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# 卡城家訊

**Home Front News** 

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### 家庭指南何處尋?

個暑假有機會在大陸走一趟,更是印

不是家裡有基督徒就是,就算全部都

是基督徒也不一定是。乃是這個家的

主要成員有基督的樣式,並且用基督

的教導來帶領這個家,用神的話語與 神的愛,作爲對待配偶並教育子女的

什麼是「基督徒(化)家庭」呢?

證了「家庭教會」的力量。

將新約聖經從頭到尾約略翻了一 遍,發現其中對於「家」的教導實在 是太少了。歌羅西書只用了四節來談 (3:18-21),以弗所書用了不到一章的份 量,林前談到婚姻問題,提摩太前書 論及寡婦的照顧,後書則反映了提摩 太的家庭生活,提多書勸誡作妻子與 母親在家中應持守適當的行為。至於 其他六卷(羅馬書、哥林多後書、加拉

太書、腓立比書、帖 撒羅尼迦前後書),就 沒有一句直接提到家 庭的。希伯來書、雅 各書、和猶大書的作 者都沒有提到家庭, 使徒約翰在他的三封 書信中沒有明確地提



依據。

到,啓示錄也沒有。既然世界上有許 多的問題是來自於家庭,爲什麼神不 藉著聖經給我們一本「家庭指南」 呢?

其實不然,如果你看見聖經對於「教會」的教導又詳細又全面,又看見家與教會的關係,就知道神對家的心意了。蓋時珍(Gene Getz) 在她的書The Measure of a Family中,稱家爲

「教會的縮影」不無道理。從教會的 意義來看,一群基督徒的聚集就是教 會,所以「基督徒家庭」幾乎是教會 的同義詞。早期教會因爲受到逼迫, 也被禁止在猶太人的會堂敬拜,

「家」便成了他們聚會,敬拜讚美神 的主要場所,所以新約多次提及「家 中的教會」或「家裡的教會」(羅6:3-5;林前16:9;西4:15;門2)。過去這 有了這樣的認識, 我們就看見聖經對教 會所說的話也是對各 別家庭所說的話。一 個基督徒家庭靈命的 成熟度,自然能從那 個家庭較年長之已得 救成員—特別是父

親、母親與較年長的兒女,所表現的 信心、盼望和愛心來決定。年紀較小 的家庭成員,經常在這種生活方式薰 陶之下,通常都會漸漸被塑造出同樣 的屬靈品格。不要小看你跟孩子說 「你們先回家,爸爸還要去監獄事 工」,或「明天主日我們要早一點出 發去教會,媽媽要唱詩班」,你的作 事方法,講電話的用詞,道德標準, 靈修習慣,或是爲了宣教離家數週, 對其他家人有著深遠的影響。

神已給了我們一本「家庭指 南」——聖經,我們應該按照上面的 教導來持家,希望我們能善用這本指 南並且用自己的家庭生活來見證主!

「一個人應當生活得使周圍的人都知道他是個基督徒,最先知道的應當是他的家人!」~~慕迪



零七年八月十二日,禮拜日。到教會早 了一點,有三個年輕人在談話。我的眼鏡滑 了下來,朦朧中聽到一個女孩子叫我崔媽 早,扶上眼鏡才看清是王師母與廣善牧師。

廣善牧師介紹蔡文祺牧師在香港牧會, 也曾是建道神學院教授,我驚喜地說我二妹 是建道校友。

七0年代初,二妹與兩百餘名護士去德國,飛機在雲彩之中,大家喊著今天是禮拜天,大家要敬拜我們的神。機長走出機艙說:「好啊!讓我們高聲唱詩讚美神,那份古舊的歡愉並不遙遠,也不覺過時,我們可以撫摸到前輩傳道人的餘溫。」

二妹在醫院工作,清晨七點一對中年夫婦,總是像淋過熱水浴般神采奕奕,帶著三分驚喜的微笑,他們來爲聖誕前夕的報佳音活動道謝,也邀請二妹參加新年晚餐。

這是一個神祝福的家庭,MR. DIETER STOLZ 二戰時曾參軍,因一次意外遲延,錯 過了一次保衛戰,而活了下來,戰後工餘時 間全部事奉神。他那麼歐陸,那麼布爾喬 亞,那麼傳統。他說「神太忙了,暫時忘了 分配一些糖尿、一點高血壓、一點膽固醇給 我,好讓我盡性地吃。」

Stolz 老爸退休後,全時間在教會事奉,早上陽光剛剛露出一線隙縫,他就起來了。他慶幸年紀縮短了睡眠,讓退休的人天天跟著早起的小鳥一起覓食,一起歡躍開始神所賜予新的一天。

老爸擔起主日學工作,他年青時不想參加主日學躲到Hessen省,在那裡與老媽結婚後又回到Siegen教會,他說:被神抓個正著!

那是有點寒伧也有自得的年代,他領著會友或小 朋友圍著壁爐,讓火光照紅每個人的臉龐,同爲 經歷戰爭的悲歡讚美神。

馬堡的秋色永遠令人感到豐腴。莊園裡有牛棚、有馬房,花朵們迎著午後的霞光,四圍像是畫家筆下的風景畫。二妹下班回家,園中像有交響樂響起,牛哞哞地叫著,馬蹄不停地踏著,花朵在頷首,老爸伸出雙臂面向長空喊著:神啊,我感謝祢。再用英文說一句:I Love You!

老爸愛二妹,暱稱她「小黑」,你可以看到 二妹尷尬的笑容。他來過美國所以會說英文,他 愛我們所以車上貼著中國旗,去探訪中國教友, 因他怕狗,便先用英文問:你家有Hund 〔狗〕 嗎?教友說:我們的車是歐洲車,不是 Honda。

四十年了,老爸帶著二妹四處探訪,彼此禱告,鼓勵年輕人,在東德探問當年袍澤,彼此勉勵,將餘下的光陰奉獻事奉主。

夜晚的病床上,老爸身上插滿膠管。他睜開 眼睛時便要求去園中停留,他說看星使我神馳, 夜空裡有星,大地就不會荒蕪和荒涼。在沁涼的 夜裡,神的「僕人」低下頭來爲教會、爲每一個 肢體禱告,當他抬起頭來時,淚水滿面地說:我 們在天上的父,我感謝祢。

合唱團由四個教會組成,他們獻上詩歌:我 們在天上的父,願人都尊祢的名爲聖。

墓旁站著的是當年主日學的年輕人,他們立 在那裡,像站在磐石上,人數比鮮花更多。老爸 睡了,村莊的鐘聲響起,此起彼落,那是天使在 撥弄琴弦。

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我在初中的時候有一段時間每天上課的時候 開小差去考慮宇宙的奧秘,現在的宇宙到底是什麼 樣子?它的起初狀態是什麼樣子?宇宙會不會有末 日?下課后便跟同學相互爭論,爲了辯贏對方,我 便開始看一些天文類的書籍,便知道了宇宙大爆炸 理論,明白宇宙的起點是一個質量無窮大,空間無 限小的一個數學上的點爆炸產生的。可是我很快就 問自己:爆炸的能量來自哪里?後來根本爭論不清 楚,想想只有上帝才可能有這麼大的能量。雖然我 一直接受的是無神論教育,但是從那時候起,我心 中便認定上帝是存在的。

後來有兩次考試的經歷讓我真正體驗到了上帝的存在,兩次都是對我初中階段來說非常重要的升學考試,錄取名額很少,一個學校大概只有三五人的樣子。考完一段時間后一些老師會提前看到錄取名單,便會在正式公布名單前提前透露誰誰誰被錄取了,兩次都沒有我,同學們開始恭喜那些被錄取的同學,我却很傷心,回到寢室蒙在被子裏一個人向我心中的上帝哭求,求上帝幫我,把我加到名單上去。令人不可思議的是,最後公布名單時,我居然被錄取了。經歷過那兩次經歷后,我便覺得上帝一直在看顧我。但是那時我心中的上帝是模模糊糊的,甚至我有時也認爲那只不過是運氣而已。

