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PULSE

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教會退修會分享 Cantonese Retreat

作者:崔嘉文, 攝影:林偉雄



今年教會退修會的主題是“在愛裡彼此建立”。愛在基督教的教義裡占了一個很重要的地位。這主題對一班基督徒來說絕對不陌生。我可以大膽的說，大多數的弟兄姐妹，包括我自己在內，以前在不同的講座裡也曾聽過。但我想我真的懂得在主裡彼此相愛嗎？我能夠把這目標在日常的生活中實踐出來嗎？以往多年來，我發覺我的愛是不完全的，與父神所要求的還有一段大的距離。所以我不斷為自己，也為肢體禱告，求神觸動我們的心深處，讓我們能夠放下自我，切切實實地把愛人如己的道理活出來。 ▶



要改善的地方？我在當中反省自己，承諾神在今年內操練一個【不】和兩個【凡】。

在退修會裡我除了有機會學習神的話語之外，還有很多機會認識不同團契，不同小組的弟兄姐妹。在進餐的時候，大家有很好的交談，彼此分享個人的經歷。交談的內容，有關於移民美國的一些心酸片段，有在香港童年時的集體回憶。雖然交流的時間不長，還是讓我們能夠更深入的互相瞭解和認識。我們各人各有不同的背景，不同的家庭出身，生活習慣，對事物的看法，事奉的經驗，理想和興趣等等，都有不同。在瞭解他們之後，他們在我心中不再單單是一個名字，而是屬靈家中的一份子，一起在生活中並肩作戰的同行者。

招牧師用一段熟悉的經文（林前13:4-8）來教導我們如何“切實相愛”。這段經文提到八個【不】和四個【凡】。這八個【不】是【不嫉妒，不自誇，不張狂，不作害羞的事，不求自己的益處，不輕易發怒，不計算人的惡，不喜歡不義】。這四個【凡】就是【凡事包容，凡事相信，凡事盼望，凡事忍耐】。招牧師給我們一段時間來反省，在以往與弟兄姐妹的相交中，有哪樣態度需



從退修會的籌劃，到述說神奇妙的作為

薛偉華長老



海報的設計：退修會籌劃小組在二月初成立，就開始設計宣傳海報。今年的主題是「在愛裡彼此建立」。由于組員對主題有不同的領受和意見。神讓大家學習「互為肢體」，「和而不同」，「主內合一」最終海報按時出版了。

兒童事工：需要6位既有愛心又有經驗的年輕人幫助兒童事工。一直都沒有找到合適的人選，大家向神禱告，最後神供應了超過我們所想所求的。感謝神，祂是我們的供應者！

年輕人的加入：開始註冊到入營前三個星期都沒有一個年輕的弟兄姊妹報名，到最後一個星期共有11位CYAF團契的年輕的弟兄姊妹參加，他們帶領的遊戲及參與，增添了不少活力。

報名人數的要求：自開始註冊一個月後，只有59位報名，而營地的合約最低要求人數是100人。因去年的退修會沒達到合約最低的要求，我裡面就煩躁，着急。我將這個需求帶到禱告會，弟兄姐妹同心禱告。神真是行奇妙作為和聽禱告的神。在入露營前一個星期，神將人數加添到114人。所有的房間都分配了，大家都住得很滿意。感謝主

從退修會的籌劃，到最後的圓滿結束，神讓我經歷到我要學習耐心等待，禱告，仰望和信靠這 ▶

位行奇妙作為的耶穌基督。

「我的心哪，你為何憂悶？為何在我裏面煩躁？應當仰望神，因我還要稱讚他。他是我臉上的光榮，是我的神。」 -詩篇42:11

「我要一心稱謝耶和華，我要傳揚你一切奇妙的作為！」-詩篇9:1

Building Up One Another in Love

Reflections of the Cantonese Retreat by Elgin Q., Photos by Wai L.

There is something about the theme of love that tugs at the deepest yearning of the heart. Love is a basic and universal need. This need drives the heart to make every effort to give and receive what we were created for. We were created to live a life of love. Love is the primary emotion in which God created us to live. Even though the heart is always at war with itself, conflicted in love and hate, good and evil, in the end, what we discover is that by choosing love, what believers hold in common is greater than what keeps us apart.

