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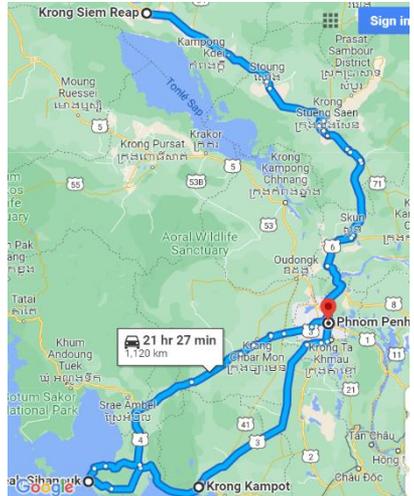
From Killing Fields to Harvest Fields

A Mission & Vision Trip to Cambodia (Jul 18- 28, 2022)

Acts 20:24 "But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."

Whenever we think of Kampuchea or Cambodia, we almost invariably remember the grotesque killing fields under the Khmer Rouge Pol Pot regime from 1978-79 when almost 2 million were cruelly massacred and now remembered at the local museum. But today, it has become a wide harvest field of souls for Christ by the will of God.

Cambodia has 17 million people on an area of about 250 times the size of Singapore and is predominantly a Buddhist country but there are about 2% to 3% Christians and growing over the years by the grace of God.



By God's higher hands, a mission team of four namely, Angie, Amber, Esther and Pastor were in Cambodia from 18 to 28 July. Angie and Pastor had been there twice before to preach and teach the Word of God. This was Amber and Esther's first trip. This mission trip covered 4 locations to minister to the churches, youths, children, schools and a Christian university as well. We met many of Pastor's former Bible College students who graduated and started churches not only in Phnom Penh, Kampot, Siem Reap and

Sihanoukville and other parts of the country too. Though it was an exacting and tiring trip, we thank God for His preservation in good health and strength. Pastor taught 7 times in 2 churches and to the student body and theology class of Life University. The ladies conducted Sunday school lessons, children programmes at 4

churches/schools both in the city and the countryside. The team brought some 70 kg of Christian books, gifts and goodie bags, stationeries, soft toys and neck ties, some of the books translated into Khmer, our latest pandemic book and some Chinese books and materials. These were freely given to Pastors and leaders of various churches and other practical gifts for young and old, and prizes for quizzes as we sought to deepen the knowledge of the Word in our Cambodian counterparts.

Ministry @Sihanoukville

We first travelled to Kompong Som or Preah Sihanouk, a coastal city 227km south of Phnom Penh, with a population of about 100,000 people fronting the Gulf of Thailand with a bustling economic life.

On the night of arrival, we had a blessed time with about 20 local Pastors where Pastor led in the study on the book of Isaiah and his calling by the Lord at a seminar organised by Pastor Kannarith in his church located at the outskirts of the town. The presentation slides were already translated into Khmer by Pastor



Pastor Kannarith and the message interpreter was Bro Samphos, a lecturer from Life University (Sihanoukville) and a graduate of ERBC (Singapore).



The next morning, we went to Life University where Pastor shared Psa 37 (interpreted by the Chaplain, Bro Sambath) to about 200 students who attended the morning chapel. Life University was started by Rev Dr David Koo about 20 years ago. Another 40



theology students and faculty of the Theology Department attended the lecture on the "*Repercussions and Relevance of the 16th Reformation Movement*" by Pastor. The presentation slides were ably translated into Khmer by Dr Sru Chivan, Head of the Department of Theology and



an FEBC graduate. We also met our former FEBC graduates Sonida, Ponereay, John Saray, An Sitha and others. It is encouraging to see them serving the Lord.

In the evening, the ladies of our team taught English and Chinese in Bible songs and lesson to about 40 children at the Grace Christian Church Tuition Ministry.

We thank God for opening this opportunity to share the gospel with the children in the town of Sihanoukville.

Ministry @Kampot

On the 4th day of our trip, we left early in the morning for the beautiful town of Kampot located about 100 km east of Sihanoukville. It was a



treacherous road of huge potholes for 2 hours and we thank God for the safety despite a difficult drive.