大學階段我經歷上帝的存在,是在我追我太太周燕的時候,那時候她在學校很有名氣,很多人想追她却不敢追,我和她一起上了半年外教的英文口語課,也很少有機會和她說話。後來心中有個聲音告訴我這個女生便是你未來的太太,一開始我不太相信,連續幾次后,我便一個人安靜的向上帝祈禱:上帝啊,如果她真是袮安排給我的太太,那袮就讓我三天之內追到她。我們的上帝是信實的,他賜給了我足够的智慧和勇氣。周燕在第三天的晚上真的答應與我開始交往。我當時非常興奮,馬上告訴她我雖然不知道我們什麼時候結婚,但我肯定就是她未來的丈夫。她問我爲什麼,我告訴她:"這是上帝的安排,誰也沒法改變。"

我們在北京戀愛六年之後,去年結婚,今年 有了我們的女兒,雖然她現在離開我和女兒回到了 國內,但我堅信我們很快便會團聚,因爲上帝爲我 們預備好的,比我們所能想像的還要好。

我真正開始接觸基督教會是在來美國后,離家來美國前一天晚上,我嬸嬸打電話給我,告訴我一個人在國外不容易,到了美國后馬上找當地的教會,他們會幫助我。我是晚上到卡城的,第二天早上我實驗室的楊陽師兄載我去實驗室,正好經過教會,看到卡城華人教會的路牌的時候我心里深深的震撼了一下,現在想起來大概是因爲我後來要在這裏信主,所以會有震撼的感覺。

雖然我很想來教會,但是接下來的一個月我都沒有機會來。後來与我同時來的同學在電話裹告訴我他們周日去教會了,有很多好吃的,很好玩。我便要求他們下個禮拜去的時候叫上我,可是他們後來也忘了。我便在心中對神說:神啊,我想去教會,袮可以安排人來邀請我嗎?很快,孟晃弟兄便邀請我來參加新生晚會,王牧師當晚講的什麼,我已經記不太清楚了,但我永遠記住了一句話"這裏有真愛!"我深深的被這句話吸引住了。此後,我便周周都跟孟晃來教會。

孟晃回臺灣之後的第一個周五晚上,我對神 說:神啊,我今天想去教會,雖然不知道誰會來接 我,但相信称已有安排。果然,韓子義弟兄很快便 來電話了。後來他告訴我,他那天晚上打了很多個 電話,都被同學以各種理由拒絕了,給我的是最後 一個電話,撥電話前他向神禱告希望我不要拒絕。 這種事情也許可以用機緣巧合來解釋,但是我清楚 知道,這不是巧合,而是神的安排。以後每周五晚 上韓弟兄,周日早上金剛弟兄都會風雪無阻的來接 我。在教會听牧師的講道,參加韓弟兄和金剛弟兄 的慕道班,和弟兄姐妹爭論。很快我便明白神安排 我來卡城,不是因爲別的,是因爲這裏的教會。

十月的一個主日,是臺灣過來的一個傳道人 證道,講到哈拿求子那一段時,我被深深感動,于 是我也對神説:神啊,袮若賜我一個孩子,我也必 使他終身歸与袮。沒過幾天,我的太太周燕告訴我 她懷孕四個月了,我的神啊,四個月了,這怎麼可 能!可事情就這樣發生了,在神看來沒有不可能的 事情。2006年10月20日晚上11:30,就在王牧師送 (下轉第五頁)

我出生在一個傳統的臺灣人家庭,祭祀祖先及偶像崇拜是代代相傳的習俗,而在臺灣各處也都是寺廟林立。我父母相信只要虔誠膜拜這些偶像,並慷慨奉獻香火錢,這些偶像就會保佑他們一 生順途。

當他們面臨一些重要的事情,比如要買車或購屋時,如果得不到這些偶像的「許可」或「指示」,他們就無法作決定。甚至,他們還把我過繼給關公——個在臺灣廣受謨拜的偶像一作兒子,希望我可以因此平安健康地長大並且在校有好成績。在這樣的環境裏長大,我自然而然地「繼承」了我父母的信仰。

到美國讀研究所是我靈命的轉捩點。我在密西根大學遇到很多基督徒朋友,他們在很多行動 上表現了對我的關心及照顧。但我總是用一些問題來向他們挑戰,例如:『信仰上帝對我有什麼好 處?』又因爲我是學工程的,習於一切都要拿出証據來,所以我也會質問他們:『憑什麽說你們的 上帝就是唯一的神,他創造了宇宙及人類?』。雖然我常常這樣,上帝卻沒有放棄我。

我的基督徒朋友們持續地禱告,求上帝改變我頑梗的心,而上帝也真的聽了他們的禱告。我 的思考方式有了轉變:如果我可以相信牛頓證明它存在而人眼卻看不見的萬有引力,爲什麼我不能 相信上帝--聖經中清清楚楚記載著的證據一永存並有大能的上帝?

就在我選擇相信祂的那一刻,我的生命全然改變了。我可完全拋開以前因拜偶像的經驗而帶來的壓力和重擔,我毋需在意是否有哪些可能帶給我好運的偶像是我沒拜到的。我只需要單單信靠上帝一宇宙萬有及人類的唯一創造主。就是這麼簡單!更棒的是,上帝對我的愛不會因我是否能提供什麼給祂而有所改變,祂是照我的本相來愛我。我現在非常享受有主同在的日子。當我悲傷,祂安慰我;當我遇到難題,祂爲我解決;當我快樂,祂與我同樂;我禱告,祂垂聽。祂永遠看顧我。

I was born in a traditional Taiwanese family where worshipping ancestors and multiple idols is a common practice passing down through generations. My parents believe that if they worship those idols sincerely and make offerings generously, they will grant them good lives.

My parents cannot make important decisions on what car or house to buy if they do not get "permissions" or "directions" from the idols they worship. What is more, they asked Master Kuan (known as Guan Gong, god of righteousness) to be my godfather so that I could grow up smoothly and have good grades in school. Having been raised in this environment, I also believed what my parents believe.

Coming to the United States for graduate studies was the turning point of my spiritual life. I met many Christian friends when I studied at University of Michigan. They showed they cared or me through numerous acts of love. However, I always challenged them by asking them whether believing in their God would give me any benefits. Moreover, since I have been trained in the discipline of engineering, which calls for evidence for almost everything, I questioned them why their God is the only God who creates the universe and mankind. Even though I had done this many times, God did not give up on me. My Christian friends continued to pray that God would change my stubborn mind, and God did listen to and answer their prayers! I started to change the way I thought—if I could believe gravity, which I cannot visualize yet was proven by Newton to exist, why cannot I just believe in Him, who has been recorded and written about in the Bible, a solid proof of His existence and great power.

The moment I chose to believe in God changed my whole life. I got rid of the burden and stress my previous experience of worshipping idols put on me. I do not have to worry whether I would miss any blessings from the idols I did not worship. All I need is to believe in Him, who is the Creator of the universe and mankind. It is just that simple! Moreover, the greatest thing is that God loves me for who I am, and His love does not depend on and will never be affected by what I can offer Him. I have been really enjoying my walk with God since the day I chose to believe in Him. When I am sad, he comforts me; when I have difficulties, He resolves for me. When I am happy, He rejoices with me. I pray; He listens. He is always there for me.

