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On a Mission Path to the Old Burma



2Tim 2:2 *And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*

MYANMAR

By the sovereign hand of God, 4 of us comprising Kin Kheng, Phaw, Angie and Pastor went on a mission trip to Myanmar from 2- 7Oct 2023 for the teaching of Church History II which is part of the Masters in Ministry program at the Myanmar Theological Seminary. We brought with us 120 kg of books, materials, stationery, clothes, vitamins and goodies besides others for the Bible colleges and children's home there. Rev Salai and John Ling were there to receive us at the airport.

Myanmar has a population of 54 million people but only 6% or so have come to faith in Christ with many more in the different tribes who have yet to hear the gospel. SHBPC has been involved in missions here since our inception and will continue to reach out to the churches and Bible colleges here as the Lord leads.



Lectures at Myanmar Theological Seminary (Venue: Hosanna Bible College)



We thank God for the strength and wisdom as Pastor taught about 30 hours course of the MMin program on the important events and lessons from the Reformation and Modern Era church history, a 3-credit hour course that required 7 teaching hours each day.

The 10 students had daily quizzes, a final exam on the last day and are required to write an assignment and complete a reading log as part of the course.



One of the pastors had to travel on a bus for about 20 hours to attend the course. Preacher Myitta, who attends our church weekly prayer meeting, also attended the course to upgrade himself.

These Myanmar pastors/preachers were given stationeries that included a useful 4-colored pen for marking their Bibles. On the last day, they were presented with stationery sets to encourage them to continue the learning journey in God's Word.



Some of them were delighted to receive a full suit that they can wear to preach. These were all donated by brethren in Singapore. Though the suits may not be an exact fit, yet they still wanted them and were very grateful to receive the suits. The coat is expensive there and many of them cannot afford to buy or tailor one for themselves. Thank God for all who were kind enough to have given to these Pastors and Preachers for their ministry.

The MMin course this time was held at Hosanna Bible College which was founded by Rev Timothy Khobal 12 years ago for the equipping of preachers and workers for the wide harvest field of Myanmar. They currently have 26



male and female students doing the Bachelor of Theology. Angie and the team taught the BTh students a few English Gospel songs. The students were so happy to receive snacks, goodie bags and donated clothes/bags/hats. Most of the students come from the Chin tribe with difficult financial circumstances and so these gestures of love in Christ brought much blessings and encouragement to their hearts.



The mission team noted that the students at college had on consecutive days only a vegetable dish, a simple soup, pounded chillies and rice for their meals. A team member was moved to buy 5 roast chickens as a special dish on the last night that we were there.

A love gift of \$500 was also presented to the principal Rev Solomon for to buy rice, cooking oil and eggs and meat for about a month's supply.

Rev Solomon was thankful for the SHBPC published pandemic book and other books donated by Fide Vitae for their college library. He will first read them and then put them in the library for his students to read.



Gilead Balm Home (GBH) and Biblical Institute of Theology (BIT)



Gilead Balm Home is the ministry of Elder Habakkuk to provide a Christian home for orphans or children from dire family circumstances. Most of the children are from the Chin state who needed education and nurturing care. Many of them have heard the Gospel and came to saving faith in

Christ. Currently, there are 13 children with Eld Habakkuk, Biak (his wife) and Esther (Biak's sister) taking care of the Home.

The mission team spent an evening at GBH to share God's Word, pray and reach out to the children. Many have grown to be youths embarking on their next phase of life in vocational training. The Home has also taken in additional children aged 5 to 8 who could hardly read and write. One of the usual highlights of the visit was opening the luggage and distributing the clothes and other items we brought, much to the excitement of children and adults.



We also brought vitamins for the children, youths and adults, goody bags and stationery for all. A youth was recently robbed of her mobile phone on the way to work. We brought 2 used mobile phones which are in good working condition, and they were received with much joy and appreciation. We concluded the night with a delectable and much

anticipated KFC takeaway meal sponsored by a brother in Singapore.

On 6 Oct Friday morning, Pastor taught a short course on the Precepts of Revival at Biblical Institute of Theology where 28 BTh students attended the course. Books for the library were given to the principal, Rev Thwang Neil Bil.



Simple goody bags of snacks and stationery were also given to all the students.

Fellowship with Brethren

Despite having a tight teaching and ministry schedule, we thank God for opportunities to meet and fellowship with many brethren that we have known all these years.

This included Rev Salai and his family, Rev John Ling and his family and brethren of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church. It was also lovely to meet Benjamin and his family and understand the demands of his ministry and family commitments.



We met Myitta in person for the first time who has been faithfully attending our Wed night prayer meetings. He bought 2 sacks of rice (total of 52kg) with part of the love gift and distributed them to his church members. We also brought stationery, vitamins and snacks to encourage these young families.



Though we were unable to travel to Nay Pyi Taw to visit preacher Lapuii and her husband Sya Soe, we remitted love gifts for the Mercy Church Widows Ministry and her caesarean operation on 21 Oct. We also managed to send a little bag of Singapore goodies to her family.



On the final night of the trip, we were invited by the leaders of the Reformed Fellowship of Myanmar for a dinner fellowship where we had a better understanding of the challenges facing Christians and the churches in Myanmar.

Conclusion

We thank God for journeying mercies, protection and safety in a highly uncertain and volatile environment as things can change very quickly according to Rev David Khobal, the Principal of Biblical Reformed Seminary and Myanmar Theological Seminary who was our host and he also sent us to the airport on the final day.



In some sense, we took a calculated risk in going to Myanmar but fully assured that it was the will of God. The Lord has been our faithful Guide, our Fortress and the Rock of our salvation throughout this whole journey for which we are thankful.

Psa 121:7,8 The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

Jack &
Angie Sin.



Memory Verse

Acts 20:7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Lord's Day Sunday 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 ***The Body of Christ & the Sacraments (1Cor 11:23-30, Acts 2:39-41)***", a new quarterly series on "***The Nature and Duties of the Body of Christ***".
3. Next Sunday, Pastor will preach on "***The Body of Christ & Stewardship (Matt 25:14-30)***".
4. Sunday School classes after the worship service are as follows:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith - Pastor
 - Studies in 2 Chronicles - Dr Kwong Leen
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Kingdoms, Covenants and Canon of the Old Testament and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode:625551]
6. Pray for the **India Mission Team (Pastor, Angie, Dn Paul Tan, Eld Jeffrey, Sis Peng Ha)** as they minister at New Covenant BPCI (Ps Babu) and Calvary Reformed Church (Ps Lazarus) in **Bangalore** and CALM Church (Ps John Caleb) in **Hyderabad** from **31 Oct to 11 Nov 2023**.
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. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode:218178]
8. We need willing hands and hearts to assist in the weekly cleaning of the premises. Do let Dn Yue Kay if you are available to serve in this area.
9. 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.
