

Sri Lanka

Propagation in Jaffna

The Lord began moving in Jaffna in the beginning of this year. At that time there was still much hindrance outwardly, and we could not even get out of the car as we visited the University of Jaffna. While in the car, we prayed in one accord that the Lord would gain some age-turning young people on this campus. Over the past months we saw the Lord's answer to our prayer through the migration of the saints and the coordination of overseas saints.

In mid-July, two brothers came from Taiwan to strengthen our labor on campus. We contacted the students and invited them to read the Bible with us in the homes. We also used the Mystery of Human Life to preach the gospel to them. Four students got baptized within the first week. All of them came from either Catholic, Hindu, or Buddhist background, yet they were willing to obey the truth once they heard the pure word of the Bible. As soon as a student read about baptism in Mark 16, he asked, "Can I get baptized now?" and joyfully received the Lord and was baptized.

The saints also preached the gospel in the communities aggressively. We first contacted the unsaved family members and friends of the saints. Many of them came from different religious backgrounds, and our hope was to unveil the economy of God to them through the word of the truth and to lead them to salvation. On the other hand, we also visited the new believers in their homes and shepherded them with "HWMR - Nourishment for New Believers" and encouraged them to open their homes for campus work. So far we have established regular home meetings in three homes.

During the time of the gospel move both on campus and in the communities from July to August, 14 new ones were baptized and 4 households were gained. Through the saints' continual shepherding, these new believers were solidified and gradually grew in life. The college new ones even took the initiative to invite their classmates to the saints' homes or to attend blending activities. In this way more students got to know the Bible, call on the Lord and pray and eventually receive the salvation. Many new ones in the communities enjoyed the supply in the home meetings and became willing to open their homes to the saints. What a joy!

Even though there were also times when we could not get a hold of the new ones due to opposition from their family members or the unexpected holidays mandated by each school independently, we exercised faith to pray for them all the more desperately and

recovered some of them gradually. Thank the Lord that we were able to enter into such work of faith and labor of love and endurance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Church in Colombo

The brothers fellowshiped about the need to strengthen the testimony in the capital city last year and thus made the plan for a two-week intensified propagation in September of this year. During this time of propagation, all the participating saints were required to stay in the meeting hall to practice the corporate God-man living. The saints had corporate morning revival early in the morning. After breakfast all would get into the Book of Acts as well as clean the meeting hall together. We would then go out to visit and contact people after the corporate prayer time in the afternoon. The saints were willing to be united with one another and be perfected. As a result, our propagation this time was full of impact with a sweet coordination.

The ones that we focused our labor on could be divided into 3 categories: seeking ones for whom the saints have been caring for a long time, relatives and close friends of the saints, and saints who

have not been meeting. Through our coordination in the Body, the ones that we visited were able to touch the Lord through the supply of the word, and most of them welcomed our repeated visits. We held a gospel meeting in mid-September. Forty-one people attended that meeting, and 18 of them were gospel friends. After the love feast, hymn singing and a gospel message, these gospel friends were given the time to fellowship with the saints in a loving atmosphere in small groups, which also allowed more saints to fulfill their organic function.

Besides the intensified propagation, some saints also went to Taiwan to attend a National Sisters' Blending Meeting and visited the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit hosted by Taiwan Gospel Book Room. All were encouraged and strengthened. As of now 8 saints from Sri Lanka already registered to attend the International Chinese Speaking Conference in Taiwan next year. Twenty-five saints from Taiwan who are in the medical field will also visit us during the second half of December to provide free medical care and preach the gospel. May we go forward in the fellowship of the Body!

We had the first official Lord's Table Meeting in Gampaha on 11/16 with 31 saints in attendance. This is the 8th golden lampstand in Sri Lanka. We hope the number of churches will grow to 25 in the next 5 years.