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# 賜喜樂平安的主

林恆如 🗕

說到我信主的過程,應該從我第一次知道耶穌的經歷談起。在我小學五年級的暑假,一位鄰居阿姨看我們一群小孩在外面玩,就問我們要不要去教會的夏令營,因爲我們都沒去過覺得很新鮮,經過媽媽們的同意,我們便高高興興的去玩了,

經過好幾天大哥哥.大姐姐們的禱告及講聖經耶穌的故事,讓我覺得耶穌好偉大哦!我要來信祂。可是當時因家人及親戚朋友中沒有基督徒可以帶我去教會,加上家裡有拜拜的習俗,只好作罷!但是主並沒就此就放棄在我身上作工的機會。

2001年3月,來到美國密西根州的 Ann Arbor。在 那裡主讓我有機會認識一群來自台灣的基督徒學生,他們 正想組一個青年查經班,便問我有沒有興趣去參加。那時 因爲自己時間很多,又想認識新朋友,對聖經的內容也有 興趣,便一口答應帶我先生去了。在那裡我更認識主,也 知道基督信仰是什麼,透過身邊朋友的愛及關懷,又看到 主捨身爲了使我們得到永生的盼望,因此在那裡我決志信 主。當時台灣人教會沒有牧師,我也很少去教會,一直到 有牧師以後,我們全家便受洗成爲基督徒。

這一路信主的過程中,很感謝主的平安及保守,讓我不需要經過人生重大轉折以後才來信靠祂。信主以後主的恩典與福分更是充滿我們家,祂讓我們有兩個健康.活潑的兒女,讓我們不需要爲日用的飲食擔憂,讓我不必煩惱未來的路要如何走,因爲我們相信主必帶領,更重要的是祂讓我們有教會可以去。當然我們也曾經歷外人看起來很坎坷的時候,但因爲有主的同在,祂賜平安與喜樂在我們心中,所以並不覺得很艱辛。

今年一月,因爲下大雪的關係,我們全家在高速公路 上出了一場很嚴重的車禍,整臺車翻出車道外,車體全毀, 雖然兩個孩子嚇得大哭,可是我們全家沒人受傷,連救難 人員也覺得很訝異,竟然只有我的手臂上有一點瘀青! 根據救難人員的經驗,很多人在這樣的情况下,已經是無 意識的躺在救護車上送往醫院了。

車禍發生以後,我跟先生好像沒有什麼害怕的感覺, 我忙著安撫小孩帶他們去好心路人的車上,而我先生還能 很冷靜的待在撞毀的車內打電話報警、聯絡租車、修車 及保險公司。救難人員到達時以爲他受困在車內,結果他 打開車門出來,還嚇了人家一跳!警察也對我們很好,開 車帶我們全家去等我們修好的車。

回家清洗以後,晚上去參加教會的聚會,沒有一個 人感覺得出來我們剛從生死關頭中回來。由於我們是在 去修車廠拿車途中出的車禍,修車廠還好心地把我們的車 開回來給我們。我開玩笑地說:我們省了來回 2 個小時 的車程及油錢去修車廠拿車。這一切若沒有主奇妙的作 為及祂的恩典,我們不可能會如此的平安與喜樂。

主的恩典實在太多了,我沒辦法用筆墨一一細數,我 只希望還沒信主的朋友能夠趕快來信主,過程不需太辛苦, 就像我一樣:來認識祂,並單單信靠祂。

在此我分享我生命中背誦的第一節經文,就是我小時候在那個聖經夏令營裏大哥哥教我們背誦,到現在還是深深的刻在我心裡的約翰福音3章16節:神愛世人,甚至將祂的獨生子賜給他們,叫一切信祂的不致滅亡,反得永生。願主賜福給每一個信靠祂的人!



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我回家的車上,在我所住公寓的樓下,我跟著王牧師做了決志禱告。我當時也不明白自己怎麽這么快就能信主。按照我的計劃,要過一兩年,好好把聖經讀兩三遍,把心裏的問題全部弄清楚了,才能信主。可是神用周燕懷孕這個事情讓我徹底明白我以前看起來非常周密的計劃,根本就什麽都不是,也讓我看到了我作爲人的軟弱,我們只有凡事倚靠神,才不至于跌倒。周燕很快順利拿到簽證,過來與我團聚,一起去教會聆聽神美好的話語,她堅硬的心開始被聖靈感動。在家裏她對胎兒獨特的胎教就是用她甜美的聲音讀聖經。我看到我的家被聖靈充滿,得到滿足。

我决定感恩節受洗,可是萬萬沒有想到我的太太 居然堅决反對我受洗,甚至以死相威脅。我只好在感恩 節的前夕跟王牧師説我要推遲我的受洗。我跟神禱告,求神赦免我軟弱的罪,求祂免去魔鬼對我的攻擊,讓我能和我太太一起在今年的復活節受洗。感恩節過後,我便迫不及待的等著復活節的到來。2月28日的中午,神藉著聖靈對我說:"周燕復活節不會受洗,你準備馬上受洗。"我說:"我太太能現在答應嗎?教會會答應提前爲我一個人施洗嗎?"神借著聖靈回答我:"你起來馬上去問。"我立即去問太太:"我想馬上受洗。"她居然想都沒想就答應了。當天晚上,我在禱告會前找牧師告訴他我的想法,他想了想,便答應第二天在他們家爲我施洗。就這樣我在三月一日晚上,在牧師家受洗歸入基督耶穌的名下。

神愛世人,祂的美意必因著我們的信在我們身上成就。 阿門!

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# ♣▲♣▲● 音樂短宣見證集錦



When I first heard about the music mission trip, I was reluctant to go. It was not because I did not want to serve god, but because I was scared that if I messed up, then everyone would think I failed our team. In the end, I still decided to go (mostly because of my parents), but still with much apprehension about what is going to happen.

During the first rehearsal, I did not get much of a chance to practice, so I was nervous that I would not do well. When we finally arrived at DCCC, I had cold feet, butterflies in my stomach, etc. I just did not know what to expect. This was my very first Music Mission trip ever. As a matter of fact, this was my very first mission trip ever. Those made me feel even more nervous

because I felt like a beginner in my team full of veteran pros.

When Saturday night arrived I felt like all of me was burning up in pressure and nervousness. My ears were so hot; it felt like they were about to shoot up like a rocket. After every song, I would get ready to play, thinking the next song was going to be mine to play in. However, I did not know that the Pastor cut all my songs from the concert that night.

At first, I was a little disappointed and upset that he had done that, but now as I look back and reflect. I'm actually very happy he did. He gave me the chance to focus and watch more deeply my other team members, who were performing. It touched me that even though they were probably nervous, they were still trying their very hardest and playing their best for the audience because they knew in their hearts that they were serving God.

As I watched them, I was inspired and thought to myself, "If they can do it, I can do it too!". They did not let pressure nor nervousness to get to them while they played, and I came with the realization that if you are serving God, there is nothing to be afraid of. So on Sunday morning, Pastor Michael assigned for me to play. This time I was ready.

After the inspiration on Saturday, I felt clear-headed and ready to do my best for God. I did not let nervousness get to me and I played my best out to the congregation. It's amazing what strength God can give you when you are serving him. I also want to thank each and every team

member for showing me the strength God put in them and for inspiring me to play my best.

When I first arrived DCCC, I was nervous and didn't know what to expect; now I'm confident and will definitely go next year. This trip helped me to become more of a team player. I worked together with the rest of the team and the music we were able to create sounded great to me. But mostly this trip helped me connect more to God. When I was out there playing, I felt God was out there watching and supporting me. Now I'm going to return the favor, I'm going to go support others and serve God with the Strength he gave me!

