something you will be doing in the future?

Darla Ebert: Hosting visitors happens from time to time but this is not too demanding. Our home welcomed the two guest speakers, Dr Jack Klem and Dan Ebert IV, for CBS Graduation and Conference from April 1 and now there are the three of you. I do read as much as I can and write the Christian Training and Missionary Fellowship Newsletter for our readers. In recent times, I have started to incorporate some of Dad Ebert's letters written in the 1970s from Palawan to his supporters in the USA. These, I understand, have been very encouraging. Teri, her husband Stephen together with their four children live in the adjoining apartment and I help out whenever I am needed. My two on-going projects are to

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compile Dad Ebert's letters and reports as well as the milestones of the ministries of CTMF. The second is to write our family autobiography.

David: Thank you for sharing from your heart. Do you have a favourite Bible verse/passage? Anything else you'd like to add?

Darla Ebert: I just hope that more Americans, and Singaporeans, will visit Third World countries. Here in the Philippines we still see so many who are marginalised, children collecting and processing trash. Where are they headed, what is their future? We can surely do something for them.

When I was a little girl I used to listen to the old-fashioned record player for vinyl records. I remember the old Negro spiritual "Dem Dry Bones" and as a child I always wondered why anyone would want to sing about something as gross and uninteresting as bones, particularly DRY(dusty?) bones. Then in my adulthood I was reading again in Ezekiel with seemingly new (inner) eyes — Ezekiel chapters 36 and 37. God's resurrection power is mentioned in 36:25-27 and 37:5-7. He reactivates in a sense, the dry bones and gives breath causing them to live. Chapter 36 speaks of the Lord putting within us His Spirit, and therefore His very life within us so we can really live. "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them".

Missions Exposure In India (May 14 – 22)

Report by Wang En Zhao



We would like to thank God for bringing us through an insightful mission trip to India.

Many of us have preconceived notions of India as a dangerous and dirty place, propagated by the presence of construction workers in Singapore, news articles of rape and crime, and rumours of widespread poverty and disease. Yet, God still has work to do in India and He opened the door to allow us to visit India on a mission trip to see the work that is yet to be done there.

Pre-Mission Trip

This mission trip was initiated because Rev. Daniel Khoo first heard about the desire of some of our church's youths to visit India for missions. Thus, he arranged this mission exposure trip for us to visit Jesus Saves Mission's (JSM) mission stations in Mumbai and Pune, which are the two biggest cities of Maharashtra. To welcome us, the School of Missions in Pune organised a conference for its staff and students and had a ceremony for their graduating students during our stay. We also conducted two Vacation Bible School sessions for the children in Mumbai and Pune.

Our mission trip to India encountered adversity from the very beginning. One week before the trip, one of our team members badly injured his leg, casting doubt over his ability to join the trip. On the day of the trip, we woke up in the morning to the notification that our flight was delayed by 5 hours, pushing it back from 11.15am to 4.25pm.

As a result of this delay, Rev Daniel Khoo missed a message planned for that evening as part of the conference. We eventually arrived safely in Mumbai at 8.30pm (India Standard Time), only to transit to Pune on a 4.5-hour car ride through heavy traffic and some wild driving on an empty stomach. Yet, thankfully, God saw us through the early mishaps. Our injured team member recovered quickly enough for him to join the mission trip and he eventually contributed greatly in the Vacation Bible School sessions we organised for the children. Furthermore, God saw us safely to Pune despite arriving in Mumbai late at night. He also gave us all a good night's rest that night before we began our first visit in Pune.

Pune

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we visited the School of Missions at Pune and conducted the Vacation Bible School for young children during both mornings. Over the two sessions, Andrew told the story of Jonah and God's desire for man's repentance, culminating in the wordless book, while Josiah led in the craft of Jonah praying in the belly of the big fish on the first day, followed by the wordless book-caterpillar on the second day. The other team members, consisting of Rev Quek, Victor, Alvin, Enzhao, Ernest, Ryan and Manuel, led singspiration, and assisted in arts & craft and the lesson recap. In total, we reached out to about 35 children in Pune.



