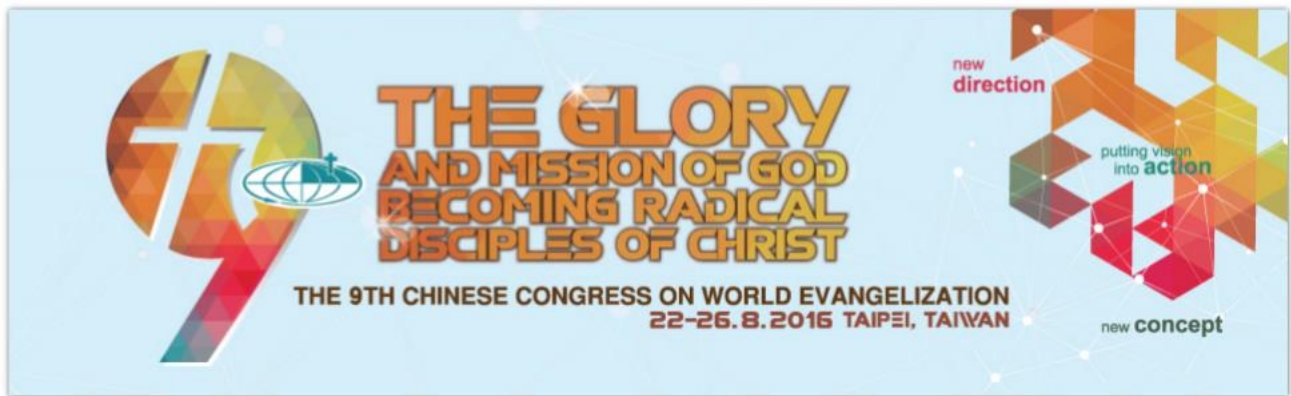




24 August, 2016

Be Faithful and Obey; He always provides!

Interview with Mrs. CHEUNG Siew-mei

Executive Director of Christian Action (Hong Kong)

Reporter: May Chan

Below are the three questions and responses during my interview with Mrs. Cheung who is a Malaysian Chinese having studied in United Kingdom in early 20s. Although we have only met for about 25 minutes last night, I would like to describe Mrs. Cheung as a faithful disciple, quick-minded game-changer, passionate humanitarian, career fast-tracker, and public relations manager.

Question 1

May: How did you know your call in humanitarian assistance?

Mrs. Cheung: I would say I was the first all-round student in my school in the early days, being confident in doing anything! My achievements in singing, acting, academic performance, project managements ... brought me a scholarship that enabled me to study in a boarding school in United Kingdom. I was very lonely there! The daily living was extremely dull compared to my home country! However, this was the time I spent with my great mentor and read the Bible a lot. God changed me in tranquility. Although I had always wanted to join the entertainment industry, God invited me to partner with Him to do His ministry with all the talents I had. From getting a work VISA, being assigned with a free apartment, to being put in a newly created position, God opened all doors for me to work in United Kingdom. After graduation in 1983, I started serving God in resettling Vietnamese refugees as a full-time volunteer in Liverpool. I was given 50 pence a day and a free bus pass. Having promised to God, I committed myself in doing His wills reflected in Luke 10:36-37, being the good Samaritan, without worries because He is the mighty provider of all.

Question 2



May: Where does all the financial supports come from for various projects?

Mrs. Cheung: We worked with the Chinese government on Day One! We have served over 1,300 orphans and disabled children in Qinghai. We fled children with disabilities to Hong Kong for different surgeries. As the government has been seeing our quality of services and the genuine intention in helping them to transform the society on the grass-root level, she trusts that we are serving them for their own benefits for long. Our funding proposals got accepted. Meanwhile, we met a great resistance from churches who might think helping the needy for long was not accomplishable at all. Despite such discouragement, I and my team has been working with the HK church network concerned for the poor, including reaching out to poor children and connecting them to the churches via a one-to-one mentorship program. We support refugees and deprived new arrival families, providing them with holistic support and basic necessities, such as meals, clothes, emergency shelters, milk and diapers for children, and psychological support, language and skills training and more. Together, we work on helping churches become responsive to His will that His church will become a good samaritan. I hope to expand my network in this Conference and refine the models of ministries too. I believe financial supports come after we have taken the initiative in doing His will to serve others with excellence and sincerity.

Question 3

May: What are your words for young disciples?

Mrs. Cheung: “Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.” (Isaiah 41:10, New Living Translation) Be bold to make changes in your generation as the strategies in the our generations may not be as effective. Find models that work for your generation. I am willing to share many of the keys I had. A dream I had and a tragedy I saw before makes me feel the God's grief for the orphans. I dreamed that a Christian couple rejected to adopt an orphan as they saw it impossible to take care of the orphan in the long term. Several days later, my friends actually told me that they refused to adopt an orphan when I shared my dream with sadness. Also, I saw a dead orphan with another orphan dying on a table. I cried with tears to God, “This is not right! How could Your beloved orphans be treated in this way!” With this grief of God in my heart, I am not afraid of the road of striving betterment for the needy as this is His will for me.