~ Robin Luo

When I first heard about the Dayton Music Mis-

sion, I was excited. I knew that this would be a good way to spread the Word of God. I chose to sign up for what I knew would be a great experience. Not knowing many Chinese Christian songs- or any Chinese songs for that matter- made it a little difficult to play at the very first practice. It was great having so many people there too. Everybody was friendly; I didn't feel pressured

to play everything perfectly the first time. It was as if everyone only had positive things to say to each other. By the end of the day, the music sounded great. I knew that this was the start of something wonderful.

After another week of practicing alone, as well as with Gary, the time finally came to pack our bags and head to Dayton. On the way there, I would've been very nervous, but I seemed to be fairly calm. I think that having Gary and my father in the same car helped ease my mind (as well as my nerves!). When we got there, we had a practice. At first it wasn't that hard, but later my fingers were hurting and I could not remember what I had to do on some of the songs. After praying for a while, I seemed to be released of this stress and I was able to continue on during practice.

Right before the conert, I was getting a nervous breakdown. I was shaking as well as sweating. But then, right before we started our first song, I remembered why I was doing this. I remembered that the music that we were about to play was to worship our Lord. The rest of that night went smoothly. I wasn't nervous or anything. The next morning was the same. I was

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empowered by God. I wish it could've lasted longer. Being with this team and praising the Lord made me really happy.

On the way home, I thought about our journey. I thought about how I have changed, and hoped that maybe people listening to us also changed. I thought about how much fun I had serving the Lord with these wonderful people. Most of all, I thought about how I knew that no matter what, God will be watching, and he will give a helping hand whenever it is needed.

~ Jeremy Kuo

It was an unexpected mission trip. I did not know that there is a music mission until I was back in Hong Kong after the Taiwan mission trip. By that time, I was having a waiting list for my trip back to US and if I couldn't get back on the 20th Monday, that means I won't be able to make the practice on that Saturday which also means I won't be able to join this trip. To be honest, I was thinking: ok, if I can get back on 20th, I am going and if not, I am not going. I didn't even think of trying to do anything to "help" myself to join this trip, but thanks Jerry for being so considerate and trying to arrange an extra practice for me. Also here I would like to thanks for everyone's patience for my time adjustment that I know I get grumpy when I am tired.

Therefore, I was back on the 27<sup>th</sup> Monday to US. Tuesday, I got a call from Michael that he was willing to practice with me that night. When I went to church there was not Michael the only one there, but also Jeremy and Gary. I knew that it was basically a "just for me" practice. Thanks everyone for your extra time.

This is actually my first music mission, but I have no idea why everyone thought that I have been going for many times. At first I felt kind of pressured because I felt like that everyone has an expectation on me, and even though I did practice or a little bit, I didn't feel like I am ready. And there were so many expected things going on. There was a song that I never played and I have to play, and I did not know I was going to play for the Sunday service until Saturday night. Remember that night Pastor Michael said that the one who is working is not us, but God. Just forget everything you have practiced and play with your heart! Truly, the one was working is not me, it's all about God. That's why I don't feel pressured anymore, and I really enjoyed the time playing.

It is not as a long trip, but it reminds me that whenever we are serving, we are not doing it to show off. We are not doing it base on how good There is always something to learn when you are doing God's work. For me, this trip to Dayton was yet another reminder from God that he is always in control, and that it is always His plan that matters.

I had been extremely busy the week before the trip; my quartet had been hired to play at a wedding on the practice day for the mission trip (which was only a week before the actual trip so it was the only practice we'd have before leaving), and I had to take a very important Latin test that I had been studying all summer for. There was very little time for me to practice the music for the mission trip, and quite frankly, it was not the highest on my list of priorities.

However, I made time to at least practice the pieces I knew I had to play, and especially work on **You Are** which is a piece that I had very much difficulty with (as the rhythm was so syncopated that I had trouble just counting it, let alone playing it). Finally, I got pretty good at that piece, and felt that I was pretty ready for the trip. I hadn't done as much as I wanted to, but I figured that I had done enough. It seemed like everything was pretty much going as had been planned.

That wasn't in God's plan, however. When we got to Dayton and started our dress rehearsal, I found out that there was a possibility (rather great possibility) that I wouldn't even need to play You **Are.** By the end of the rehearsal, that possibility became certainty. Instead, I was handed a piece that I had never so much as even looked at before. Now, sight-reading had never been one of my good points. In fact, I could probably honestly say that it was one of my greatest weaknesses, but when I looked at that piece and sight-read it, I played it perfectly. Perfectly. The first time through. It didn't make very much sense to me. Then I thought about it for a while and realized that if God wanted it done, He would get it done. He showed me that it is not always going to be what we plan, but that it will always be what He plans, and He will provide.

~ Christina Nieh

To start, I would like to say that the Dayton Music Mission was a fantastic experience for me. I was allowed to play bass at the concert even though I was horrible, and I had only practiced for two weeks. I really looked forward to the mission, and I had fun serving Jesus Christ. Just a couple weeks before, I just went to the VGM Mission Trip to Taiwan, so I was eager to serve the Lord once again.

Both experiences were great, but they differed greatly. For example, the Taiwan mission

trip involved us to connect to the students personally, while the Dayton mission had us connect through our music. Either way, it is a great feeling to know that I spread the word of Christ. At the Dayton trip, it was great to see an audience listen to the music that we worked on. In this mission trip, I felt that I not only connected with Jesus more, but also with the members of KCCC more.

I have loved music for a good majority of my life, and I am truly ecstatic that there are others who can share this passion with me.

I had such an amazing experience, that I signed up to go to the Chicago Music Mission Trip as well, and I can hardly wait. I would like to thank KCCC and the Dayton Church for giving us this opportunity to spread the word of Christ through our music. I would also like to thank the Dayton families that gave us shelter, and I am extremely grateful for their patience and hospitality.

~ Gary Xia

This year was my second time going on a music mission trip. Before we went I was very nervous about having to play the keyboard. I was nervous because I didn't get the music early enough for me to practice it a lot.

When I did get the music I practiced really hard for a song that my mom was going to sing. When I went to the first rehearsal the pastor told me that I was supposed to play a different part than I had practiced for. The new music was very difficult, and I got very frustrated. Then Keat came and reminded me that I was doing this all for God. After that I just focused on serving God.

When we arrived at the church we practiced for about 4 hours. Then we began our playing for the people who came to the church. I was playing the keyboard, and for most of my songs I just played chords. I had one piece where I played the melody. I was very nervous when I started, but then I prayed to God for peace. Right when I did I felt calm in playing the rest of the song.

I think that during this trip God showed me that he is always there for me. I just have to put my trust in him. All in all I had a lot of fun serving God during this music mission trip.

~ lan

Nieh

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night,

to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp.

For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands.

How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts!

Praise and thanks to our wonderful God because He has given me a chance to serve and be part of a team to the Dayton Music Mission Trip this year. Even though it was a short 2 day trip, there were many enjoyable and inspiring moments that we shared. I was encouraged and inspired by our team that not only shares a love for music, but a passion to share the Gospel, and a willingness to step out to serve in other churches. It is quite amazing that many of us that come from different places around the world and from diverse backgrounds and with different talents can come together just like different instruments of the orchestra and make pleasing music. I am sure that God would have to be the conductor to make this possible. I am grateful that He has again provided us this opportunity to work together and I felt blessed to be part of this team.

