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The Peril of Cult & the Occult in Aotearoa and Evangelism

Thank God that our 6 weeks of travels in New Zealand have brought us into contact with different people in this lovely country of Aotearoa. We were discussing with some Christian brethren after one of the worship services of the perils of false teachings in cults that are present in NZ after seeing some of them. Two of them are particularly significant, namely the **Mormons** and the **Jehovah Witnesses (JWs)**. The **Freemasons** also have an established presence. We saw a **Christian Science centre** and the practice of the occult is prevalent too. (The cult book by us is available from book stores in Singapore.)

We encountered the JWs too when we were in Seattle last May. We reached out to two of them with the Word of God after listening to them first for 20 mins. One serious error of the JWs has to do with eschatology. They have made false predictions about the second coming of Christ and failed miserably one after another before they finally settled that Christ have already come invisibly in 1975. This is contrary to the biblical

teaching of Acts 1:9-11 where Christ rose visibly and will return in the same manner. The other false teaching concerns the deity of Christ and the Trinity among others which is also the same for the Mormons. They deny that Jesus is fully God and they undermine the biblical doctrine of the Trinity. We shared with them the following verses and they have problems understanding them in their fallacious belief system: 1Tim3:16, Jn 20:28 and Isa 9:6 and 2Cor 13:14.



In the last days, cults and the occult will abound in deception as warned by our Lord in Matt 24 and we need to be discerning and vigilant as some see nothing wrong with tarot cards, witchcraft (which we saw in some markets here), spells, incantation and yoga and necromancy and even geomancy which was strongly condemned by God in Deut 18 and Lev 19. May the Lord give us wisdom and preserve us from doctrinal errors and deception in these last days of spiritual declension.

Biblical Evangelism

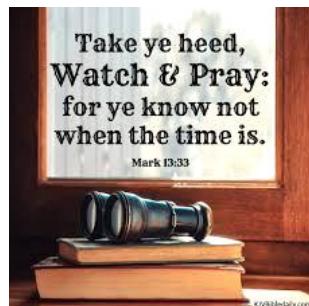


Being on the move provided us with many opportunities to reach out. At a Te Anau dairy after our Milford Sound excursion and while waiting for our dinner, we met DJ, a 12-year-old boy in a local school enjoying his ice-cream and gave him a tract. He was quite receptive to the gospel and said his father used to attend church but not anymore. He read the tract we gave him with interest, and we recommended a local Presbyterian church that he can attend.

Another was the owner of the dairy Andy from Fuzhou, Fujian province who migrated to Te Anau about 10 years ago and started a Chinese restaurant here. We ordered fried rice and chicken wings and gave him a Chinese tract. At a supermarket entrance, we smiled at two Asian faces who turned out to be Indonesian girls from Bali on work pass as F&B staff. They were excited when we spoke in Bahasa Indonesian with them.



Do pray for that gospel outreach here in NZ and Bible distribution. We have given out a few Gideon New Testaments and more than two dozen of our church gospel tracts. We pray that it will fall on good soil. A China owner of a new shop selling meat for BBQ and Hotpots asked good questions on how he can be sure that we are going to heaven when he was given a tract and we returned to his shop with a Chinese New Testament for his reading and answered his questions with the Word of God.



Pray for the salvation of Mr Lam from Guangzhou as we witness to him and Ivy from Harbin as Angie witnessed to her and gave her a gospel tract. Pray for auntie Cecilia that she will be receptive to the Gospel, and we prayed with her and gave her a devotional to read each day. **Let us be given to intentional walking and not aimless wandering and deepen relationships by purposeful interaction.**



God can work in the hearts of both young and old when we sow the gospel seed according to His will, leaving the results to Him. Rom1:14-16

Trinitarian Bible Society & Missions

As we came to the close of our sabbatical travels, we thank God for the lunch fellowship at the home of the Chairman of the Trinitarian Bible Society (NZ), Berand and Ida Boer from the Netherlands. Their daughter-in-law, Amie also works for TBS

as a staff in distributing Bibles to the schools, prisons and churches and any who want requests. They are doing a good work for the Lord, and we connected them to Emmanuel Church (Rev David Yan) which they will be visiting this Sunday. We were also Invited to Tyndale Park Christian School where both Ida and Amie are teaching and we met one of the teachers Mr Yit (who was from Galilee BPC in Singapore), a math teacher and he was pleasantly surprised to meet us among other students and friends.

