



Worship Service: 10am, 160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022
Sunday School: 11.45am, Prayer Meeting: 8pm Wednesday
Pastor Jack Sin at 91160948 and jacksin710@gmail.com
Elder Loke Tat Luen at tlloke822@gmail.com

Bangalore Mission Trip – 9 to 16 December 2019

9 December

Six of us (Rev Jack Sin, Mrs Angelina Sin, Eld Jeffrey Cheong, Mr Yue Kam Weng, Miss Han Kin Kheng and Miss Say Poe) left for Bangalore on 9 Dec on Indigo flight 6E58 at 6am after a 30-minute flight delay at Changi Airport. Nevertheless we reached Bangalore only 10 minutes behind schedule at 7.40am (Bangalore time). The extremely smooth landing by the pilot portended well for the mission team programme for the next 7 days.

We were received by Pastor Babu of New Covenant BP Church India (NCBPCI) at the airport and travelled some 1.5 hours to the Nirjhari Convention Centre where the 6 of us would be staying for the next 3 nights.

After checking in, we had lunch at a restaurant served delicious Indian cuisine before returning to the Centre for a much-needed rest. Pastor Babu hosted us at his home for dinner after which, Rev Sin shared a short devotion from Psalm 73:22 – 28 before we went back to the Centre for the night.

10 December

The first morning began with Rev Sin taking the morning devotion and he shared from Psalm 16:5-11. The 3 points brought up were: Path of Life, Presence of God, and Pleasures Forevermore in Communion with God.

Breakfast was provided at the Centre. However, the guests were expected to wash their own utensils after their meal. After breakfast, we walked to the nearby railway station to take an auto to Elim Pre-School housed at the premises of Covenant BP Church India (CBPCI). We stayed for about 1 hour before proceeding for a sightseeing tour of Bangalore City since 3 of our members had never been to Bangalore.

We managed to visit the old city and its wholesale fruit and vegetable market before proceeding to the British part of the city where we saw the imposing Parliament Building, the centuries-old Bangalore Fort, the red-bricked High Court and the expansive and lush Cubbon Gardens which was a haven of peace and tranquility amidst the crowded and noisy Bangalore City. Our tour guide, Usha, had an encyclopedic knowledge of the history of the city and all of us benefitted much from her.

11 December

Day 3 began with Kam Weng sharing from 1 Samuel 15:17 – 23 who reminded us of the need to obey God completely and not selectively and that obedience to God is better than sacrifice.

The 2-day NCBPCI Family Camp began at 10am at the Nirjhari Convention Centre. Some 40 members from the church attended. Angie began the session by teaching 2 English choruses to the members before Kam Weng conducted a 30-minute warm-up game before Rev Sin delivered the first message "The Spiritual Ingredients of a Happy Marriage" with Pastor Babu interpreting the message into the Kannada language. Rev Sin shared the 4 secrets of a happy marriage: Structural, Sacrificial, Sanctifying, and Satisfying. He also provided the 4 "C" for choosing a life spouse: Conviction in Religion, Character, Communication and Countenance. Many questions were asked and answered during the Q and A time before lunch at 1.30pm.

The afternoon programme only resumed at 4pm where Kam Weng continued with his warm-up game before the participants played some outdoor games before dinner.

We retired for the night after dinner while the participants pursued their own bonding activities.

12 December

Day 4 began with breakfast as our morning devotion originally planned for just the 6 of us was extended to all the family camp participants.

Eld Cheong shared from Psalm 133 on Christian unity. His 3 points were: The Beholding of Christian Unity, The Basis of Christian Unity and The Blessings of Christian Unity.

After the morning devotion, Rev Sin delivered the 2nd message "Building a Covenant Home" with the foundation of: Authority from God and man, Bible teaching, Communication with love and truth, and Devotion to God with Diligence/Discipline.

During the Q and A session, Rev Sin explained that salvation is personal with every child needing to receive Christ himself/herself and accept God's offer of salvation; parents being responsible to lead their children to God; and the need to teach the child the Word of God from young.

Separate adult's and children's programme began this morning at 9.30am. For the children's programme, Angie led the children in a few children's songs before Elder Cheong spoke on Daniel's 3 friends in the fiery furnace followed by a video show of the same event. There was still time for 2 games for the children.

At 11am, both adults and children gathered together for a time of singing and short games before Kam Weng gave a testimony of his salvation.