Spiritual Welfare at Societal Level

Interview with Rev. Andrew CHIANG

Pastor of Bilingual Community Church (Taiwan)

Reporter: Mu-tien Chiou

Attending CCOWE for the third time, with the previous two in the last decade, Pastor Andrew Chiang, 38, has a multifaceted life journey. He is being portrayed as a cross-cultural missionary, tent-making English teacher, scholarly pastor, civil-governmental bridge-builder, and a family man. Several milestones are marked by the years CCOWEs were held.



The desire of going international, perhaps more specifically going boundless in Christ, is built in Andrew's genes. As a son of an interdenominational pastor and a British female missionary in Taiwan, and a grandson of the Presbyterian pastoral family, Andrew was named, in Chinese, 慕理 (Mu-li). It bespoke how his birth carried the kind of expectation Timothy's grandmother had for Apostle Paul's dear assistant: be eager for the Truth.

Andrew first dabbled in cross-cultural mission when he was 17 years old. Having admitted to the elite British school, Oxford University, he took a gap year with Youth with a Mission (YWAM) sending him to China. He taught English and imparted Christian values to local middle schoolers. There he saw how hollow younger Chinese's hearts and minds were. They were thirsty but not privileged to have a pious familial upbringing like his.

With this concern for Chinese souls, Andrew spent the years at Oxford studying Theology and Philosophy while learning about Chinese churches' theological needs. His perception of these needs led him to further pursue Theological studies at Regent College (2000-2001, 2004) and China Evangelical Seminary (2003), specializing in Marketplace Theology.

For about 8 years, Andrew was based in China working with Chinese intellectuals, trying to reach them with the Gospel. He took a year as a doctoral student studying Marxist philosophy in order to better understand the Chinese context, and then worked as the missions pastor at Beijing International Christian Fellowship (BICF) under two reverends.

Even though Andrew established meaningful connections and facilitated many cross-disciplinary dialogues that, in turn, gradually reshaped the attitude towards Christianity at China's political center, this is the period he was undergoing his most serious spiritual ebbs and flows. The spiritual warfare was on both of the societal and personal levels. Few traditional missionaries with a foreign background would support or even sympathize with his approach, citing the crux of Yangzhou riot some 148 years ago as a historical lesson for foreign missions.

Andrew attended CCOWE for the first time in 2006 upon the invitation extended by Rev. Morley Lee. The latter looked at the potential of this 28-year-old British Chinese very favorably, who would have become a CCCOWE staff was it not the organization's funding shortage. In 2011, Andrew came again for the 8th CCOWE in Bali as the representative of BICF. This was the time he met his Chinese wife in Beijing and stepped into marriage.

About two years ago, God took his whole family of three to Kaohsiung, Taiwan. The warm weather, liberal air, social welfare in medical care and education provides a nearly perfect

environment to raise a young family. Andrew now serves as a pastor at Bilingual Community Church in the city. This position forces him to slow down and enjoy the savors of a more down-to-earth pastoral life. In the 9th CCOWE, Andrew expects to meet many more people with cross-cultural experiences. Together, they will discern how churches can be the medium of God to transform individuals, their surrounding communities, and the larger cultural atmosphere.

Discipleship & Mentorship to Impact All Walks of Life

Rev. Ying YEE

English Minister of Chinese Christian Church (Australia)

Reporter: Thomas Kuo



“An international conference is very unique because it brings people from all sorts of walks of life so that we can learn from vast experiences, insights, and cultures from different parts of the world. Not only can we learn what God is doing in other parts of the world, but we can also see where we are failing due to our cultural blindspots. So I am hoping that in this conference we can learn what we can do better and see what we are doing wrong, and therefore will go back to our countries with a greater desire and openness to try new things in raising up a new

generation of leaders and disciples. That's what I am hoping.” - Rev. Ying Yee's expectation to the 9th CCOWE

As an Associate Pastor in Australia's Chinese Christian church for 24 years, Rev. Yee currently focuses on discipling and mentoring disciples especially of the younger generation, and raising up leaders. When Rev. Yee was a college student studying Mechanical Engineering, he was challenged by the university chaplain to do full-time ministry, but did what called a "Jonah bolt" and ran away from God for four years. However, God drew Rev. Yee to Christ and he finally responded to His calling.

Rev. Yee shares that the core value of discipleship as found in Colossians 1:28. "Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ." (ESV) He points out that the purpose of discipleship is Christlikeness. We should not stop at people's conversions, but help them grow in the knowledge of Christ, love Christ, and serve Christ. The fundamental step is to establish their lives on the Words of God by encouraging and equipping them in their work for God so that believers may be empowered to reach the world of God. In empowering people Rev. Yee shared one example. He has been mentoring a bus driver to share the good news with people at the bus depot and other bus drivers. His aim is to help believers know how to bring the Gospel to any context in which they find themselves. This helps empower the church to go and cherish every opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Christ. We should not simply think about how to bring people into the church but how to equip people in the church and send them out to the world with the Gospel.

Here is the prayer of Rev. Yee at the opening ceremony of the 9th CCOWE, "Father in heaven, we give You thanks for the great opportunity to bring many people to a conference like this. Father, we pray that You truly bless everyone here that we will learn from each other and take what we've learned back to our countries. And, Lord, by Your Spirit, You equip us to do what we need to do better in raising up more disciples for Christ to impact our nations. Amen."