Two nights, three days, nestled amongst tall pines and old cedars, the annual Sunset Cantonese Retreat brought 114 open hearts to hear Rev. Abraham Chiu of Crosspoint Church of Milpitas, speak on “How to build each other up in Love.” Redwood Christian Camp, with its fresh air, clean setting and ample food suitable to Chinese palate, Rev. Chiu reminded us that relying only on ourselves, man’s love is imperfect. Man alone cannot love perfectly. Only God’s love is perfect. Therefore, we need God’s love so we can love others. (Jn 13:34-35, 1 Cor. 13:4-8) If you only love on and off like a light switch, and you do not love others like God wants you to love, “Do not the Gentiles do the same? If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?” Matt. 5:46-48.

How to love perfectly requires being united in Christ. All of us can love those who love us back. However having true authentic love means you learn to love the unlovable. It means you love people who don’t love you, those who betray you or gossip about you, those who are difficult, unlovable or very different. Rev. Chiu drew upon many incidences in his 30 years of pastoring of dealing with difficult people. Repeatedly, he reminded us that the Bible calls believers to love and care for one another. Even though disunity has been with us from the start, in our small group discussion, Rev. Chiu helped us explore God’s desire for unity. United in Christ requires dedicated effort and initiative: 1. Pursue oneness in Christ, 2. Build up others rather than please oneself 3. Seek God’s grace for endurance and encouragement 4. Accept one another unconditionally 5. Emulate Christ.

Pastor Simon helped us understand the need for unity through a fun and interactive afternoon workshop - building bridges through connecting and relying on each other. A group formed a circle where heads were placed on the laps of each consecutive person resting on a chair. As each chair was pulled out from underneath, each head should remain stationary. By relying on the strength of one another, a strong connector was formed. If one failed to rely on the strength of the other, the connector would fail and unity would be broken.



As in unity, loving the unlovable, may seem like an impossible task. Brothers and sisters often fall into sin. On the second day, Rev. Chiu asked how we are to handle a brother or sister who is guilty of an offense. What will be your strategy? In admonishing sinful behavior, we explored how to live out the truth through exhortation 1. Our motive must be pure. 2. Our purpose must be clear, 3. Our method must be wise and 4. Our action must be sincere.

Finally we examined what is the evidence of real love in a ►



L-R: Pastor Simon, Russell, Maria, Rev. Abraham, Elgin and Jun.

believer? When you realize how much God loves you, with an extravagant irresistible, unconditional love, then this love will change your entire focus on how you perceive others. The evidence of the fruit of real love can be demonstrated by acts of service through a transformed heart: 1. Accept one another 2. Care for one another. 3. Love one another.

When we rely on God's love, God will help you see that person with His eyes so that you can show him or her God's love. If we don't receive God's love for us, we will have a hard time loving other people.

Two nights and three days in a retreat setting gave us real time opportunities to practice what we learned. While sharing a meal, or taking a walk along a trail, in small group or between sessions, the face to face conversations opened the doors to love and to accept, to care and to understand, to emulate Christ. Whether English speaking or Chinese speaking, this retreat taught me that when we are face to face we come to realize that some things are clearly true. Face to face, we cannot deny our shared humanity. We cannot deny our common ground. What holds us together is that we can use that commonality to communicate the marvelous grace shown to us. In receiving that grace, how are we as believers, living our lives to extend that same grace and love to others?

在愛裡彼此建立

閔浩執事, 攝影:林偉雄



我從退修會回來已經有好幾天了,下了山,實訓仍在心。今年退休會主題是「在愛裡彼此建立」,講愛的主題確是毫不陌生。但從講員招世超牧師分解神的話語裡,我在「切實相愛」,「主裡同心」,「彼此勸誡」和「互相服事」的題目上實在獲益良多。原來「切實相愛」是屬靈的問題;「主裡同心」是生命的問題;要「彼此勸誡」全為了將人帶到神面前,由神去改變他,更新他的生命。鄭識文牧師的專題講座:在小組裡彼此建立,令我印象深刻。在講座裡,我們是從遊戲中去領悟互為肢體的重要。遊戲既輕鬆又有緊張場面,但絕無冷場呢。在遊戲中,讓我們經歷到彼此同心,彼此關顧和互相扶持的實在。

感謝神!在營會裡,見到從CYAF團契來的一班年輕人,使我們這個大家庭增添了不少活力。可謂老,中,青,濟濟一堂。記得招牧師在「互相服事」的講道中,說「既是教會的一員,就要對這個屬靈的家不離不棄。不要錯過去見證主對這個教會的奇妙作為和恩典」。實在是肺腑之言。深深打動了我。溢樂教會是神賜給我在地上屬靈的家。這個家有著祂奇妙的帶領和豐盛的恩典。這好比一葉輕舟,在耶穌基督掌舵下,帶領著我們經歷高山與低谷,風暴與浪濤。我們是同舟人,憑著信,誓相隨。每次回望所經歷,都有說不盡的感恩。剎那間,這輕舟已過萬重山呢!親愛的,你是同舟人嗎?你愛這個家嗎?就讓我們在主的愛裡彼此建立! ■



Youth Counselor Appreciation Banquet

By Jasmine M., Photos by Christopher S.



"A HUGE thanks to the amazing Counselors who gave their time and love this past year!" - Pastor Clark Fobes (w/ white beard)

Counselors

Curtis C., Gabriel C., Lori C., Janet F., Matthew K., Ben L., Jaimie L., Matthew L., Amaris M., Jeffrey N., Stephanie O., Stephanie P., Fawn S., Kevin S., Jason T., Harmonie W., Hilary W., Timothy W., Caleb Y., Samuel Y., Stephanie Y.

The students in the youth fellowship AK (Agape Koinonia) and JS (Junior Spirit) gathered together on the evening of June 9th to celebrate the end-of-the-year banquet and appreciate their counselors. The theme was Harry Potter (Banquet 9 ¾!) and youth attended wearing robes and brandishing wands. The event was started with a time of worship and the counselors were sorted into their respective houses (Gryffindor, Hufflepuff etc.). As students entered the gym, decorations like owl balloons and streamers with house colors lined the wall. After a delicious dinner, the middle and high school students had the chance to present gifts to their small group leaders. Gifts ranging from basketball shoes to videos about the counselors were given as the students talked about how their leaders had modeled and taught the Gospel to them. Many of the youth talked about how they were enormously grateful to their counselors for their dedication and guidance. The counselors had been role models for us students for many years, and their attitudes of love and servanthood had not gone unnoticed. Finally, the night ended with a bang as our youth pastor Clark Fobes announced that he and his wife, Janet, were going to have a baby!



Jasmine (right) with her small group.

Although imperfect, the banquet strived to appreciate the counselors for all the hard work and energy they put into making disciples of the youth. Brian Kwan comments, "Banquet was a very enjoyable experience. It was well-done and it was great to see small groups showing their appreciation for the counselors who sacrificed their time and energy to give us guidance. They mean a lot to us, and I want to say thanks from the bottom of my heart." And even though this joyous event ended, I know us students will not easily forget the impact that the counselors have made in our lives. Thank you counselors for another wonderful year! ►

Thanks to our Student Leaders for putting on a great Harry Potter Theme Banquet 9¾!

L-R Front: Jessica F., Christina Q., Jasmine H., Fiona Y., Jasmine M.,
Back: Lindsay H., Justin G., Jared L., Brian K., Daniel W., Jon L.,
Nathan Y. and Pastor Clark (center)
Not Pictured: Jasmine W.





Sunset Church's Men's Retreat

By Steven L.

The 2nd annual Sunset Church Men's Retreat was held on May 19-21, 2017 at the Alliance Redwoods Conference Grounds. It was a wonderful weekend of building and establishing relationships with other brothers from Sunset Church and also learning from our guest speaker, Scotty Smith.

This year's retreat was a two-night affair.

Many of us braved the Friday afternoon rush hour traffic and arrived at the retreat site just in time. In fact, the flight carrying our guest speaker was delayed, but Praise the Lord, he was able to arrive at the site just moments before he was to speak. After our first session, we were introduced to our small group members and broke out to discuss and share.

We began Saturday bright and early with breakfast at 8am, followed by the first main session followed by Small Group discussions. The afternoon session contained informative workshops on topics such as: Work, Community and Family. We spent the next few hours with leisure time. Some of us played games, relaxed and just enjoyed the atmosphere. After dinner, we had another informative lesson from our guest speaker followed by sharing and discussion among the Small Groups. We woke up early on Sunday morning, had breakfast followed by another informative session and small group sharing before concluding the retreat.

The theme for this year's retreat is "Navigating the World as Men of God". There were many lessons that were learned this weekend. One lesson that stood out for me was the reminder to live a "Called" life versus a "Driven" life. Being a type "A" person, I've always lived a "Driven" life, wanting more, having more, and having my successes defined by my achievements and possessions. A "Called" life is a life marked by less fear and more faith, "a life lived at the pace of grace, not in the race to get more, do more, be more, and shine more". The trait to slow down and have more faith in our Heavenly Father is something that I continue to strive for on a daily basis.