Somehow I wished that there was a way to capture our emotions and thoughts just like the way a camera captures a fleeting moment of beauty. This is because there were many touching and beautiful moments during this trip. I was especially touched during our team sharing after our Sunday worship. Through the sharing, I was moved to see how our team came together to serve God despite the many challenges we faced. From the sharing, I learned that there were sacrifices many of us had to go through to make it to the trip. Indeed, we are very fortunate to have a team that has a heart for this ministry. Especially with team members staying in three different areas, it is heart warming to see them traveling from St. Joseph and Ann Arbor for our pre mission trip practice. And during the trip, most of them have to brave through weariness from traveling and some were not feeling well. The amazing thing is that we were not only able to pull through these challenges; we were able to do it with joy and gratitude in our hearts because we know that God is with us. I am also grateful that in our sharing, we can remind each other about how God answers our prayers and how God touches our lives in different ways. In a way it helps sharpen our senses and makes us aware of the different ways He works. I feel that God has blessed our team, especially through the times that we did not feel prepared, when we were faced with unexpected challenges and dealing with nervousness and weariness.

Even for those who joined the mission trip for the first time, it was great to see the energy and enthusiasm that they added to our team. Likewise, the mission trip also renewed our energy to serve and gave us a way to be closer to God and to each other. I believe that even after this music mission trip has ended, God is still working among us as many of the songs we shared are still close to our hearts and we also got to sing them in the Sunday English worship to reach out to those that were not able to join us.

Indeed, God is great and with Him all things are possible. And He has proven it!

~ Keat Mah

約在七年前參加教會的感恩節佈道大會,聽到一首詩歌「*我曾經像一隻小小飛鳥,飛躍在這藍天海上,我無時無刻彷徨無助,找不到可以傾訴。*--」,我深深的被打動,也喜歡那曲調。 更重要的是終於明白我到底在尋找什麼。 原來我所尋覓的就是 主耶穌那慈愛的雙手。從此,我回到神的面前,回到神的家。

從未想過以歌聲來事奉主。然而,王牧師和師母給了我許多的鼓勵和支持,而他們為主的全然擺上更是感動了我。就這麼跟著王牧師東征西討不知多少次,這當中有很多的學習和體驗,更是深刻的經歷 神的大能。這個團隊經過了許多寒暑,幾乎每次的成員總有些不同,但是每次都可看到 神豐豐富富的供應。弟兄姐妹來自不同的國家,帶著不同的恩賜。僅管是初次配搭,但彼此鼓勵,互相代禱,互補不足之處,都一再的讓我感動。我看到神的愛可以彌補一切的不足,神讓不可能的成為可能,在神真是沒有難成的事。

僅管知道詩歌可以感動人,但我在事奉的過程中仍然有掙扎。不知有多少次,因著缺少練習,因著緊張以致於無法將詩歌很好的呈現出來,心中好難過,深深感到愧對神。曾向神禱告是否可以用其它方式來事奉他,但是 神沒有回答,卻讓我更有負擔要將詩歌唱好。而 神就藉著這樣的機會讓我學習倚靠他,更多與他親近。 常常在練習的時候就有 神同在的喜樂。我這才恍然大悟!不是我在事奉主,而是主讓我來享受他,體驗有他的同在是何等甘甜。讚美主!感謝主!只願在未來的日子裡成為更多人的祝福。

~ 阮淑貞

不知道這是第幾次跟著牧師去音樂短宣,但 是這幾年下來感覺到其實真正收穫最多的是自 己,因為每次在不同的宣教地點都看見自己的不 足,無論樂器上或者靈命上都無法將 神的道宣

揚出去,而且對當地教會弟兄的讚許及感謝更是 愧不敢當,相信這也是 神在提醒我這成就一切 都是祂,而我只是在 神的揀選之下得以見證這 奇妙工作。但這奇妙的工作不只成就在參加佈道 的福音朋友身上,也一次又一次成就在短宣隊 上。很多時候在短宣工作確定時,短宣成員卻仍 然是未知數,在練習時間不足的同時,隊員們無 法趕上同時練習。但是當我們將自己擺上時,神 就開始動工,年復一年,每年都有足夠的人手來 完成短宣。不只如此,[當讚美的旋律響起,我的 心全然向祢; 當聖靈的恩膏滿溢,我的靈不再封 閉〕就是當音樂響起時的最佳寫照。多年來我從 驚訝到驚奇到最後只能説若非這事工是得神的喜 悦,並且由 神自己成就,我們這些無用的僕人 無論用再多的時間、精力、計劃、練習都是枉 然。因為主説:「我從起初指明末後的事,從古 時言明未成的事, 説 : 我的籌算必立定; 凡我 所喜 悦的, 我必成就。](以賽亞書 46:10) 下次的短宣會如何? 下次的短宣會去那兒? 我相 信這都不重要了. 重要的是我們應如何裝備自己, 而當 神的呼召臨到時能坦然無懼說:"我在這 裡,請差遣我。"願 主保守你們,並 祂所有喜 悦的人 阿們! 吳世龍

從不同地方、不同時間出發的六輛車幾乎同 時到達德頓華人教會。大家陸續躦出車內,舒展 一下酸軟的腰腿,接著就開始搬卸、安裝樂器。

當鼓手世龍敲打著兩根鼓棒,得意洋洋地 走進會堂時,才發現台上根本沒有鼓!原來由於溝 通故障,世龍和負責器材的Anson都以為對方會帶 鼓,結果誰也沒有帶,幸好德頓教會有位弟兄家中 有鼓,立刻前去搬運;調試電子琴時,卻無論如何 搗鼓,都弄不出延長音;當所有的樂器都架設好, 所有的人員都歸位,時針已指向三點半了;似乎有 些出師不利的感覺。

牧師的過敏不僅影響了他的身體,也影響了他的心情;建蓉家裡翻修地板,已連續好幾天沒有好好休息,嗓音有些乾澀;建文緊張地連吃幾個NG,有些手忙腳亂了;JOANNA上週才從香港回卡城,頭腦不僅還在時空的轉換中,恐怕還在囬味港式點心的餘香;世龍從台灣回美就一直重感冒,鼻塞耳聾,打鼓完全憑感覺,這段日子加上頭痛,孩子說話的聲音都會加劇痛覺震盪,鼓棒一敲感覺就是山崩地裂,所以他幾乎不能練習,牧師和他講話時,見他一臉茫然,原來他為了避免任何聲音震盪產生頭痛而戴著耳塞。他雖然一臉輕鬆地說都交給神了,還是不免使我們為之惶然;至於我嘛,問題就更嚴重了。平常在教會也常帶領詩歌,喊個「預備

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子,竟忙的樂器手們一頭汗水,只好隨我不按牌理盡 性發揮。

我們這群人,好像剛出曠野的以色列人,疲 病交加中就要面對高大勇猛的迦南人,神今天真要用 我們這些「傷兵敗將」來為祂征戰嗎?

時間在飛快地流逝,設備和人的故障也不斷出現,牧師有些著急,全然忘了那些ABC的中文程度只是半吊子,對著彈吉他的Jeremy説「聲音小一點」,不料,Robin以為是對他説,立刻降低了薩克斯風的音量,牧師有點語無倫次了:「不是你,是你!」今年有兩個低音吉他手離開卡城,才學了兩個多禮拜的Gary只好披掛上陣,被委以重任。

晚會就要開始了,許多隊員來不及吃飯,從一大早開車出發到現在,疲累和病痛襲擊了許多人,我們手牽手開始事奉前的禱告,聖靈和恩膏就流入我們心。好像那個患血漏的婦人,摸到了耶穌的衣裳穗子,就得著了能力,病就得以痊癒。

時間已過,會場才稀稀疏疏地坐了不到一半,台上兩個教會加在一起事奉的人,似乎比台下的人還多。想起牧師交代,我們唱歌時要找到福音朋友對著他唱,還要為他禱告,淑芬笑說若是我們都對著同一個人唱,他今晚鐵定跑不掉了。

望著台下稀疏的座位、不熟悉的面孔,分不清誰 是基督徒誰是福音朋友。我正在猶豫該鎖定的人選, 突然看到一家人走進來,是我二十多年前在國內教書 時的學生,去年來德頓教會時相認的。