On 2 Dec, we were invited by Dn Suhendra and Fifi of Emmanuel Church for an early Christmas dinner with Indra who is burdened to be an OMF missionary to Myanmar and was thus invited as our hosts know that we have been ministering in Myanmar for more than a decade. We shared the Word from Mal 3 and prayed for the family.



Conclusion

Let us remember to witness for the Lord and to uphold those involved in missions with us. Pray for wisdom and protection for our missions in Myanmar, India, Batam and country X as the gospel ministry goes on faithfully despite the persecution there in the two countries by the will of God. The Lord is our sure Refuge and Strength in times of need. Psa 46:1

Jack and Angie

Church Prayer Meeting 3 Dec 2025

“The Breath Behind Our Prayers”

(How the Holy Spirit draws us to God before, during, after and throughout our prayers.)

- Devotion by Elder Tan Yue Kay-



1) The Spirit's Work Before Prayer:

- The Spirit renews us in mind and heart to pray in spirit and in truth.
- The Spirit reminds us of certain crucial things that motivate us to pray.
- The Spirit reassures us that we sinners have access to the throne of all mercy.
- The Spirit stirs us to pray.

(Titus 3:5 / John 14:26 / John 16:23-27)

2) The Spirit's Work During Prayer

- The Spirit prays in us.
- The Spirit prays alongside our praying, interceding for us.

(Romans 8:15 / Galatians 4:6 / Revelation 22:17 / Romans 8:26)

3) The Spirit's Work After Prayer

- The Spirit makes the prayers we lift in Jesus' name effective unto the glory of God the Father in the world.
- The Spirit is received as the ultimate and best gift in response to prayer.

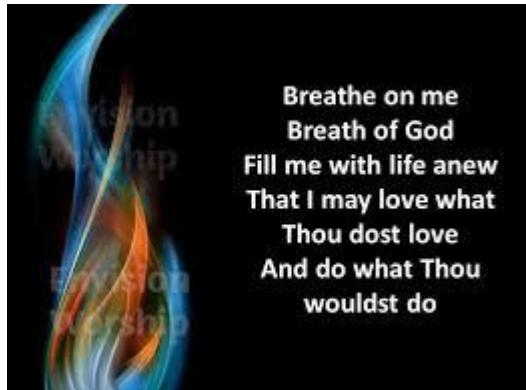
(Philippians 1:19 / Luke 11:13)

4) The Spirit's Work Throughout Prayer

The Spirit's role in prayer is not just as one who is active for, in and by prayer. He is also and especially the one, the God, to whom we pray.

This might be taken to mean we can address our prayers to the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 2:18 ~ "For through Christ we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father "



Pray for the Lord's Work through Gospel Peace Station....

Thank God for His grace and mercy for 2 souls saved at GPS on 29 Nov. 3 new visitors who were with the Park exercise group came over for lunch and coffee - 2 from Chongqing, one from Xi'an. One from Xi'an (auntie KL) accepted Christ after lunch. One from Chongqing (auntie SP) forgot to bring one if her bag and came back after all else left and accepted Christ. They will be followed up by Eternal Life Baptist Church Chinese congregation. Pray for their new life in Christ. 



Pray specially for the Christmas Outreach on Sat 13 Dec with an expected high turnout. Pray for the setting up. Pray the lift will not breakdown like the last time, for the "right" people to come as it's open door for all, for the sharing of the gospel through the Word, songs, and testimonies.

Joseph & Rachel

Dear Jack and Angie,

Your visit to Emmanuel Church has refreshed me. Thank you for your ministry in Emmanuel Church and elsewhere in NZ. May the Lord continue to use you for His Glory.

