

SAF Mission Trip to Calvary Miri B-P Church (17th to 22th March 2017)

We thank the LORD for His grace and privilege to the Senior Adults Fellowship (SAF) mission team to serve Him in Calvary Miri B-P Church, Miri, Sarawak, East Malaysia.

Mission Team Members

- Elder Tan Nee Keng – Worship Service Speaker and teacher (children’s program),
- Peck Thian Guan - Team Leader and youth teacher,
- Khoo Peng Keong – Prayer meeting speaker and youth teacher,
- Allan Tang – Lead Teacher (children’s program) and logistics,
- Neo Lee Sei – Teacher (children’s program)
- Penny Song – Assistant Teacher (children’s program) and treasurer
- Jessie Lee & Cindy Tan—Assistant Teacher (children’s program)

Elder Chan from Calvary Jaya was serving with the team.

We thank God that the attendance is slightly more than the last VBS in Sep. We also thank God for raising new people to take up responsibilities previously shouldered by full-time worker Marilyn Nanta. Marilyn was not able to participate as she is in Singapore for an operation on her hands. Constance and Timothy also could not be with the team due to health reasons.

What Did We Do There?

1. *Vacation Bible School (VBS) / Youth & Adult Program*

The theme of the year is “Pleasing God” – Heb 11:6 and most of the lesson were aligned to the theme. Activities included bible lessons for children and youth, art and craft, singspiration, learning new songs, group discussion, games and screening of Christian videos, visitation and fellowship.

Attendance:

Date	Children	Youths / Adults
Saturday – 17 th Mar 2017	22	13
Sunday – 18 th Mar 2017	21	No lessons
Monday – 19 th Mar 2017	22	14
Tuesday – 20 th Mar 2017	27	14

Children’s Program

Thank God for the 3 new comers to the children’s program (Carolla, Melissa and Lahong) and also a group of children from the Kampong Lusut area. The team observed that generally the children were well behaved and attentive during the lessons. For the regular children who attended our VBS program, we saw a sustained improvement in

areas of attentiveness during lesson time and spiritual growth. The children did the art with enthusiasm and the work sheets were also neatly done. The Miri children love singing especially those with action. They were also quick to learn up new songs and sang with their hearts and souls.

The youths and adults took charge of taking attendance, refreshments and food preparation, food collection and clearing up. The younger children also did their part by sweeping the floor after the lessons. The ladies also assisted in transportation of the children. It was observed that they did all the duties efficiently and cheerfully. It is encouraging to note that the church members made the effort in organising all the duties amongst themselves.

- d. We taught them a new song "Countdown Song". They picked up the song very quickly and many of them can even memorise them by the end of the VBS. We observed that all the members love singing and picked up new song very quickly. We enjoyed teaching and singing along with them as they sang with all their hearts.

We thank God for Elvin who served as interpreter for the children's program.

Lesson covered:

It has been a blessed time and a joy to share God's word with the Miri children. Despite the teachers not able to speak Bahasa fluently, children are patient and their responsive in class. Bro Elvin has been a great help in interpreting and helping out of the program.

- a. The theme for this VBS is *Pleasing God*. The life of Nehemiah was chosen to expound on the theme. Before the five lessons were taught, the background was described to the children of how Nehemiah and the people of God comes to the situation they were in.
- b. Lesson 1 entitled "Returning to God", using the book of Ezra as the text, children are taught regardless of their spiritual state, taking active steps to repent and confess before God and forsake sin.
- c. Lesson 2 entitled "A call to work", using Haggai 1:1-2 as the text, encouraging them to serve and why they ought to.
- d. Lesson 3 entitled "God's sovereign hand working", text the book of Esther to show to the children how God's invisible hand working on the lives of people and we can take comfort in Him.
- e. Lesson 4 entitled "Going about God's work", using text Nehemiah 1-7 to go about doing God's work with their heart to serve.
- f. Lesson 5 entitled "Attitudes and responses to God's word", using text Nehemiah 8 to understand how we ought to treat God's word.

Youths and Adults Program

Thank God that there were two new additions to the Youth program. These were Alnardo and Daniella. The lessons were conducted in English without any translation. The youths and adults were able to follow the lessons well and they asked some questions during the discussion session. We thank God that the youths and the adults are growing in the faith and they do hunger and thirst after God's word.

Lessons covered:

- a. John 4:23-24 – Worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth
- b. Hebrews 11 – Without Faith it is impossible to please God
- c. Ephesians 6:1-3 – Children, Obey your parents in the Lord

2. Visitation

We visited and fellowshiped with 4 families as assigned by Elder Chan (Calvary Jaya). The families were Catherine Paya, Evelyn Jau and Irene Jau (combined) and Simon Himang. We had a time of singspiration, fellowship and prayed for the families. Elder Tan Nee Keng, Bro Allan Tang and Bro Peng Keong shared from the Word of God at the three homes respectively. The team also distributed love gifts to the families.

3. Prayer request:

- ⇒ Pray for salvation of loved ones.
- ⇒ Pray that the families will continue to trust in the Lord as the economic situation looks uncertain
- ⇒ Pray for increase in faith and obedience to His Word. A number of them will be baptised, reaffirmed or have their membership transferred to Miri BP Church that week.
- ⇒ Leorene's hearing problem. She will be seeing a doctor to assess if a hearing aid would be suitable for her.
- ⇒ Simon's stomach ulcer
- ⇒ Sylvester's school exams
- ⇒ Alvin looking for a job
- ⇒ Continue to pray for the outreach to the children living in Kampung Lusut as their parents are still not open to them attending activities conducted by Calvary Miri B-P Church.
- ⇒ Pray for Pandan SAF Mission Team that God will grant them wisdom, strength, and good health as they serve the Lord. Also pray for unity in purpose, hearts and minds as the team serve.
- ⇒ Pray for more co-labourers in Christ for the continuation of works in Miri.

5. Conclusion

We thank God for the blessed trip and a wonderful time ministering and fellowshiping with the brethren in Miri BPC. The next mission trip, God willing, will be in Sep 2017.

Submitted by: Peck Thian Guan and Allan Tang

Date: 24th April 2017

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Team from Calvary Pandan with Elder Chan at the airport



Children doing art and craft



Sunday school lesson for the children



Youth and Adults Lesson by Bro Peng Keong



Group photo



Children learning a new song