

LAI CHI KOK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

Michelle J. wrote: "I am very grateful for the privilege of meeting with the ladies. How wonderful to see God answer prayer by sending seven new ladies who all prayed to receive the Lord. It is also great training for the two ladies who had already been participating in the group to see the gospel shared in the big session. One woman was so excited about knowing the Lord, she wanted to answer all the questions asked to let the others know the answer. I am thankful that we teammates took time to organize our songs and the order of our sharing as things went more smoothly as a result. At the same time, we were flexible enough to change our format on the spot when we saw seven new ladies! There must be tremendous rejoicing in heaven over their salvation.

Thank you for the privilege of serving the Lord."

Angela W. wrote: "I was so thankful to the Lord for our team members. Michelle with her wonderful personal testimony of the meaning of her name. Also for the idea of how each have our song to share with the ladies. Amazingly all three songs were upbeat and child like and yet some were moved to tears. I was also amazed that with the previous bad experience of the new prison wardens who were overly strict with finishing meals and volunteers were not allowed to sing whilst waiting. To the transformed wardens this week and allowing 15 minutes over time was amazing. 7 out of 9 accepted Christ so readily, wonderful to see the process of EE in the big circle setting. And for us all to witness and the other 2 who already accepted Christ through EE to revisit the assurances.



Lai Chi Kok Prison Team

It was great to have two to a small group to pray and was very thankful to have time to chat and pray with them. They cried and was thankful. I had only eight ODBs and it happened that the two who prayed with me shared the same dorm and can read ODB together. What a privilege it was to be on this team and I loved the way God made this a tender hearted group - The Crying Ladies..."



CNY BBQ—Jan. 26th



Leadership Trng.-Jan. 27th-28th



Mar.BDay with Ernie & Beth R.



A Day with Stephen L. -Mar. 14th



Basic Theology with Mark S.



Milestones Website: www.ecchk.org
 Evangelical Community Church - Filipino Fellowship
 1/F Southorn Mansion, 1 Luard Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong
 Contact: Fe Hernandez—Tel. No. 27327311

Ate Fe's Corner**“LIFE HELPERS IN HONG KONG”**

Amazing story how one helper touched the life of a Chinese family and instead of a domestic helper was considered a “life helper”. This testimony was shared to me by Justin L. who grew in his spiritual journey with the Lord by one helper intentionally leaving a “Daily Bread” on their coffee table. Since that day he became more spiritually hungry for God’s Word.

He even added that their helper became the comforter of her sister whenever she gets upset and restless. At one time she also became a prayer warrior for the family when needed. Justin said that she was always there to be a “life giver” for all of them.

The following are ways Justin suggests for one to be a “life helper”:

Life Helper:

Let’s be like Jesus and do His will:

- Plays an important role to plant seeds of the Gospel in most people’s life
- Plays an important role in the family that they serve as nurturing, raising & taking care of children, releasing tension in the family, cleaning up the mess, calming the violence, managing the house reliably.
- Gives valuable assistance in producing future leaders of HK that are God-fearing and morally upright
- Sets the standard for other domestic helpers.



“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have Loved you, so you must love one another.” John 13:34

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.”
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

“NIGHTS OF LOVE”

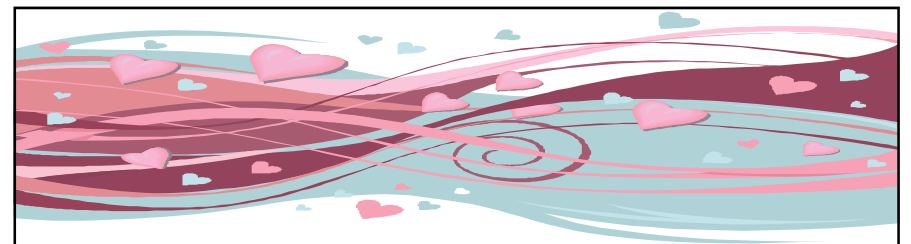
Eden Longey

How wonderful, Oh Lord, your love for me
Even in my sleep I’m aware of it.
In my dreams, I see your presence in a shadow
Then I wake up finding myself looking for you.

Where can I run, where can I hide from You.
When even my thoughts were so filled of You.
My heart leaps when I feel something new.
Then I have to get up and reflect about you.

Though I complain Lord when you wake me up
You always make your way for me to stand up
And as I look at the clock
It’s four o’clock in the morning but I feel so loved.

How sweet, Oh Lord, these wonderful moments
Nights of love that I treasure and never forget.
As long as I live, I will always recollect
This time of love with you—a time so blessed.



DEALING WITH PROBLEMS

Tina Gawading

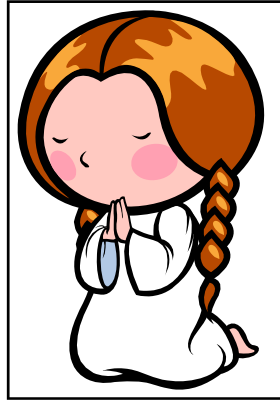
I just want to share what I've read in one article about how we deal with our problems. Frequently, when we face problems, we attempt to solve it in a particular way. When that way does not work, we continue trying to solve the problem in the same way.

We may get frustrated, try harder, get more frustrated and then we exert more energy and influence into forcing the same solution that we have already tried and it does not work.

This approach tends to get me stuck and trapped. It makes me crazy and makes it more unmanageable.

We can get caught in this difficult patterns in relationships, in tasks, in any area of our lives. We initiate something it does not work, does not flow, we feel bad, then try the same approach harder, even though it does not work. Sometimes it is appropriate not to give up and to try harder. Sometimes it is more appropriate to let go, detach and to stop trying so hard.