Rev David Yan

Emmanuel Church, Auckland



Praise the Lord and thank you for the wonderful scenes of God's creation of Mt. Cook and Lake Tekapo, South Island of NZ. We rejoice with you and Angie that you are able to observe the beauties of God's handiwork and to witness the evidence of His creation and design.

We have noted the prayer requests you have shared.

Thank you for the 5Ps of our Lord's provision of comfort and strength to His people in any trial or affliction.

May God continue to bless and keep you both as you travel and minister in the Reformed church of Queenstown.

Rev & Mrs Edward Paauwe, Adelaide

Dear Pastor Jack,

Thanks for your regular updates on your NZ journey through both north and south islands. I have been following very closely on your travels.

We were there with another family when our kids were young. We can recall very fondly most of the places you mentioned because we hired a 10-seater van and booked Airbnb along the way. We spent 21days there.

We like NZ a lot.

May God be with you and Angie as you take a well-deserved sabbatical in this 'heaven' on earth place.

May He watch over you giving you safety, good health, energy and alertness throughout.

In Christ we depend on,

Eld Gary Tay

For Personal Reflections....

As we approach Christmas and remember soberly the incarnation of Christ, spend the last 24 days of the year doing the spiritual exercises of **5Rs** below.

1. **Read the Word** of God (especially the gospel of luke) carefully each day.
2. **Rehearse the lessons** learnt meditatively and memorise a verse a day if possible .
3. **Reflect upon the application** of the Word of God in our lives prayerfully and practice it in your life .
4. **Renew your vision** and strength in the Lord thoughtfully and share it with others and impact souls for Christ .
5. **Resolve to live for Christ** our New Born King till He comes again and it will be imminent and soon.

May the Lord be gracious to **Revive our souls and minds** as we examine our hearts and seek to live for the Lord and not self in these momentous times as we end the year soon in the fear of God.

Prov 9:10 and Psa 90:12

Pastor Jack

Memory Verse

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Those who share the church vision to acquire a place of worship in due time, may designate your offerings to the SHBPC Church Building Fund.
2. Pastor brings us God's Word this morning on "***Launch of the First Missionary Journey (Acts 13:1-26)***", continuing the quarterly series on "***Understanding Church Growth from the Early Church (Book of Acts)***".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor Jack will preach on "***The Proper Execution of Decision-Making in the Church (Acts 15:1-29)***".
4. Sunday School classes after the worship service are:
 - Walk Thru the Old Testament (Pastor)
 - Studies in Job (Dr Kwong Leen)
 - Youth Class (Eld Yue Kay)
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178].
6. **Christmas Outreach at All Saints Home (Hougang)** will be held on **Sat 20 Dec 2025 at 3pm**. Register with Eld Yue Kay by 13 Dec.
7. **Christmas Carolling** at the home of **Jonathan Chan** (son of Joseph & Lilian Chan) on **Sat 20 Dec at 6pm**. Register with Eld Yue Kay by 13 Dec.
8. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551].
9. Pray for:
 - **Travels: Justin & Family** (Penang 7-25/12), **Chan Ping** (Viet 8 -13/12), **Eld YK & JohnW** (India 11- 15/12), **Albert & Janet** (Vietnam 15- 20/12), **Joseph & Rachel** (Taiwan: 20/12 to 20/01), **Dn Paul** (Taiwan 27/12 to 4 /01).
 - **Geok Pin's family** [health and spiritual growth of father Mr Low and salvation of family members], **Agnes' Parents** [health & salvation], **Mrs Philip Heng** [stroke recovery]
 - **Joseph & Rachel:** GPS Christmas Outreach on Sat 13 Dec.
 - **Dec Mission Team**
10. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - **Cheque payable to Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church** and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - **Fund transfer** to Church **UOB Account 392-308-825-1**
 - **PayNow** to Church UEN: **T19SS0116FSOV**

Kindly indicate "**Church Building Fund**" if you would like to designate towards this cause.