

MSI Canada Newsletter

October 2002



From the Editor

Apart from medical work, English teaching is a major component of the ministry of MSI. Chinese from all walks of life want to learn English or improve their English. Teaching is also a great way to build relationships with the locals. In this issue, we are honored to have **Ed and Josephine Saley** share their experience with us. The Saleys taught elementary and high school teachers in a village in China for the last 3 years. They are in Toronto on home assignment this year, and will return to China next summer. Their experience of living among the Chinese and working with them day in and day out is invaluable to all of us who only spend 2-4 weeks a year there. **Kenny Chong** is a recent graduate from McMaster University. Instead of spending the summer looking for a job in the tight HK job market, he spent July in the Youth Center in Zhongjue, teaching young children English. **Kathy Wong** from Vancouver taught English in the Traditional Chinese Medicine University in Chengdu in July. She reflected on the experience of the trip during the Thanksgiving holiday.

~WC

Long-termers in China

Ed & Josephine Saley



China is the country with the largest population in the world, but most of these people haven't had the chance to know our Savior the Lord Jesus. The Lord gave us such a vision 20 years ago. However, although we had the vision, we had to go through a long period of time in waiting upon the Lord, learning to minister to people physically and spiritually, getting professional training, Mandarin language study, and doing some short terms of teaching in China. Finally, the Lord allowed us to go and live in China for 3 years. We worked in a small town and lived in a small village. It wasn't easy to be accepted by the villagers since we were considered as foreigners. Because of this, we experienced some persecution

especially after we first moved there. We thank the Lord that He gave us some opportunities to show love and help the villagers. They then slowly got to know our intention to be there to help them.

Our main responsibility in that place was to do teacher training, and so we built a lot of relationships with teachers as we worked with them and had them over for social times. They had received a university education, yet their understanding of Christianity was very limited or almost non-existent because of the atheistic teaching they had received. We thank the Lord that through teaching English, we were able to integrate Christian values and attitudes in our teaching, and share Christ's love. As we spent our lives there with them over these few years, trying to help them in many ways, they also trusted us more. We were then able to build up deeper relationships with them. Over the 3 years we were there, many short termers came from North America to help us in programs. Their input to interact with our students helped a lot to ease the way for us as long-termers to share the good news to them when they asked.

K: MSI has a good reputation in China and a good relationship with the local officials. The school & students knew we were Christians right from the first day. Many students are curious how we could give up so much to go just to support their foreigner language teaching for 3 weeks without pay. They are touched by this, and by our Christian attitudes. One of the students who is a teacher herself said to me that she would bring the same passion back to her own classroom. Some of them are sincerely searching. I have been consistently praying for them. They are gentle & loving people; and I did not even realize I could love them so much. We had a great opportunity to build relationship & to share God's love & grace with them personally. We don't know how much longer China will still be open for the professionals to go. I will encourage any of you to pray for yourself & to be more sensitive to God's personal call when He comes to ask you.

Prayer items

1. Praise the Lord that MSI Canada's registration for charitable status has been granted by Revenue Canada. Thank God for His provision and the hard work by Mr. Philip Lowe our accountant and Mr. Bill Lim our legal counsel. Pray for the preparation and establishment of the legal board of MSI Canada and the continued partnership with our parent organization.
2. Pray for the November medical team- Dr. Stephen Hoh (senior consultant of MSI Canada), Dr. David Knight (orthopedic surgeon from UK), Nancy Chu (community nurse from Vancouver), Karen Chim (optometrist from Toronto), Victoria Hunter (PICU nurse from Halifax) and Dr. Wendy Cheung (pediatrician from Hamilton). Praise the Lord that the letters of invitation and temporary work visa came through in the nick of time. Pray for the eye clinic and CME courses planned for the village doctors. Pray for continued good relation with the local hospital staff.
3. Pray for the formation of the English teaching team planned for July 2003. Pray that God will call teachers with ESL experience to join the team to teach the teachers in Gulin high schools.

If you are or someone you know is interested in teaching English in China, please contact Gloria at Gswtsang@aol.com

MSI offers many different opportunities of English teaching, from teaching children to university students to teachers; from teaching in remote mountainous villages to major urban centers. We are especially looking for people with experience in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL).