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ISSUE 108 / OCTOBER / 2022

MSI Bulletin

A CALL TO CHRISTIAN PROFESSIONALS

Your Life is the Message

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WHEN GOD SHAKES THE WORLD by Fay H

I have now been with MSI for 8 years, 5 of those in the field, 1 on home assignment and 3 in an interesting situation brought about by a world-wide pandemic. No one country, nor people has been unaffected. Every plan impacted, every guarantee and security tried and found wanting, every thought and inclination tested and revealed.

Through it all, the God who shakes all things is YHWH Tzeva'ot (LORD of Hosts).

Humanly speaking, I long for some semblance of previous "normality", yet He invites me to establish my new normal in Him. While I have grieved for what is "lost" (and He allows me to do that), He invites me to run with Him in

what He is doing NOW. What He is doing now is not what has done in the past. I can choose to linger in the past, and waste all He has given me, or I can choose to go with Him into new horizons. My work for the last 3 years has been unorthodox, difficult to quantify, and not on the frontline. Yet I have seen His beautiful outworking – with local brothers and sisters stepping up strongly and effectively, with results that come not out of the will of men and women, but by the power of His Spirit. It was, is, and continues to be, a challenging time.

I encourage you to take heed, for what is the shaking of all things, if not as a megaphone to gain your attention? What is it that we should heed? Is it not to Him and His words? To have no greater love than love for our Saviour Jesus Christ, to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God. ■



ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER by Joy T

Since 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the way we have always served. In the past, we invited overseas experts to come to the mainland to teach. Now, due to pandemic restrictions, experts cannot enter the country. We have to "seek" internal resources. "Seeking" may not be the correct word, it should be God "gifting" these resources to us.

In July 2020, a retired pastor with her team miraculously joined the rehabilitation centre programme. They developed a painting course for parents and children. In the past two years, 5 sessions were held, 8 classes in each session, each attended by 30 families. It brought lots of laughter to children, parents, and therapists.

At the end of 2020, a local sister invited us for an exhibition to be held next year. Our team prepared for nearly a year. In November 2021, a joint art exhibition was held for special children from 6 different institutions. A total of 110 paintings were exhibited. During the three and a half day exhibition, 187 people visited, in addition to participating families and staff. 74 paintings were sold. Throughout the process, parents saw society's support and value for their children, as well as hope.

Utilising local resources complements MSI's weaknesses: by properly interpreting policies and integrating into society, our professional services are able to assimilate, become more deeply rooted and able to flourish. ■

1. Give thanks for the Lord's abiding mercies and grace.

2. May we have the wisdom to work with local officials and partners.

3. May more workers be willing to come and serve together e.g. social workers, rehabilitation and palliative care professionals, etc.

4. May the team keep growing by the Lord's mercies and grace.



Nursing training



Spiritual Wellness Activity - Drawing Lessons



Recruiting local nurses to take care of the elderly

CROWN MINISTRY by Annie Y

Starting from March this year, we have been collaborating with a local seniors' centre. According to their needs, we have been helping to improve the quality of their staff service and management. This senior centre was started by a like-minded fellowship. The original intention was to provide end-of-life care services. Now, it focuses on general services for the elderly who are frail and whose families have difficulty caring for them.

The leaders and staff of the nursing home are all like-minded, so we work hand-in-hand with their fellowship to serve the elderly. Originally, there were no medical staff in the nursing home. We encouraged the centre to hire local nurses and community workers to better provide care for the elderly in the home. In addition, we purchase services from local non-profit organisations to provide care for the elderly. They regularly go to the centre to interact with the elderly and offer spiritual care.

In the future, we plan to invite partners from Sichuan province, including counselling psychologists and teams who can lead games and activities, to train centre leaders and co-workers. We will look for like-minded co-workers in big cities to be their helpers.

It is great to have the opportunity to expand our definition about what teams are, and allow more like-minded fellowships to join us in holistic service. ■

LOVING TOGETHER by Karen P

Summer activities for college students were successfully held in mid-July with "Loving Together" as the theme.

On July 13, MSI staff and volunteers participated in our team briefing. Some of us were meeting for the first time so we got to know each other through ice-breakers before preparing for the event. Although there were challenges during this period, thanks to His grace, everyone helped each other, and difficulties were easily resolved!

I am grateful for the wonderful volunteers we had. Three of them are from the participants' hometown so they can continue to follow them up in the future. One is the son of

a co-worker. Although he is young, he is matured in thinking and has very "positive" values. He has exerted a good influence on his peers. Another is a sister from Hong Kong, a retiree, who lives in the city. She not only cares about the students but also helped other volunteers. The remaining volunteer is a local partner. Although he was the last to join the team, he is serious and careful in his work and is willing to take up responsibility. The team had the opportunity to live out the theme!

Many students come from broken families and long for the warmth and true love of home. Here are some of their responses:

- For 4 days and 3 nights, I fell in love with this event. I could not bear to be separated from everyone. It seemed that we were one family.
- My greatest benefit is to feel the warmth of home; your dedication was clearly seen.
- The event brought me long-lost happiness...I felt tenderness and love, ... the knots that had been in my heart for a long time were untied and I am full of hope for the future.
- These 4 days gave me a feeling of breaking free from hardships and trivialities, like giving my mind a vacation and a recharge.

It is not easy to return to real life after a vacation. Please remember us in your prayers that we can continue to journey with and care for these students. We hope that one day they can "return home"! ■