We had a blessed ministry at Stronghold Cambodia, a Kampot children ministry with before and after school care led by Pastor Phan Narit. Stronghold Cambodia is a Christian NGO reaching out to children on Fish Island (a poor community of fishermen and farmers) by providing a Christian environment with daily morning devotions, Bible songs, English and computer classes, and a mid-day meal to the children. The mission team ministered to more than 50 of 9th to 12th graders with Bible songs and the gospel of Christ, peradventure some may be saved. A love gift was given for them to buy 3 months' supply of rice, Khmer Bibles and gospel tracts for the children and for evangelism as there is much to be done there. The children were also blessed with toys, snacks and stationery that the team brought. May the Word of Life fall on good soil and bear forth good fruit.

Ministry @Phnom Penh, Angkrang Faith Church

We returned to Phnom Penh and Pastor conducted a fruitful Pastors Seminar on Friday, 22 Jul where 60 Pastors and church leaders attended. The topic was "The Vital Ingredients of a Growing Church" with Pastor Paul Sokha being the able Khmer



interpreter. It was heartening to meet the local leaders from different churches including Bro Bun Phanna, a FEBC graduate and the Director of Education of the Lutheran church.

The Youth Fellowship was held on Saturday night attended by 32 youths, including Bro Vanarith. After a simple dinner fellowship of Cambodian chicken curry and



French baguette, Pastor served the spiritual food on “Elijah and the Lessons from his Challenge at Mt Carmel.” Thank God for a group of zealous youths who are growing in the Word and Will of God.

It was an early start on Sunday morning as the ladies conducted the Sun Sch at 7.30am to 25 children who arrived in Tuk Tuk from the neighbouring villages. Amber led the children in the spirited singing of “Praise Ye the Lord” and “I’ve got the Joy down in my Heart”. Angie taught the Bible lesson on the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders and the children were challenged to know and seek Christ and build their lives upon God’s Word. Esther did a simple craft with the children to remind them to seek Jesus.



The morning worship service was well attended by about 100 worshippers as Pastor shared the Word on “A Life Changing Encounter with God” interpreted by Pastor Paul, followed by a good testimony by Amber on her salvation.



While in Phnom Penh, we also visited a local Chinese church and had fellowship with the Pastor and Preacher. We also met Bro Peter who is the director of admission for the Chinese department in a local university and is a zealous Christian for the Lord.

Ministry at Siem Reap

The final leg of the mission trip was to Siem Reap, a 6.5-hours road travel from Phnom Penh. Siem Reap is a notable historic city 318km north of Phnom Penh of about 1million residents. It was formerly under Thailand and then returned to the French in 1906 when a treaty was signed and is well known for its UNESCO site of the ancient Angkor Wat dating back to the 9th to 15th century when many wars were fought, and historic edifices built and preserved till today.



We met Pastor Timothy Tieng Chanthon, Pastor of First Bible Presbyterian church of Siam Reap, serving together with his wife, Sieng Lai and other coworkers. This is the only BP church here and we pray for more reformed churches to be set up here. Pastor Tieng has studied at Life University (Sihanoukville) and Evangel Reformed Seminary in KL (under Rev Dr Lim Yew Cheng of Evangel BPC, Petaling Jaya) and has read our books and heard our sermons. He has a group of churches and a Christian School here under his pastoral care. The team presented him some books and materials, with some are in Khmer that he can use for his ministry.

The mission team taught about 20 1st graders at the Dream Christian School



(Agape Ministry) in the morning with a Bible lesson by Angie and songs by Amber and Esther. The school has 80 children with daily morning devotion. We pray that these children will be saved by the will of God as they go through the doors of this Christian school.

In the afternoon, Pastor Tieng drove the team more than 60km to Kompong Kdei where there is a village school building built left behind by an Australian NGO after the pandemic and Pastor Tieng and his team accepted the call to take over the work. Pastor Jack preached to the elderly villagers from Psalm 37 and upon special request prayed for a widow, an Elder,



and a local Pastor Heng Van to whom Pastor also shared Ezra 7:10 (his life verse) to encourage him.