If it does not work, if it does not flow, may be God is trying to tell us something. God is a gentle teacher but He does not always send neon roads to guide us but waits for us to rest and wait upon Him.



My Lord, God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Thomas Merton

“SAILING ON TO CHI SUN”

Nora Dacmeg

Chi Sun is a women's correctional institution. It is located on a mountain slope and a couple of yards away from the seashore. It is bound in an unpopulated part of Chi Ma Wan in Lantau Island. To get there is a 15 minute ferry ride from Mui Wo to its quay. The ferry ride ply its route twice a day, once in the morning and after lunch. To reach Mui Wo however is around 45 minutes trip from Central Pier No. 6. It is here where our journey begins.

Every fourth Sunday of each month, the team and I look forward with excitement. The group consists of five people and it all begun in the early months of 2008.

Once inside the prison visiting hall, part of our visiting time, is spent having fun games where everyone participates and we all enjoy together. The remaining time is the main essence of our visit. Sharing the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ with different nationalities and of varied religious background come to join our Bible Study. We do our best to communicate in ways that they can understand and assimilate what we are sharing and studying using visual aids, illustrations and sometimes personal testimonies are very helpful. The team also teach and adapt different methods. At the moment we are studying the “Purpose Driven Life” by Rick Warren.

It is amazing how God works in touching the hearts of these women. Two individuals mentioned on different occasions they are actually glad they were put to jail so that they will come back to God. Their lives were transformed and are spiritually growing every time we meet them. Both of them served their term and have now been released. Released not only from their criminal offense but also gained freedom for eternity.

To date, there are more than 20 individuals who prayed and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ in their lives. Leading the prisoners to know the Lord Jesus Christ personally is the reason we rejoice, encouraged and excited that we cannot afford to miss the schedule during each visit.

The inmates feel blessed by our friendship that has been built and I for one is grateful that God is using me as well as the team to be a blessing and through them I am also blessed.

As God gives as opportunity, the team continue sailing on, sowing hopeful seeds in the soil of despair. May His name be immensely glorified through this ministry.

Chi Sun Correctional Institution Ministry

It was last year when the Lord burdened me of Chi Sun Correctional Ministry after our first visit there last May. Knowing our visit permit would only last for three months as other Filipino ladies are also waiting for their turns, I still committed my heart to the Lord and put my trust in Him that He will fulfill what He began in me in spite of my powerlessness to secure the permit on my own. Besides, a new set of batch has been submitted to the organization giving the permit.

Faithful to His promises in 1 Thessalonians 5:14—God made a way where there seems to be no way. He allowed the release of the permit which granted approval again for our batch, not only ones but twice.

It is my pleasure to join God in Chi Sun even in the smallest ways I can. He has given me opportunities to share the Gospel and to faithfully pray for their spiritual growth not only to Filipino inmates but to other nationalities as well. I had the privilege to follow-up four inmates through correspondence using “Purpose Driven Life” book and my lessons on “Experiencing God”.

Though this ministry I have learned to be totally dependent on His power and provisions. He also taught me to be creative in intentional disciple making under limited time and controlled condition.

I believe, the faithful God I serve who called me to join His work in Chi Sun will continue to fulfill His purposes not only in the lives of the inmates but also with the jail guards and staff.

Colossians 3:23-24—“Work hard and cheerfully at all you do, just as though you were working for the Lord and not merely for your master; remembering that it is the Lord Christ who is going to pay you, giving you your full position of all He owns. He is the one you are really working for.” **Xenia B.**



“Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, And those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.”

Hebrews 13:3

I really praise God for the marvelous work He did in my life when I joined the Prison Ministry. It was a great experience for me to share God’s love to our fellow kababayan in Chi Sun Correctional.

When I joined the Prison Ministry, I grew spiritually because I learned and experienced many things especially in the life of Wency who is very young, beautiful and single mother. She is not a Christian when she arrived here in Hong Kong and was arrested because her passport is not genuine. After she received the Good News there was glow in her face that made a difference.

February 22 was our last visit at Chi Sun and that was inspiring because Wency hugged me as if saying goodbye for the last time while I was comforting another lady.

When we were settled inside the boat, I pondered the great work of the Lord and I felt something that was impressed in me - “Thank you my child.”... and I know that was from the Lord.

Tips before going on a Prison Visit:

1. Prepare yourself spiritually, emotionally and physically.
2. Be yourself but always acknowledge that without Jesus we are nothing.
3. If you encounter trials prior to your visit, entrust them to God and instead be ready to comfort the inmates as they are wounded and needs care and encouragement.
4. Always put a smile on your face.

Lotlot L.

Finally God led me to write about my amazing journey here in Hong Kong as I learn to appreciate each morning God’s never ending hope from Isaiah 40:8—“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.”

I never thought that coming to Hong Kong would really make me closer to our Heavenly Father. Yes, I am a God fearing person ever since because my parents always say that everything I do is seen by God. I am a simple and quiet person and I want to make people happy in my own little way. I always enjoyed being behind the scene but then God opened my eyes to many possible things like using me to show His love, sharing the Gospel and visiting the prison.

The key for me now is to talk to God in prayer as I believe that prayer is very powerful—free outgoing call to heaven, no battery power, no charging, no network problem, no SIM card, always have a good signal and endless talk time with Him.

And to top it all, I want to thank all the people who helped me grow walking with The Lord, to all those spending their time to teach us, to those who always supported us, and to employer who are always there for me.

I thank the Lord for giving me the wisdom to realize that everything I do is all for His glory, to worship Him by heart and for giving me the chance to know Him more.

Jocelyn S.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

Matthew 25:35

