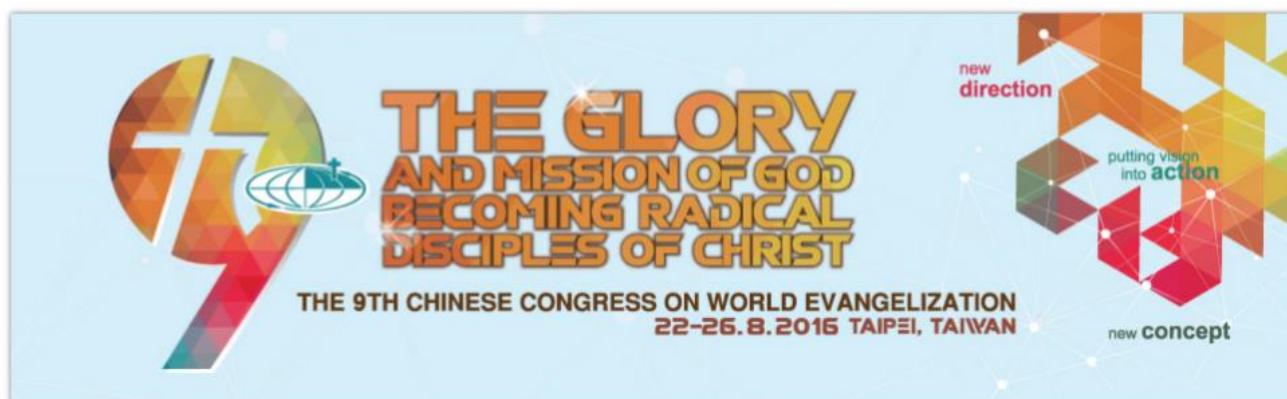




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Mentoring Youth to Live a True, Continuous, and Missional Life



Pastor Kelly TAM

Pastor of Richmond Hill Christian Community Church(Canada)

Interviewed by Thomas Kuo,

Written by May Chan

As a Canadian Born Chinese (CBC), the second generation of Hong Kong immigrants, Kelly understands their needs and works to contextualized the Gospel in youth's lives that is "how the Gospel looks like at the stage of being a high school student?" Kelly studied in Tyndale Seminary one of the well-known interdenominational seminary in Greater Toronto and further areas. Over the 9 years of

service, Kelly has been serving mostly the second generation, with some youth in the third generation of Chinese immigrants. These targeted disciple-to-be's are aged 14 to 18 and some are doing their universities. As Richmond Hill Christian Community Church are multi-generational, multicultural, and multi-lingual, it is important to separate the youth in groups with their different background. Most of the mandarin youth are VISA students who do not speak English at all while those from English congregation have different needs. Cantonese congregation is one of the three large sectors of church members. Youth service, Sunday school, and youth fellowship are established.

CBC has a strong Canadian identity. They would prefer identifying themselves with Canadians to Americans. Some of them live with grandparents, making the generation gap even greater. Parents are setting up for

"success" at the very beginning. Western culture is a culture without religions at all. Perhaps the popular saying is "Try. See if it works for you." Kelly said, "Moral compasses are very lost." It is a generation based on feeling and own desires.

Despite all the challenges, Kelly sees the identity "issue" as an opportunity to truly identify with Christ. She wants to help her youth foster their own special Chinese identity with western roots. Leading youth to see themselves as the precious creation of God, she realizes that cultures cannot bind God's work. Instead, God always works through cultures. In this sense, Kelly would like to harbor her youth's hearts and assist them to identify with the measure of discipleship life. While second generation is open to dialogue and willing to take risks, it is a great opportunity to mentor them to live a true, continuous, and missional life.

In the 9th CCOWE and

the ARMD discussions, she learns from different participants, sees God's work around the world, and is reminded that discipleship has to be missional. Urgency of sharing gospel should always have its priority among the church works. Due to the youth's financial constraints, Kelly gravitates more on the discipleship side and cultivate hearts of mission – educating youth to become missional. Kelly believes that being missional does not mean to have short-term or long-term mission overseas without follow-ups. Instead, youth are led to join the work of UrbanPromise in downtown Toronto. There are pockets of neighborhood under subsidized housing. Kelly wants to let youth know meeting basic needs is a way to missional too - Mission to the poor. Partnering with the organization with continuity and consistency helps the youth, who may not care to see the needs, reflect what they have and act against the rampant imbalance between



the rich and poor.