當年我初執教鞭、意興風發,而今他已是做父親的人了;當年我曾向他傳授知識,如今則向他傳講福音。 去年聖誕節,我特意寄去一張卡片:「……若你對當年那個年輕氣盛的老師還有幾份信任,你就能相信, 我經過多年生命的磨難所找到的耶穌,也是你可以將一生交托的救主,……」寄出卡片後,我一直在禱告中紀念他們,今年四月得知他們夫妻一同受洗,我喜出望外,神聽了我的禱告。此刻,看著她們一家人進來,像是上帝在提醒我:無論得時或不得時,只管作我們當做的,神會成就一切。

我振作起精神,繼續尋找禱告的對象。看到幾個 衣著時髦的年輕女孩進來,想必是新來的學生,我飽 含熱忱地對著她們唱,一邊默默地對她們說:耶穌愛 妳。一會兒,她們站起來走出去,我心裡著急:還沒 呼召呢,她們怎麼就走掉呢?立刻為她們禱告,求神 留住她們。禱告完畢,見她們在大堂外東張西望,原 來是在找洗手間,很快又囬到座位上,我懷著感恩的 心,對她們唱得更起勁了,後來其中的一位決志信主 了.

記得牧師曾在台灣短宣分享時説:在每一次宣教 過程中,我們實在不能做甚麼,只是在看神作工,成 為神的見證人。此言當真。但若你沒有親身參與,你 就無法經歷其美好,無法感受其真實。站在那裡一邊 唱著,一邊看神作工,就好像看見摩西在你面前伸杖,紅海在你面前分開,幾千年前的神蹟,今天重現眼前。

這次事奉中感觸最深的還有一句話「加油」。這幾乎是團隊的精神,在困難、不足、缺乏和軟弱中,隊員們以愛彼此鼓勵,成為一股強有力的繩索,將每個人的心扭結在一起。「愛,能遮掩一切過錯」;愛,也能撼山移海。神是奇妙的,經歷祂更多,愛祂更多,像祂更多。 ~ 鄧曉雲

在這一次的音樂短官中,我深深地體會到成 為神的兒女的恩典和祝福。在Dayton Greg弟兄 及雅芳姊妹的家中住了兩晚,他們熱情的招待使 我感受到出門在外,一樣有家的感覺,因為我們 同是神的兒女。因為神的愛,使我們成為一家 人, 使我們願意奉獻我們所擁有的來做神的事 工。這一次卡城的音樂短宣隊在出發前雖然只 有非常短的練習時間,而且音樂會當天,大家一 早出發,經過長途開車,下午抵達Dayton教會後, 馬上練習到開始前40分鐘,然而,當我們獻唱時, 我們感受到神的祝福,當我們願意將自己擺上 時,神就喜悦我們的奉獻,神就使用我們成為別 人的祝福!雖然,在我獨唱及主領之時,那緊張 及擔心出錯的情緒不斷襲來,但是當我們開始唱 第一首詩歌之後,我自己深深領受到神又再次觸 摸我內心, 神的平安與喜樂又再度充滿我, 使我 不再緊張,不再懼怕,因為神是看我們的擺上,祂 必賜下能力,帶領我們完成傳揚祂聖名的事工。 參加音樂短官,雖然在行程上非常緊凑,身體上 有些許疲累,但是神所賜下的平安及喜樂使我願 意繼續為了傳揚主福音的音樂事工奉獻。

~ 呂孟晃

「每年都歡送好幾位敬拜團的人走,但 每次出來音樂宣教,台上事奉的位置依然坐滿 了。這事工是神建立的,因為祂親自供應。」 這是一位團員在今年音樂宣教的分享。

從出發前一週的練習開始,神就很祝福,自己雖剛從國外兩次短宣回來;吳世龍一家也才從台灣回來兩天,生病了;新團員有Robin、Gary與Jeremy(後來郭弟兄也加入,成為我們很大的祝福),以及人還在香港的Joanna,練起來好像缺少什麼。一練到細節的部份就「等Joanna回來再說!」「等去Dayton這裡要好好練一下」。這反而使我們練習的時間減短,大家多一些休息與交通。吃飯時我看著這群團員,心裡湧出一份感恩,他們不辭辛

苦、不問成果,有從St. Joseph開車來的,有從Ann Arbor開車來的。幾位青少年的新團員,有種「初生之犢不畏虎」的傻氣,他們開心的表情中有「是你邀請我來的,你要負責!」的瀟灑。神啊!我願意負這個責任,為了團員的合一,為了他們事奉神的經驗,為了他們屬靈的經歷,為了他們恩賜的發揮,為了他們對靈魂的負擔,為了傳揚福音,為了卡城教會的門徒建造與訓練,為了某一些失喪的人正在等待我們把福音傳給他們,為了神的呼召,為了「莊稼已經發白了!」

當天六輛車浩浩蕩蕩的出發,有一輛前一天先出發了。到了Dayton開始架設樂器練習。這次很高興(其實是很興奮)能跟Dayton華人教會一起事奉,他們的詩班跟我們一起聯合帶領敬拜。這是一個新的嚐試,是一個挑戰,也是兩個教會在事奉上合一的機會,對他們詩班來說是更大的挑戰,聽說在我們去以前,他們花了很多時間去練我們指定的歌曲,認真自不在話下。等到我們真正一起時,才發現我們唱的方式很簡單,四部合聲的部份不多。但Dayton的詩班這些叔叔阿姨們(一半以上戴老花眼鏡),沒有一個抱怨、也沒有一個提出異議的。反而不斷讚美我們的團隊歌聲甜美的人怎麼那麼多!

去年我們在同一時間,同一場合曾舉辦過同一音樂佈道會,那天晚上約有一百五十人,這次台下約只有四、五十人,但是我們不灰心,每一位團員仍然盡心忘我的彈奏,笑容可掬的演唱,歌曲一首接一首,見證一個接一個,台下也是火熱一片,結果在出席的十幾廿位福音朋友中,竟然還有兩位決志,這是神的恩典與大能。

Robin苦練了薩克斯風好久,結果周六晚上他唯 一吹奏的兩首歌,都因為節目太長而臨時刪掉了。 Gary第一次上台彈Bass,很用心也彈得不錯。 Jeremy這次在台灣短短兩週,吉他進步神速,據他 的老師Anson説是「他已經入門了!」意思是自己可 以往前走了。Joanna真是底子厚,事先沒有告訴 她,當場請她如何彈她就如何彈。孟晃帶後半場敬 拜,成熟穩重,是大將之材。Jenny、Ivy、恆如、 淑芬、師母,每一個人的聲音都有不同味道的甜 美。Jerry因為腰痛為我們放投影,他說反倒能從台 下的角度去欣賞,體驗整個聚會,雖然中間有些後 悔無法上台。郭弟兄是兒子Jeremy的琴童,並且照 顧大家所顧不到的事情。Christina 的小提琴,已 經抓住了我要的彈奏法( 其實我一直講不清楚自己 要什麼,但聖靈為我溝通 ),自己找地方彈奏, 且都是恰到好處。Ian越來越熟練,而且有興趣的不 只一樣樂器,他在會後分享時都流淚了,我被這個 為主有著一顆柔軟的心的青少年感謝神, 也為他的 家庭感謝神。Keat與Anson技巧熟練又有默契,在休 息時常教導新的團員。

第二天是主日崇拜,我們再一次用音樂來讚美、高舉我們的上帝,自己的身心靈也向上飛升。我真正體會到最美的音樂不在五線譜裡面,不在CD唱盤裡面,不在音響裡面,不在樂器裡面,乃在我們的靈裡面。我們的口與手中的樂器,不過是將它表達出來的器皿罷了。願神使用我們,也願我們懂得使用我們的口與樂器,使之榮耀神。