On Tuesday evening, we attended the graduation ceremony of JSM Pune School of Mission's students while on Wednesday evening, we attended a conference organised by the School of Missions. On both occasions, Rev Daniel Khoo delivered sobering messages about living a reflective Christian life and the nature of service to God. In total, about 50 adults attended Rev Khoo's messages.

On Wednesday afternoon, we were given a short tour around some areas in which JSM conducted their mission work. These areas were poor residential areas which some may call slums. We visited two types of areas. The first was extremely dense, albeit with concrete 2-floor tiled houses which were small but nicely painted on the insides. Our guides told us that the people who lived in these



areas initially lived in the countryside but were moved into these houses in Pune by the government as an attempt to win more votes in Pune.

In this area, we saw many people simply idling their time away. We saw elderly women either sitting at home or doing household chores, while young-to-middle aged men gathered with their friends. A group of young children followed us around the residential area too, since it was the school holidays. As we walked through the area, the workers from JSM gave out tracts to the people we passed by. They eagerly accepted the tracts, possibly curious at why

a group of Chinese people were wandering through their homes. There were so many people who could be reached out to.

The second area was significantly poorer, with “houses” made of tarp and other scrap materials. When we were there, we noticed wild pigs walking between houses, eating dirt from the ground. Thereafter, a truck came to unload wooden beams and other scrap materials, presumably discarded from industrial areas, onto the ground. Women and children from the “houses” then hurriedly came out of their houses to grab whatever they could use. We were told that these people came in from outside the city to look for work in Pune and could not afford houses, so they had to live as squatters.

On Thursday, we had a day off which we spent at the mall and the Aga Khan Palace, where Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned. On Friday, we set off from Pune to Mumbai.



Mumbai

On the way to Mumbai, we stopped at the church in Mumbai to conduct a VBS for the children living near the church. The church was located on the upper floor of

a house located in a residential area similar to the first residential area we visited in Pune, with densely packed houses and narrow streets. JSM India rented the upper floor from a person who lived in that area and started a church there. From the outside, the church looked just like any ordinary small room.

However, it was only when we climbed inside that we realised how hot it was. During our trip, we often joked about the official temperature and the “feels like” temperature according to the weather forecast. A day in Pune could be 31 degrees Celsius, but feel like 38 degrees Celsius and we would feel wilted from the heat. On the day we went into that church, we realised what wilted really meant. The weather that day was probably around 38 degrees Celsius, but it certainly “felt like” 50 degrees Celsius.

The combination of thick concrete walls exposed to the sun, poor ventilation and a low zinc roof made the room an oven, within which we were slow-roasted. Within an hour, my juices soaked through my entire shirt. Our VBS was shortened to just an hour because of the unexpected heat, but we were also buoyed by the number of children who attended the session. Despite the heat in the church, 38 children came to hear about Jonah and the songs they sang could be heard from

the streets below. May God be praised by their joy!

That day, we left the church wondering if we would return a second time given such conditions. I wonder if our service to God must be attached to some comforts which we are used to. On Sunday, we returned to the same church in the evening for the second VBS session and a worship service with a message given by Rev Quek. Thankfully, the oven was not heated up as much that day.



Post-Mission Exposure Trip thoughts:

Firstly, we were struck by the hospitality shown by the Christians there. The Indian Christians were always willing to serve us in whatever way we needed. Once, when we needed water, they immediately set off to buy ice-cold mineral water for us. Intuitively, we might think that such behaviour may be expected, given that we are guests—some of us may have a preconceived notion that Singaporeans are superior in some way to Indians, making their hospitality an expected behaviour. However, we were sharply rebuked by the reminder that all Christians are equal before God, whether Indian or Chinese, rich or poor.

Furthermore, given that we were visiting India for missions exposure, we would expect to be the ones assisting the Indian church in whatever they needed help with, instead of burdening them by requiring assistance. Yet, the Indian Christians were more than willing to assist and accommodate us. We were thus challenged to esteem other Christians better than ourselves back in Singapore, be they Christians from afar or nearby.