Kelly's prayer for those who are struggling in their ministries and trying hard to integrate discipleship with missional elements is as follows:

"Father, Lord, we come before You and we are humbled by learning all the great things that You have been doing in the world. Sometimes, we can be caught up by our own ministries and our own churches. We really do lose sight of how infinite You are and how great You are. God, and we resort to thinking that You are small or You can only operate within certain boundaries. But please just to be here. We are hearing all the awesome things that you are doing worldwide, God. It's the testimony to Your wisdom, provision, and Your knowledge and Your works. We praise You, and then we serve, and then we know that You are such a great God – infinite God, Lord. We are sorry that we simplify who You are. Lord, I want to lift up our churches to You, God, especially those don't talk about missions and discipleship. Lord, please help us to learn what these two things are, especially we serve You in different parts of the world. Lord, it is so important to contextualize

how we are to be disciples and how the missions are look like. God, we ask You to give us humble hearts. We only ask for wisdom that You would give us freely. We ask for that wisdom as we do want to serve You, but sometimes we do not know the next step is. Lord, even at my own church, the emerging generations are coming. Sometimes I am lost on how to lead them. Lord, we humbly lay down our plans at Your feet. God, we ask You to grant us the wisdom that only You could give us: the knowledge about God and understanding that surpasses all understandings. Lord, please help us honour You and glorify You, God. Father, Lord, we ask boldly that You would take hold of these churches. Help us lead and guide our leaders as well. I pray, Lord, for greater understanding in term of working relationships with the ordinary young generations. There are so much great knowledge in them, and we are just learning to cooperate and how to work with them. So, Father, we ask You that Your hands be with us as we continue Your work on youth. God, we know that You go before us. Lord, we ask that we have great faith in following You and be obedient to You. We thank You. We pray in that sincere sense. Amen!"

Christian Lawyer Practices Persistent Group Prayer as the Key to Break Spiritual Stronghold



Miss Alexandra IP
Lead of Alpha for Prisons in Asia Pacific(Singapore)
Reporter: May Chan

Alexandra, a passionate Hongkonger converted in junior high school, studied in United Kingdom and worked in a top law firm back in her home town. She was the first patch among Hongkongers attending Alpha course which catalyzed her genuine spiritual relationship. Such spiritual transformation left her a strong impression on the effectiveness of the Alpha. In March, 2000, she started her ministry studies in a bible school in Singapore where she is now based in as a lawyer of a U.S. major multinational company. With a pure heart

and prayer for the road ahead, Alexandra had a special confirmation ONE day before the seminary graduation. A written job offer, a big and bright room with a small swimming pool, and a group of companions willing to serve prisons were exactly what she asked for. With these three responses, she knew that He wanted her to stay in Singapore. Later, Alexandra ran Alpha in prisons in Singapore. This falls in the category of cross-cultural discipleship.

“Aren’t you afraid of the prisoners? And why prisoners?” I asked. Alexandra led to serve prisons though her work immediately recalled the two girls in prisons whom she served in early 19s and 20s ended up with two completely different life journeys. A girl, once a drug-trafficker, was hanged with great fear of not knowing where she would go after death and another girl was peaceful and joyful in confined space after her repentance. This great contrast helped Alexandra see what a Christian lawyer could do. Alexandra read “the sheep and the goats” in Matthew 25:36 that says, “I was in prison and you came to visit me.”

I am amazed when Alexandra shows the link

between workplace ministry with the Alpha in prisons and find out that she has been working immensely on workplace ministry. Colleagues who converted in Alpha become the Alpha runner in prisons. Prisoners may be integrated into the society through work. With 10 countries - 20 points of running Alpha and 28 countries - 45 sites of a global prayer network, virtual churches and three generations of "Alpha's" are within the workplace. Aren't you be surprised that the Gospel is flourished and spiritual stronghold is broken in such a sensitive environment?

Having heard her stories after story, I am curious how Alexandra can do so much with the packed timetable. Alexandra answers with her motto – with our unity in prayer, revivals will come, the corporate will change, and the whole world will be filled with God’s glory. She emphasizes the importance of persistent prayer together is extremely needed and important for success and changes in long term. Don’t pray alone, pray with other Christian colleague - even with only one Christian colleague is good enough to

spark the realm!

