

May, 2023

Dear Prayer Partners,

In the past month, God gave me opportunities to serve abroad, including preaching at two retreats in UK for young people who came from Hong Kong, as well as going to Shanghai, Guangzhou, Zhongshan, Shenzhen, etc., to visit local churches. What excited me most during these trips was seeing God's wonderful work in these places.

In the two retreats in UK, there were more than 200 young people from Hong Kong. They participated in the gatherings in a serious manner. Many of them took notes during the sermon, engaged in singing hymns, actively participated in group sharing, and kept looking forward to pastors answering their religious questions during free time. Frankly speaking, I rarely see young people like them who seriously pursue their faith either in Hong Kong or in other places. During this trip to UK, not only had I communicated well with many believers and pastors who immigrated there in recent years, but also I had the opportunity to visit local missionaries and church leaders to enquire about the challenges and issues faced by Chinese churches there under the immigration wave from Hong Kong. This allowed me to understand more concretely their life after immigration, and also a bit of their bewilderment behind their decision to leave Hong Kong. For me personally, this trip was also a time to experience God deeply, because on the morning of departing Hong Kong, I was confirmed positive under the Rapid Antigen Test for COVID-19 for the first time. When I was about to give up or change the itinerary, God gave me strength, and finally I chose to depart as scheduled. In the process, although I experienced the difficulty of serving in sickness, I saw that God's grace was sufficient and His power was made perfect in my weakness. About 20 young people in the two retreats decided to dedicate their lives to full time ministry. Glory be to our gracious Lord! Another thing we were very grateful was that I took the advantage of this trip to visit my elder brother and sister-in-law who live in Manchester. My elder brother used to be a feng shui numerologist, but he was saved by grace and was baptized in a local church last year; and my sister-in-law was more difficult to believe in the Lord than my elder brother. When we visited her in the nursing home, the Holy Spirit moved me to preach the gospel to her and invite her to believe in Christ. To our surprise, she clearly expressed her willingness to accept the Lord. We invited the pastor of the local church

to baptize my sister-in-law the day before we left Manchester. I am very grateful and this is the biggest award of my trip.

God also graciously granted me a few visits to the Mainland. Notwithstanding the various current restrictions, I saw God's abundant grace in giving me and Evangel Seminary the opportunity to serve compatriots in seminaries and churches in the Mainland. The Lord showed me that many of the believers and pastors there are devoted disciples of the Lord, and they cherish the opportunity to study the Bible. All these have motivated us to work harder for the Lord.

Please continue to remember Evangel Seminary in prayers for the following:

- (1) Thanks God for the promotion of the "Walk the Gospel in the Community" movement. Currently, nearly 300 believers from 26 churches are participating. They will practice linking the Gospel with the community in which the church is located in the coming year;
- (2) May is the deadline for us to enroll new students for the next school year. May the Lord lead His chosen ones to our seminary to be equipped;
- (3) Please remember the sale of our two old campuses in Kowloon Tong. In the upward trend of interest rate, our interest now amounts to about 390,000 per month, which has caused a lot of financial pressure on the seminary;
- (4) There are many teachers and staff in the seminary who are close to retirement age. May the Lord prepare suitable staff for us, especially faculty of systematic theology;
- (5) Upon the request of the Evangelical Free Church of China, the seminary is undergoing independent registration so as to facilitate banking and other affairs in the future. Please remember the preparation needed by the co-workers in this regard.

Please also reserve time to participate the following events of Evangel Seminary, and also pray for these activities, including:

Graduation Ceremony:

To be held at Kowloon City Baptist Church on June 5 (Monday) at 7:30 pm. There are 27 graduates this year;

Holy Land Tour:

From June 6th to 18th, our faculty, Rev. Addson Chan will lead the Israel and Jordan study tour for 42 students.



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“Walk the Gospel in the Community” Retreat:

To be held at 2:30 pm on August 27th at the EFCC Yan Fook Church. Apart from encouraging the churches that have participated, it also encourages other churches in Hong Kong to practice faith in the community.

Thank you again for always remembering Evangel Seminary in your prayers. Your intercession is an important source of strength for us. May the Lord remember what you have done for His kingdom.

Together we serve,

KWOK Man-chee

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