Secondly, some of us were struck by how our own prejudices affected our willingness to share the gospel, which we believe is one of the most important and yet underrated instructions given to Christians. Some of our initial impressions of India was that of a backward, undeveloped country which was poor and dangerous, causing hesitation in travelling there. Yet, such hesitations betray a lack of faith in God’s promises and a lack of concern for the salvation of Indians.

We are told that God cares for us and nothing bad can happen to us without His control, so my initial fears about the dangers of India were unwarranted and displayed my lack of faith in God’s ability to keep me safe. Furthermore, we are told that angels rejoice over the salvation of a lost soul. Those words become extremely meaningful in the light of our loved ones and closest friends, but somehow lose their meaning to a generic Indian in India.

Such a discrepancy is odd; yet it is reflective of my own lack of concern for others who are lost. India is projected to be the largest population in the world soon and there are so many souls waiting to be won for the Lord. We can ask ourselves whether we would do that work and how our prejudices might impede that important work.

Lastly, we were struck by how difficult it is to govern a church. Ironically, a mission trip in India inspired some of us to think about our local church in Singapore. Yet, during the trip, it occurred to us how our group consisted of many different personalities with different needs, thoughts and perspectives. How much more diverse must our entire church be!

Furthermore, our church leaders must manage all these people who genuinely want to contribute in their own unique ways to the church, whether they are appreciated or unappreciated. It must be a big challenge for our leaders to harness all our unique abilities to serve God as one united body, so the mission trip showed the importance of supporting and praying for our church leaders, so that they may make decisions which inspire each member to anticipate Christ's second coming in love.

Testimony/Reflection of India Trip – Josiah Tan

It is by God's grace that the entire team managed to survive the gruelling heat in India and it was His protection that kept us safe during our 8 days there. We were faced with roadblocks right from the start of the trip. Our flight, which was originally scheduled to take off at 11:15am was delayed for 5hrs and the airline did not send out any notification on this delay.

Thank God that one of the team members checked the flight schedule and informed the team. Due to the delay, we arranged to meet at the airport at a later time. When we arrived at Mumbai, we took a 4-hour ride up to Pune. We thank God for journey mercies, as the traffic and driving conditions made for quite an experience in India. We reached our accommodation at about midnight (2am SG time) and thank God for a good night of rest before starting the VBS activity in Pune.

It was an interesting experience, planning and executing a VBS in another country with children we were not familiar with, but God is good, all the time. The team rallied together and everyone was ready to serve, be it in leading songs, assisting in craft or doing the story recap at the end of VBS. It was also very humbling to hear about how the people who started the mission work in India, so readily gave up their lives to serve the Lord when they were in their 20s — God has blessed the work in India.

With a diverse group, it was a great learning experience for the youths, as we got to learn from the more experienced folks in the team. During our trip, we were reminded of God's goodness to us in Singapore as we visited the slums. We were particularly moved when we were worshipping in the church at the slum.

As it was on the second floor of a concrete building with zinc roofing and few windows, the room was trapping heat. A few of us were bothered by the heat but when we saw the children joyfully worshipping God with songs and praises, we were reminded that even though we complain that Singapore is hot, we should be thankful for everything as there are hotter places out there.

Throughout the trip, God protected all of us and none of our team members fell sick. It was indeed an eye opening experience and I encourage youths to consider spending their free time serving the Lord in short mission trips overseas. Indeed, the harvest is plenteous, but the labourers are few. All praise and glory to God.

Testimony/Reflection of India Trip – Ryan Cheung

The missions exposure trip to India from 14-22 May was an eye-opener for me as I got to see the mission field and understand the work being done. Targeted for “missions exposure”, this trip truly fulfilled its purpose.

The trip encompassed a visit to the School of Missions in Pune, as well as the Jesus Saves Mission station (and church) in the Mumbai slums. Conditions there were not as bad as what is often believed, but it surely is a far cry from the many comforts we enjoy here in Singapore. Yet, it was amazing to see the locals fully invest themselves in the faith, seeking to learn from the seminar conducted by Rev Daniel Khoo—we went around the slums, handing out tracts and engaging the youths and children. Talking to some of them, I learnt that the locals themselves acknowledge the ground is hard and there is much to be done, but to see their fervour and perseverance in trying to teach the children in the slums was a challenge as well – do I care as much for those around me?