Be Passionate for BBC Generation's Identity in Christ



Mr. Josh SHEK
Missionary of Chinese Overseas
Christian Mission Missionary
(United Kingdom)
Reporter: Thomas Kuo

As a 30-year-old BBC(British Born Chinese) who has just graduated from London School of Theology, Josh now serves as a home missionary at Chinese Overseas Christian Mission(COCM) in United Kingdom. This is the first CCOWE Josh attends and he finds the ARMD of Youth and Mission helps him to reflect on the mission statement of COCM, “Evangelizing the Chinese in Europe...” Encouraging and supporting church and mission leaders to partner in mission, pass on the good news of salvation to people intra-culturally and cross-culturally throughout Europe and beyond.” Or, in short, “Reach the Chinese in

order to reach Europe.”

Focusing on the second generation of the Chinese immigrants, Josh found that the identity problem can be seen as a useful opportunity to build the young BBC generation's identity in Christ. Even though young BBCs seem to leave the church because of its inadequate environment, the affinity provided by the Chinese community still attracts them. Josh will keep on upholding the healthy BBC fellowship in London and Manchester and bridging them with other smaller groups so that they might gain their own strength to discipleship. When it comes to cross-cultural missions, Josh shared that the term could be applied to the ministry breaking culture barriers to reach the subcultural people group like BBC.

The Josh's prayer for the 9th CCOWE below reveals:

“Our Lord, Jesus, we thank You so much that you've given all Your children different ministries, contexts, convictions and a different broken heart for each of Your children. Lord, God, You move in Your time and Your way. Each of Your servant is

in a different place as Chinese, American, British, African, South American... You have moved each one of us to exactly where You need us to be. Lord, show us what You can do through the Chinese church and bless it to be a blessing to others. God, I pray for more outpours of Your Spirit to provide the gifts, the encouragement and the love for Your church. You bless all of the leaders and pastors in this congress, especially those who feel isolated, alone and not supported in their home ministry. I pray this conference will become a place where we can find and discover that we are not alone in these few days. In Your



Spirit, we are all called to one hope, one crucifixion, one resurrection and one hope for the future. You are the one that will come again to rescue Your Church as the global church. May You provide us, if nothing else, a profound sense of hope and peace that this is ultimately Your church, Your ministry and Your

kingdom in which You call us to partner with You. Please

guide us as Your servant. May we be attentive to Your voice.

In Jesus name, AMEN.”

A Church without Contextualized Missional Discipleship is without Future



Mr. Kriangsak SRITHONGTHAI
Vice Chairman of Mission Board
of Maitrichit Chinese Baptist
Church(Thailand)
Reporter: Thomas Kuo

Mr. Kriangsak came to the 9th CCOWE because he wants to open himself to connect with the global church and see what God is doing all over the world. As a Sunday school teacher, Kriangsak felt touched during the bible exposition section delivered by Rev. Edmund Chan. It is the radical disciple's life that every church member should live in. "If you want to join God's team, you should not step back and wait for others to ask you, 'Move!' but

prepare yourself and take the initiative all the time," Kriangsak shared. So, he comes to Taiwan for this conference at his own cost. Once as a country manager in Thailand, Kriangsak now works as a teacher, trainer and speaker for organizations not limited to Christian fellowship. In Thailand, there are too many churches only moved by their pastors, so laymen like Kriangsak need to find out their own positions in the church and ignite the passion for Christ. While church members are facing the challenges of family issues, young generation, and cross-cultural missions, taking courses is no longer enough. As the Vice Chairman of the Maitrichit Chinese Baptist Church Mission Board in Bangkok, a 180-year-old church, Kriangsak says that it is necessary for them to put MISSION into the core vision of their churches because a church without missional discipleship is a church without future. Kriangsak thinks there are many good models provided in the ARMD sections during the conference but all the models have to be contextualized for further application.