Before lunch, we had arranged for a group photo taking but preceding this was a surprise birthday celebration organized by the church for an 8-year boy, Pritam.

After lunch, Rev Sin delivered his 3rd and final message on "Foundation of Family Life". He exhorted for the family to fear God with the parents setting the example by reading the bible, lead in family worship and show godly discipline by not watching TV dramas until late at night. He recommended a format for family worship: (1) Song, (2) Scripture, (3) Sharing, (4) Supplication, and (5) Snacks.

Separately, the children's programme continued with Angie teaching a few more children's songs and Elder Cheong sharing from Daniel in the lion's den

supplemented by a video show to reinforce the need to stand fast in the Lord.

The Family Camp concluded at 4pm with Pastor Babu and many of the participants benefitting much from their first-ever family camp and resolving to conduct another camp next year. We thank God that we had an opportunity to participate in their first church camp and enthused them sufficiently to consider another camp next year. This portends well for the spiritual growth of NCBPCI.

Rev Skariah came to fetch us to our new accommodation at Covenant Mission Centre where we would be staying for the next 4 nights. Before retiring for the night, Rev Skariah hosted a dinner fellowship with his family at his home.

We thank God for the hospitality of both Pastor Babu and Rev Skariah despite the extra work for them to minister to our needs.

13 December

Despite the need for us to leave early today for Rev Sin to teach a one-credit course on the Book of Jude at the Maranatha Baptist Bible College, Mrs Skariah prepared and made sure we had some breakfast which we took at 6.30am.

Although we were scheduled to leave at 7am, Rev Mattai only managed to arrive to pick us up close to 8am due to the heavy traffic. He took almost 2 hours to come to our place and we thank God for his dedication and love for the Lord despite his advancing age.

Mrs Mattai prepared a breakfast when we arrived and we had a second breakfast before we proceeded to the Bible College. About 120 students attended the one-credit course although only some 80 students took the quiz at the end of the five and a half-hour course. In addition to the short test, these students have to submit a written assignment when the new term resumes in January for their one-credit.

We had lunch with Rev Mattai and some faculty members between the morning and afternoon lectures. We also took a group photo with the students before heading back by taxi and had dinner with Rev Skariah and his family before retiring for the day.

14 December

Day 6 began with breakfast with the Skariahs before we sang a hymn "Amazing Grace" at the group devotion. Rev Sin then shared from Col 4: 7-18. In these 12 verses, Rev Sin gave us the significance of most of the persons mentioned: Tychicus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Mark, Barnabas, Justus, Epaphras, Luke, Demas, Nympha, Archippus, amongst others.

We managed to do some quick shopping followed by lunch at KFC before Pastor Praveen came to fetch us to conduct the children's programme at Calvary Reformed Church pastored by Pastor Lazarus.

We were pleasantly surprised with the 62 children attending as we had been told to expect only some 50 children at most. Angie led in the children's songs, Elder Cheong with the Nativity story and video, Kam Weng with the tele-match games and Kin Kheng and Say Poe with the craft to make a little angel.

We thank God for the enthusiasm of all the children in listening and paying close attention to the Christmas programme and story. This speaks well of Pastor Lazarus' outreach in the neighbourhood since his ministry is only 3 years old.

Before leaving after some 3 hours, we took a group photo with Pastor Lazarus and the children and were presented with tokens of appreciation.

We took dinner with Pastor Lazarus and his family as well as Pastor Praveen before going back to prepare for the Lord's Day the next morning.

15 December

After another sumptuous breakfast lovingly prepared by Mrs Skariah, we waited for Pastor Babu to bring us to his church NCBPCI for Sunday worship.

The service started at 10.30am and the order of worship is as follows:

Opening prayer by Pastor Babu,
Songs of Praise by the NCBPCI Church Choir,
Scripture Reading by Brother Ashoka,
Sharing and Prayer by Congregation,
Song Item by the Mission Team,
Testimony by Sister Say Poe,
Carol Singing by NCBPCI Children,
Sermon by Rev Jack Sin,
Pastoral Prayer and Benediction by Rev Jack Sin,
Acknowledgments by Pastor Babu.

Rev Sin preached from Neh 4:1-9 and shared 3 principles of church growth, namely A Mind to Work, A Heart to Pray and An Eye to Watch.