What I took away from this trip was an insight to the growth of missions and its sustainability – teaching and enabling the local Christians to be able to teach others and share the gospel as they themselves were brought on-board to be fully invested in the faith and in what they believed in. I believe that, in being exposed to missions, it challenged me in my own fervour in reaching out to those around me, whether it be evangelism or just building up fellow believers in the faith.

Mission Trip to Batam by Ladies' Sunday School 1 October 2017

On the morning of 1 October, seven of us and friends from the ladies' Sunday School assembled at Harbour Front ferry terminal to make our way to Batam, Indonesia, first to Batu Aji Church to conduct the Sunday school lesson and then to Sagulung BP church for worship service. We praise and thank God for journey mercies and good weather throughout the fruitful trip and we also enjoyed the fellowship with one another.



For some of us, it has been eight years since we last visited Batu Aji Church — back then, it was mostly built on wooden structures. Today, the church has extended its grounds, with paved drive and walkways, classrooms built on part concrete structures and a fully enclosed sanctuary fitted with air-conditioning. This is a testament to the goodness of our Lord who has preserved Batu Aji Church and allowed it to grow from its humble beginnings. Coincidentally, Batu Aji church was also celebrating its anniversary on the day of our visit and we saw most of the children dressed in their 'sunday best'.

Sister Joanna Chua, who is the story teller for the Sunday School programme shared—'I was looking forward to sharing the bible story with the children but I realised that I did not speak their language to allow me to communicate with them. I prayed and asked God for wisdom and the right attitude to do God's work in His way and not to be proud by just relying on my own ideas. I was also reminded of the message that I was to bring to the children, which was also applicable to me, that God looks into the heart of men. I committed every word of the story to be His instead of mine. With Sister Roska's help, the children

Mission Trip to Batam



seemed to understand the language that I spoke and they listened attentively. I was glad that the children enjoyed the story. We ended the story with a bible verse, 1 Samuel 16:7b “.. Manusia Melihat Apa Yang Di Depan Mata, Tetapi Tuhan Melihat Hati.” and witnessed all the children memorising the verse by heart.’

For some in the team, this was their very first visit to this church and through the interaction with God’s people in Batu Aji Church, we experienced the love of God through the kindness of His people. Sister Amanda had this to share - ‘A humbling experience on my first Batam Mission trip. On the way to Batu Aji Church, I had unfortunately stepped on some dog shit. Although the brethren asked us to put on our shoes to enter the church, I did not. I was also concerned about how to get rid of the unpleasant smell to continue my journey. After Sunday School, to my surprise, I found my shoes washed and drying under the sun. I was very touched and moved by this gesture. Words could not express my appreciation to the lovely people in the church who displayed such great love, all glory to God! I would also like to thank God for the opportunity to respond to Sister’s Paula’s request for a guitar for the church’s Youth Ministry. We sent the guitar in November and received news that Sister Paula was very thankful and appreciated the gift very much.’

A trip to Batam to help our sister churches will always uplift our spirits as we see the attentive looks on the children’s faces that tell of how much they want to know the Lord better. Even though it was only a short time spent as we taught the story of David, we believe God has allowed the little seed of faith to be rooted more firmly in the little hearts. We all just need to do our part, share the gospel and let God do the rest. Thank you Lord for this experience and the privilege to serve.



Up Coming Mission Trips

Aug 5 – Rev Charles Seet ministering to churches in Batam

Aug 9-12 – Medical & Dental Missions to Batak Land

Sep 9 – Rev Daniel Khoo ministering to churches in Batam

Oct 7 – Rev Charles Seet ministering to churches in Batam

Nov 4 – Rev Daniel Khoo ministering to churches in Batam

Nov 20-27 – Rev Daniel Khoo leading team to Ratanakiri

Dec 2 – Rev Charles Seet ministering to churches in Batam

Dec – Medical & Dental missions