"Thank You, God, for gathering us. Thank You for the case study and all the sharing that CCOWE, the event, prepared. Father, we pray that You strengthen us and teach us how to give You our best. Lord, we are a new generation willing to obey You to make some changes to please You. We have hope in You for our church and even our country, but we also know that without doing anything, changes won't happen. If nobody stands up for You voluntarily, nothing will be changed. So, lead us, Father. Show us how to follow You, and grant us creativity and perseverance for Your Kingdom's sake. Lord, please lead us to bring Your Kingdom to all nations. On the day you come back, we want to hear You say, 'You are my son, I love you.' Father, thank You. In Jesus name we pray, AMEN. "



Rethinking the Depth and Relevance of Our Christian Education to Real Christian Faith



Pastor Francis ANG
Teacher of MGC New Life
Christian Academy*(Philippines)
Reporter: Thomas Kuo

Pastor Francis Ang is the Regional Director of CCCOWE-Philippines. As a bi-vocational pastor, he preaches at different churches all over Philippines almost every Sunday and teaches high school students during weekdays. Edification and Training Fellowship(ETF) is Francis' main ministry now and its aim is to train leaders and encourage them to be Mission-minded and Gospel-centered. Francis doesn't shepherd a church but he implements discipleship in a different way. He has one-on-one as well as group discipleship with the church

leaders and other pastors. During the ARMD sections, Francis has lots of reflection and each topic can be related to his life and ministry. First, he shares, "Any model you put there. It may or may not work in a certain aspect, but what is most important is 'Are the people working on and using that model?' Of course, the models should be grounded with sound doctrine and faith in the Lord, but we cannot stop at theory but should put them into practice." Second, Francis takes the school as his marketplace, and in response to the Education and Marketplace ARMD he has observed students going to Christian schools might fade away easily after graduation. This phenomenon should make us rethink on the depth and relevance of our Christian education. If faith and life cannot be separated, how now shall we live? "We know the philosophy of discipleship and evangelism, but how to DO them? We need someone to model after!" Francis calls on. At last, Francis shares that there are two things that Christians need nowadays: Humility and willingness to learn from others. He suggests that we should honestly cry out, "I need someone to mentor me."

Let Pastor Ang lead us to pray,

"Father Lord, I thank You for this opportunity to share my thoughts. We ask You of continuing Your good ministry in us. We know that You have already given us a lot of grace, even the most precious gift – Jesus Christ Your Son. Now, Father, in His name we come to You for seeking wisdom and guidance. We pray that You empower the pastors in CCOWE and teach us how to be a disciple and mentor. We have heard the importance of discipleship, but how we are going to do that and how to encourage people to become effective mentor. Therefore, we pray that You touch our hearts and open our eyes so that we can be humble enough to learn. Thank You Lord. In Jesus' name we pray, AMEN."

*Note: MGC stands for Makati Gospel Church.



English News Amendment Notice

Please kindly note the following amendments. We sincerely apologize for the confusions caused.

1. "[West Malaysia]:

Intentional

Discipleship-Making Starts from Family!":

Para 1 ... Jennifer, Malaysian converted and called into cross-cultural mission in Singapore, **[deleted "was a doctor and"]** served in Central Asia.

2. "[Australia]: Discipleship & Mentorship to Impact All Walks of Life":

Para1 ... 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, ...

That's what I am **hoping** ...

Para 2 ... 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.

Para 3 ... Rev. Yee shares that the core value of discipleship **as** found in Colossians 1:28 ... 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 ... His aim is to help believers know how to bring **the Gospel to** any context in which they find themselves. ...

3. "[Sabah, Malaysia]: 3 "Fs"- Friendship, Faith, and Face-to-face"

(Profile Photo)

Bishop James WONG Chong-leong

Bishop, Central Office of The Basel Christian Church of Malaysia

[Sabah, Malaysia]

4. "[U.S.A.]: Perspectives for Cross-cultural Discipleship & Missional Atmosphere Fostering"

Para 3 ... The materials had been translated into Spanish, French, English, **[deleted "Nigerian,"]** Korean, and Arabic. ... In U.S.A., there were about 8 to 10 thousand people joined the course **per year**.

5. "[Hong Kong]: Be Faithful and Obey; He always provides!"

Para 2 ... 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 ...

Para 3 ... 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 ...

6. "[Taiwan]: Spiritual Welfare at Societal Level"

Para 5 ... 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. **[deleted the last whole sentence]**

Para 6 ... gradually reshaped the **attitude towards Christianity at China's** political center, ... The spiritual warfare was on both of the societal and personal levels.

[deleted "...that"] Few traditional missionaries ...

Para 7 ... Bali as the representative of BICF. **[deleted following whole sentence]**

This was also the year he met ...