這次Jenny與Gary,郭弟兄與Jeremy,看著他們跟家人一起事奉,我心中很喜樂。全家宣教是與孩子一起蒙福最好的時刻。這兩個孩子也是,在台灣鄉福短宣像個小大人,獨來獨往卻又同進同出,這次有父母陪同,臉上多了一分孩子的稚氣,說話也嬌氣一點。等我孩子再大一點,我一定要向他們學習。世龍、Ivy一家;Jerry、淑芬一家;孟晃、恆如一家,也都是全家出動,我們也帶著兩個較大可以自己玩的孩子。每次的音樂宣教,都是「平平安安出門,高高興興回家」,因為有主就有平安,主的同在就帶來喜樂。

~ 王克強 牧師

再次以音樂短宣的方式走訪Dayton教會,心中的感受卻和去年有些差異。回顧去年第一次和卡城的眾弟兄姊妹去音樂短宣時,心中較大的壓力是在於音樂本身,身為演唱者的一員,又有獨唱部份,雖然經過反覆的練習、準備,表現仍舊和自己所期許的有一段差距,在麥克風的放大擴音效果下,可以清晰地聽出自己的抖音及不和諧,當時在弟兄姊妹的愛心包容和鼓勵下也就過了。而今年因為背痛的緣故,自己想或許居於和也能在台下邊放投影邊唱。少了上台的緊張,卻也能在台下邊放投影邊唱。少了上台的緊張,卻多了你唱詩歌我來和的樂趣。以一個台下人的角度來觀察這次短宣,讓我更珍惜這項事工及眾同工的付出,在此舉例與大家分享:

一、為著事工的擺上感謝主!這次的宣教計劃雖然很早就敲定了,但是在暑假期間,有不少的團員還有其它的行程。有人為了要配合排練的時間而改機票,有人在外出幾週短宣後,仍全力投入節目從頭到尾的逐步計劃。更看到可愛的青少年們,半懂半猜努力地配合中文詩歌的演奏。由於他們中文識字的能力有限,全靠歌名中「似曾相識」的一、兩個字和數歌名中的字數,來判斷究竟該彈奏哪一首曲子。儘管有這樣的困難,他們卻沒有任何的抱怨,真為他們有正確而又認真的服事態度感謝神!

二、為 Dayton 教會同工全力的配合感謝 主! 這次短宣中 Dayton 教會的詩班也是敬拜團 的一部份,因為距離上的限制,

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之前兩個教會的詩班和敬拜團,並沒有機會配合練習。最後彩排時,所有 Dayton 教會的詩班員非常有耐心地坐在詩班席上等了一個多小時,直等到樂器部份就緒,才有機會進行聯合詩班的排練。而其他負責接待和場務的同工,也都盡心盡力的配合,讓所有的工作都能順利銜接。

三、特別想到為一些有心參與,但因故未能成行,卻仍在幕後支持的同工感謝神!他們不僅以禱告 托住整個短宣行程,也有同工細心縝密地計劃各項細節,使所有的行程和節目得以有條不紊地進行,免除 了不少猜測及失誤。

雖然這次參加晚會的人數比上次少了很多,但 是在聖靈的帶領下,牧師呼召時就有人打開心門接受 主。若非聖靈的工作,誰能帶他們信主呢?我們無論 是在幕前的或幕後的;成行的或以禱告支持的,不都 是在這大使命中,成為神可用的器皿,做成神所託付 的工作嗎?

~ 聶震宇

短宣出發前,我心中有些掙扎,雖然知道這時已是「箭在弦上,不得不發」,可是我卻是一步一躊躇。由於排練的不足以及溝通上的一些瑕疵,使我有很深的無力感,尤其是除了要練自己的部份,還得照顧到同行的兒女們的準備,在這樣的壓力下,我既對自己不滿意,也對團隊的默契沒信心,甚至想以後再也不要去了。許多負面的想法和情緒,充塞了我的心思意念。

一直到車行在高速公路上,我緊綳的情緒(可能也有一張緊綳的樸克臉)才忽然鬆弛了下來,心中充滿了平安。我上車前已把譜夾放在座位旁,以便在車上還可以臨陣磨磨槍,但整段路程中,我一次也沒翻它,因為那突如其來的平安是如此真實,讓我毫無抵抗的餘地。事實上,我根本沒想抵抗,因為心中完全平安的感覺實在太美妙了!

於是我能夠開始向神認罪,並為自已全家能一起事奉神感恩、為其他團員感恩、為 Dayton 教會感恩、也為我們的教會感恩。整段車程中,看著後座四個孩子相處非常融洽、而Jeremy和Gary在他們的車經過我們車旁時,對著我們比手劃脚、作鬼臉時,天堂的經歷就在我們中間,因為我們中間有愛的聯結。我相信一定有人在為我們切切地禱告,而神憐憫我,藉著旁人的代禱,施恩於我,教我看見祂是永遠掌權的神!我的緊張、沮喪,既不健康又不造就人。

到了Dayton 教會以後,還有許多波折:先是發現沒有鼓,而建蓉、世龍、牧師的身體也都有一些軟弱,最糟的是等到能和Dayton教會詩班一起排練時,我們的時間已所剩無幾,而且他們和我們練的又不盡相同。可是透過這些問題,我學習到幾件功課:

一、真心感激Dayton教會弟兄姊妹的謙卑與愛心一當

發現兩個詩班練的部份不盡相同時,他們立刻 配合,沒有抱怨、也沒有討論,就是順服。想 想我們是誰?憑什麼接受這樣的對待!我的心 真是充滿了感恩,因為只有神的大能可以讓人 放下自我,讓人「看別人比自己強」。

此外,開放家庭接待我們的弟兄姊妹,對我們招待得非常週到。我們本來是帶了睡袋去的,沒料到他們不僅提供足夠的房間,還有一間足套房!甚至有一家,才添了新生兒不久,也接待了好幾位短宣隊員,主日早晨還聽見他們問住在他們家的短宣隊員睡得好不好,生怕嬰兒的哭聲,擾了他們的休息。這樣的愛心,讓人動容,願神祝福他們的擺上,也幫助我們學習這樣的愛心付出。

二、欣賞同行弟兄姊妹的恩賜與信心一每位弟兄姊妹都有特別之處,不論是在台上唱的、彈奏樂器的、作見證的、帶領詩歌的,或是在台下放投影的、錄影的、及拍照的,每個人都全心全意地做自己那部份的工作。正是一個身體上,各個肢體,彼此配搭,要作成神差我們去作的工。尤其是看待同行的年輕人時,不覺得他們只是一群孩子,而是有活力的同工。

三、專心享受神的同在一常常會因為緊張、憂慮、著急、興奮、甚至計較得失,使得自己心有旁騖,不能安靜地專心仰望神,也失去了享受有祂同在的福氣。這一次的音樂短宣中,也許我們的表現,終究因為種種原因,而未能盡善盡美,但在那一夜,我們擺上了所有的,也經歷了有神同在的平安,這就是我們最大的福份了。

~ 繆淑芬

九月一日我們再次到Dayton華人教會進行音樂短宣,這已經是我第二次去Dayton,第五次參加這樣的短宣隊.感謝主,給我認識他,服侍他的機會.也感謝神,給我傳揚他的福音,為人工作的機會.我的第一個感受就是,只要神在心中,我每次出發前,就有期盼,有平安,有喜樂.每次回來,都有感動,有心得,有收獲.