Testimonies by the Taiwanese Saints Who Visited Laos

Vientiane Propagation

From Aug. 18 to Aug. 25, 13 saints from Taiwan participated in the propagation in Vientiane, Laos and were assigned to Vientiane District 1 and District 2, respectively. Vientiane District 1 is located near the National University of Laos, and the main propagation burden was to recover the dormant saints in order to raise up more homes for the campus work. A sister who was recently recovered took us to visit some saints and gospel friends. With her help, in one week 2 new ones were baptized and 4 homes became willing to have the meetings in their homes. With the 4 homes that were originally open, Vientiane District 1 now has 8 homes that are open for the campus work.

Vientiane District 2 is close to downtown. The overseas and local saints were divided into 4 teams; 6 new ones were baptized and 17 homes contacted in one week. Praise the Lord!

Please continue to pray desperately for the propagation in Laos that the testimony of the two golden lampstands here—Vientiane and Pakse—would shine more and more brightly and that more homes would become pillars for God's building. Please also pray for the 13 cities that already have saints living in them that golden lampstands would be raised up one by one and that the gospel of the kingdom would be preached throughout Laos. — Brother Cheng

The Establishment of the Church in Pakse

Upon our return from a two-day trip in the mountainous area in the north and Vang Vieng for visiting saints, a brother and I flew to the fourth largest city of Laos, Pakse, in the southern part of the country. The local saints picked us up from the airport in an old van whose doors and lights were both broken and took us to visit the saints in a small village about 40 kilometers outside of Pakse. The saints welcomed us warmly with freshly picked durians. We sat on the ground with them and ate the rice with our bare hand just like the locals. We also had grilled fish with chili water. What a wonderful experience!

The main purpose of our trip this time was to testify of the establishing of the church in Pakse. More than 10 saints have been meeting in a rented hall every Lord's Day since May 18, and the



brothers decided to take the ground in Pakse on Aug. 24. We prayed that at least 35 saints would join that meeting. Praise the Lord! Through the saints' faithful labor to visit and invite the saints, a total of 38 saints came to that special meeting. Some saints from the nearby churches in northern Thailand also came to support and strengthen the meeting and to testify of the oneness of the Body of Christ.

The message on that day covered two main lines: "Knowing the Ground of Oneness of the Church" and "Sanctifying the Lord's Day". The speaking brother also shared that we need to listen to God's speaking in spirit on Lord's Day. The saints responded positively to the speaking. We then in one accord prayed, took the bread and drank the cup in the light of such a word.

After the meeting, all 70 of us, including the adults and the children, had lunch together with much joy. Over lunch it was decided that the church would hold a blending conference and gospel propagations every year, not only for the strengthening of the testimony in Pakse, but also for the raising up of churches in nearby cities. After our meal together, 2 gospel friends who were touched by the meeting decided to get baptized right away. Hallelujah! — Brother Hsu Hsiung

Qatar

To make use of the one-week holiday in July, the brothers in Qatar arranged for a 3-day Serving Ones' Perfecting Training and the 9th National Blending Conference in the capital city of Doha. Two brothers came from the Philippines to coordinate for the Perfecting Training and different saints opened their homes as training locations. Some saints came from as far as the city of Al Khor to join the training, braving a two-hour trip across the desert highway in the early morning every day. Despite the mid-day temperature that could reach up to 50-some degree Celsius, the saints were eager to join the training and all exercised strongly their mingled spirit with ringing praises. Through the rich supply in the meetings, the saints were perfected unto the work of the ministry. All the saints also participated in the group times with much open fellowship. On the last day of the training, one gospel friend got saved and baptized as he was drawn by the joy of the brothers.

The 2-day National Blending Conference was held in a hotel, and close to 30 saints attended it. The brothers spoke 8 messages on

"The Aspects of the Christian Life and Church Life Seen in the New Jerusalem". One highlight was the last session of the conference when each study group shared their utmost enjoyment and the light they received from the messages and group times. The speaking of the saints was weighty, living, overflowing, and full of the unsearchable riches of Christ.

In addition, in the afternoon of the first day of the conference was a joyous children's presentation. The saints only began to conduct children's meetings this year, and those that participated in them were mostly children of the saints, who have been away from their home countries for years and have labored faithfully for the testimony of Jesus in this desert land. These saints were greatly encouraged and moved to tears as they saw their next generation being cultivated and preserved in the church life.