We had a quick lunch at the church before proceeding with the afternoon's programme for the NCBPCI children.

Some 46 children attended the various activities, namely, with Angie leading in the children's songs, Elder Cheong sharing the Christmas story with video accompaniment, Kam Weng leading with the tele-match games and Kin Kheng and Say Poe demonstrating the craft of making a little angel.

Again, the enthusiasm of the children was infectious and we thank God for their interest and zeal for the Word of God. After taking a group photo with Pastor Babu and the children, we headed back for a short rest and bought some takeaway pizzas for our dinner.

At about 8pm, Rev Skariah came to fetch us to join his church members in a caroling session. We visited 4 homes of church members singing Christmas carols at each home. Rev Skariah preached at 2 homes from different passages from Luke 1:67-79 while Rev Sin also preached in 2 homes, preaching first from Galatians 4:4-7 and then 1 Timothy 3:16. It was well past midnight before we returned back.

16 December

This would be our final day in Bangalore. After another delicious breakfast prepared by the indefatigable Mrs Skariah, we gathered for another group devotion which began with us singing a hymn "Thanks to God". Elder Cheong then shared from 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 to encourage all of us to rejoice in the faith of Christ and the love for one another shown in those churches for which we have a part to play. We should be more loving and caring and find our true joy when we hear of others standing fast in the Lord.

While the 3 women stayed behind, the 3 men went to OM Bookstore to purchase

cheap but edifying Christian Bibles and books for themselves and as a gift to others during this Christmas season. The afternoon was spent in last minute packing and some cleaning of the apartment before leaving Covenant Mission Centre at 4.45pm for Bangalore Airport.

After checking in and a quick dinner at the airport, we boarded Indigo flight 6E73 at about 9pm and arrived safely at Changi Airport on schedule at 4.30am on Tuesday morning.

Conclusion

The mission team members had a spiritually fruitful and edifying time during our 8 days in Bangalore. Although each day was fully packed with activities, this gave the group members much insight into the life and ministry of pastors and ordinary people living in Bangalore. With only about 2.5% of the Indian population of 1.1 billion being Christians, the harvest is truly plenteous despite the inroads of Hinduism promoted by the present Indian Government. We visited 3 churches and taught at the Maranatha Baptist Bible College during our trip as well as a few homes belonging to members of Covenant BP Church India during our caroling session.

It was particularly edifying to see how God has used both Pastors Babu and Lazarus to build up a community of believers in their respective villages in such a short time. While the work of the gospel continues unabated, we are indeed encouraged that both of them are so dedicated to their calling despite their limited financial means. Although their churches are fairly basic, their faith and hope in the Lord and in particular, the enthusiasm of the children should be an inspiration to all of us who worship in air-conditioned comfort in Singapore. It reminds us of what both James and the Apostle Peter wrote. They tell us that suffering, trials and tribulations are necessary to build up our faith in Christ. After the visit, we can appreciate a bit better of how the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. It is a pity that our tight schedule did not allow us to worship at Covenant BP Church India on the Lord's Day nor conduct a children's programme there. Rev Skariah was prepared to sacrifice the interest of his own church for the sake of us ministering at the newer churches in Bangalore. We thank the Lord for his spirit of esteeming other churches more than his own.

In conclusion, we thank God for enabling the 6 of us to visit Bangalore for 8 days to see and better appreciate the work of the gospel in that country. We believe that we have received far more in spiritual blessings and insight than what we so modestly gave. Truly, the Lord is good to us for during our 8 days there and the change in weather, none of us fell so sick that we could not continue with our respective duties. The Lord also preserved all our outgoing and incoming without a single accident or mishap. To Him be all the glory both now and forevermore.

Eld Jeffrey Cheong
Gospel Light BPC



The baptism of Anthony and Cindy, the first in SHBPC



Many new friends came and heard the gospel



Thank God for 50 people who attended the service



Sister Lily and Sulin giving a praise item

1 John 5:12 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Announcements

1. Rev Jack Sin speaks next Sunday on “Heavenly Instructions for Victory in Battle” (Joshua 1:1-18)
2. Watchnight Service will be on 31 Dec at 8pm. Flyers are available at the counter for you to invite someone. Rev Jack Sin will speak on “Sober Spiritual Reflection” (Psalm 139)
3. Prayer meeting continues on this Wed at 8pm in church.