Concurrently, the mission team ladies conducted two classes for 19 children where they learnt a Bible Lesson and Gospel songs like “Jesus died on the Cross for You and Me” and attempted



Cambodian and Chinese versions of “Praise Ye the Lord”. Angie also shared on how the Lord convicted her heart that she was a sinner and needed a Savior at a Sunday School class when she was 10 years old. A little practical gift was also given to the children as an expression of our love in Christ.

That night, we drove that 60km back to Siem Reap in heavy rain and dark roads. Thank God for journeying mercies as visibility was bad and treacherous, but the Lord preserved us by His mercy.

Do uphold the ministry here and the pastoral couple in much prayers as they served the Lord there and seek to establish more reformed churches and souls saved here in Siem Reap by the will of God in due time.

Conclusion

The missions in Cambodia are in dire need of more teachers who can teach English, Chinese and the Bible as more foreigners and the Chinese people settle here over the years. Ability to communicate in English and Chinese are getting popular among the local Khmer due to commerce and growing economic progress after the pandemic.

There is much to be done for the kingdom of God in these last days as we share Christ to different cultures and countries where the Lord leads. (Acts 1:8)

It is our prayer that the Word of Life shared during these 11 days of the mission trip will not return to God void but that it may bear lasting fruit in the hearts of men and churches to their revival and the awakening of souls. You never know what a mustard seed of truth can do in the hearts with the Holy Spirit working in them.

Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Mt 28:18-20 and Acts 26:18

SHBPC Cambodia Mission Team

- Pastor Jack, Angie, Amber, Esther.



Greetings from the Brethren in Cambodia

Thanks a lot, Dr Jack and team. Thank you for spending your time, efforts, funds and teaching to our Sunday School kids, youths, congregation and local pastors. We are truly blessed and encouraged through your teaching, testimony and wonderful fellowship indeed.

May the Lord continue to bless and use you all as great channel of blessings to people around the globe.

Have a and safety and fruitful ministry in Siem Reap too.



Prayers for you all. Hope we can meet and receive more training from you again soon in His time and will,

*Pastor Paul Sokha, NamSoon, Jemima, Daniel
Faith Krang Angkrang Church, Phnom Penh
25 July 2022*

Thank you for your preaching at my church. I remembered about dancing in the church, and some church accept dancing because they use the reference from King David. It has been my doubt for a long time and right now after your message, I knew the answer that king David danced outside the church (in the streets of Jerusalem).

Your mission is done a good job for God in my country as sharing gospel, preaching at many churches and encourage many local church leaders as well.

*Eld Sim Khorn
Angkrang Faith Church, Phnom Penh*

It has been great going through the sermon. it is quite a need for me as many young people start their marriage. Listening to your Sunday message is a great practical blessing to me and my family.



Thank the Lord for a great needed ministry you are serving. May the Lord continue to bless this ministry for His kingdom. Amen!

*Bro Vanarith
Phnom Penh, Cambodia*

Memory Verse

1 Pet 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Gospel Sunday Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Pastor speaks this morning on “**Christian Apologetics in Practice (1 Pet 3:10-15)**”, the quarterly series on **Godly Counsel for Pilgrims and Strangers (studies in 1Peter)**.
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “**Keeping a Good Conscience (1 Pet 3:16-22)**”.
4. Sunday School classes continues after worship service:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith – Pastor
 - Studies in Deuteronomy – Dn Kwong Leen
5. **Church Family Day** will be held on **9 Aug (Tues)** for a morning walk at the newly opened **Rail Corridor**. Meet at **King Albert Park MRT Exit A at 8.30 am**. All, including your families are invited to attend. Kindly contact Paul Tan (hp: 9731-4733) to register.
6. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a study on Church History in China on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
7. 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.
8. Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on **Fri 2 Sep 2022, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
9. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
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**