這次,我們的團隊,和以往一樣,又不一樣. 我和兒子Gary都在隊伍里面一同服事,我真的很高興,感謝贊美神!我們團隊的弟兄姐妹,親如一家,情同手足,有困難就共同克服,有需要共同協助,有愉快和成功大家一起分享,我為此而感謝神.我們是一個團結的集體,分享的集體,禱告的集體,順服的集體,更重要地,我們是一個愛神的集體,同時又被神的愛充滿的集體.為此再次感謝神!

在教會,在家里,我們常常有這樣認識,就是

作為一個基督徒,當前最重要的,對我們來講就是傳揚福音.耶穌基督告誡我們:"所以你們要去、使萬民作我的門徒."對此,我們基督不敢有絲毫的松懈和忘懷.傳福音的條件是什么?我覺得,并不在于我們在專業上等待有更充足的準備,而是首先要有信心.因為,這個信心也是神加添給我們的.當我們每一個人真正地明白,我們不是靠自己,我們不過是一個個的器皿,放掉私心,唯獨信靠和馴服,我們就可以為神所用,創造奇跡.這次通過一個活生生的列子,我更加深了這個認識.

"馨香晚祭"是我們這天晚上頌贊的第一首歌.是由我和Dayton教會的一位美國姐妹組合. 問題是我們倆并不認識,之前也沒有在一起練習.大家知道,沒有足夠的練習,這是非常忌諱的.我本人也一直六神無主,忐忑不安.我們到Dayton后,牧師在安排預備練習時,又恰恰把我們的次序放到最后.這就形成最后練習,最先上臺的局面.我開始緊張,顯得無助.只得借助神的力量,我開始禱告.神是你要我來,一定有你的美意,你掌管我,你派遣我,我是你的一個器皿.我向你求救.不求你再臨時加添我和Nancy姐妹合作的技巧,只求你加添我們的信心,單純地仰賴你的能力.簡短的禱告,受

到了最好的效果.因為神首先使我的心平安下來,我們配合良好,順利地完成了任務.

短宣的過程,也是弟兄姐妹相互幫助,關心 的過程,更是神的大能展現的過程.由于去 Dayton的前兩天家里換地板, 忙于家务事, 加之 休息不好,直到出发前,我感到頭晕,頭痛,没有 精神. 我自己就耽心这会影响我的工作质量. 然 而实践证明,所有出自人为的忧郁和耽心都是多 干的,因为神为我預备了战胜困难的一切需要. 在那天晚上,团队的弟兄姐妹們齐声为我祷告, Mary为我进行头部按摩,淑芬在任何时候都送来 温馨的笑容,所有这一切,对我都是莫大的鼓励 和安慰,使我自然的忘掉了疲乏,全然投入到工 作中. 而在这奇妙的变化后面, 实际上是神的大 能在其作用,是他主宰了一切,安排了一切,指导 了一切,我为此感谢神,感谢为神工作的弟兄姐 妹們,感谢大家的帮助,感謝我們團隊的每一位 無論是大還是小. 我通过这个机会, 更加深了对 神的认识,对神的愛和对大家的爱.

~趙建蓉

### 中國短宣外一章

王克強

岳母多年前早在電話中信主,但還有「老黨員不要張揚」的想法,教會生活一直不健全。這兩天我有機會就對她解釋救恩與跟隨主的真義,她終於答應接受洗禮。晚上曉雲的哥哥也從外地回來,他工作忙碌,但爲了明天一早要送我到培訓地點,特別今晚趕回來,因爲從宜昌沒有到培訓地點爲終點站的車,我在中途是要自己下車的,岳母怕我下錯車,就請哥特地回來送我。

就在全家人的見證中,我簡單隆重的爲岳母舉行了洗禮。我特地打電話給曉雲,想要她在電話中,一起跟我們經歷洗禮,但岳母家的電話在房間裡,也沒有無線電話,洗禮在客廳,只好請她在美國同一時間禱告守望,她高興的連說好。我的洗禮信息是「基督的樣式」(當然我不會在他們一家老小四人面前宣佈題目),從嫂嫂早上說「觀光客好像導遊的上帝」作爲切入點。爲什麼導遊們都這麼開玩笑?中國人對上帝的觀念是什麼?原來上帝是我們的老闆,是我們的高級客戶,對我們頤指氣使,我們不但鞠躬哈腰,還要看祂臉色,結果辛苦忙碌一輩子,就是盼望在人生旅程的終點時,上帝給我們一個「服務滿意」的評語,然後祂才把該給的給我們?不是的。聖經告訴我們(讀詩篇廿三篇給他們聽,然後一節一節思想),上帝是賜給我們生命與萬物的神,缺乏時祂供應,昏沉時使我們甦醒,迷失時祂引導,孤單時祂陪伴,錯誤時祂管教,危險時搭救我們,祂不是我們的「金主」、「惡主」,祂是爲了挽回我,把祂的獨生子賜給我,爲我流血爲我死,把聖靈保惠師賜給我,祂是我在天上的父,我的爸爸!

水禮與禱告後,全家親熱的拍照。我還把相機放在電視上自拍,才拍攝到全部的人。爸爸回家了(哥哥不常回家),外甥喜形於色,我一方面爲他高興,一方面也想著自己的三個兒子,不在身邊的時候,連他們的淘氣都是令人思念的。

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#### Home Front News

卡城華人基督教會季刊

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凡樂意在文字事工上事奉 神的弟兄 姊妹,都歡迎和我們同工。如果你可 以幫忙打中文稿件,我們很需要你!



□ 本刊徴稿:

□ 凡符合本教會基要信仰,且未曾發表過之眞實見證、□ 文藝創作,都歡迎弟兄姊妹投稿。來稿文體不拘,惟□ 因篇幅有限,請儘量以不超過二千字爲原則。讓我們□ 一同用文字來頌讚配得一切尊貴榮耀的神!

## 生命中最好的養分

有個小男孩幾乎認為自己是世界上最不幸的孩子,因為患脊髓灰質炎而留下了瘸腿和參差.不齊且突出的牙齒。他很少與同學們遊戲和玩耍,老師叫他回答問題時,他也總是低著頭一言.不發。

在一個平常的春天,小男孩的父親從鄰居家討了些樹苗,他想把它們栽在房子前,他叫他的孩子們每人栽一棵。父親對孩子們說,誰栽的樹苗長得最好,就給誰買一件最喜歡的禮物。小男孩也想得到父親的禮物。但看到兄弟姐妹那蹦蹦跳跳提水澆樹的身影,不知怎麼地,萌生出一種陰冷的想法:希望自己栽的那棵樹早日死去。因此澆過一兩次水後,再也沒去理它。

幾天後,小男孩再去看他種的那棵樹時,驚奇地發現它不僅沒有枯萎,而且還長出了幾片 新葉子,與兄弟姐妹們所種的樹相比,顯得更嫩綠,更有生氣。父親兌現了他的諾言,為小男 孩買了一件他最喜愛的禮物,並對他說:從他栽的樹來看,他長大後一定能成為一個出色的植 物學家。從那以後,小男孩慢慢地變得樂觀向上起來。

一天晚上,小男孩躺在床上睡不著,看著窗外那明亮皎潔的月光,忽然想起生物老師曾說 過的話『植物一般都在晚上生長。』何不去看看自己種的那棵小樹?他輕手輕腳來到院子裡 時,卻看見父親用勺子在向自己栽種的那棵樹下潑灑著什麼。頓時,一切他都明白了,原來父 說一直在偷偷地為自己栽種的那棵小樹施肥!

他返回房間,任憑淚水肆意地奔流。

幾十年過去了,那瘸腿的小男孩盡管沒有成為一個植物學家,但他卻成為了美國總統,他的名字叫富蘭克林·羅斯福。

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

愛是生命中最好的養分,哪怕這只是一句老話。(本文選自網路文章)

編者