As in all of the retreats that I have attended, what I enjoyed most is the meeting and in-depth sharing with other brothers. With the size of the congregation, it is always possible to meet someone new. At this retreat, I was paired with 5 other brothers in our small group. The in-depth sharing provided an opportunity to go beyond superficial friendships and really examine pertinent issues that affect our role as men in work, community and family.

Although the retreat was only three days, the planning for this retreat began soon after last year's retreat. I was fortunate to be a member of the planning committee to provide feedback from last year's retreat and provide input for this year's retreat. The planning committee met many times to carefully select the venue and speaker in addition to devising the schedule of events, arranging room assignments and rides and really ensured that all of the logistical and all of the "behind-the-scenes" details were addressed so that the event flowed smoothly. Many individuals contributed their time and expertise to ensure that this retreat was a success and truly deserve recognition for their efforts.

I truly enjoyed the 2nd annual Men's Retreat and am eagerly looking forward to help plan for next year's retreat. ■



(Left) A great weekend of Fellowship and learning from The Word! - Steve L.
L-R: Abe L., Nathan T., Matt C., Caleb Y., Steve L., Eddie H.

(Right) "Grateful for how God has ministered the freeing work of the Gospel to us through our retreat speaker, Scotty Smith. Jesus' death means we do not have to be afraid to die; therefore, we do not have to be afraid to live." - Pastor Clark F.



Women's Mentoring Ministry: A Focus on Leadership

By Sherise L.

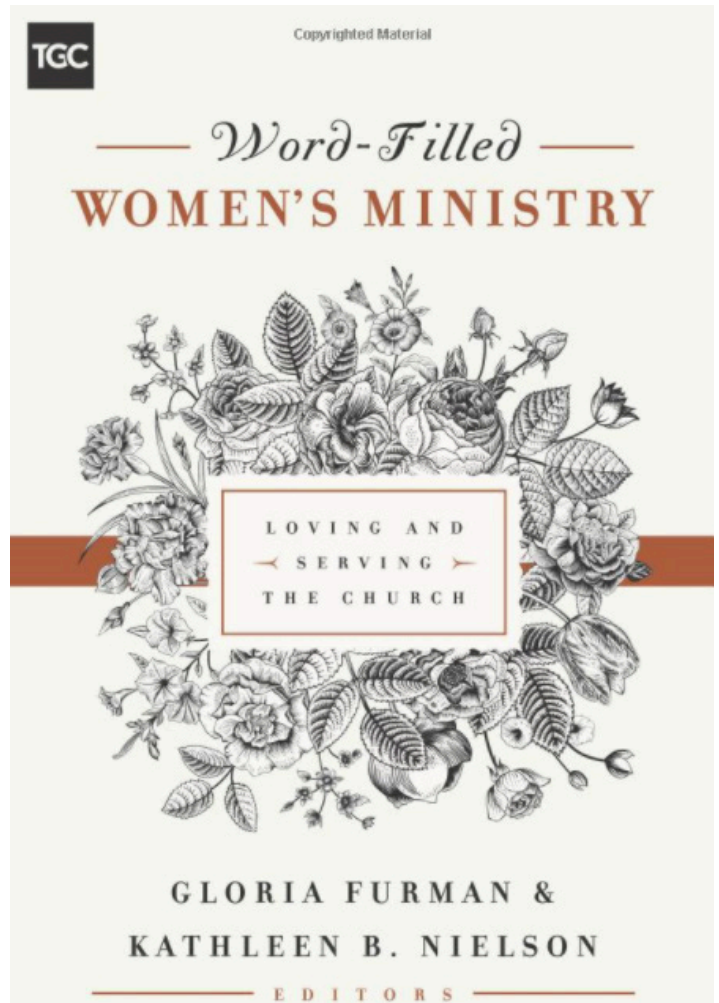


For our sixth year in the Women's Mentoring Ministry we have dedicated our time to training women for leadership and service within the local church. With this focus we altered our normal format of meeting in small groups and instead are gathering in a large group once a month around teaching and discussion of the book "Word-Filled Women's Ministry: Loving and Serving the Church" edited by Kathleen Nielson and Gloria Furman. We remain committed to being faithful to what Scripture says about the impact of single gender, intergenerational relationships between women of God (Titus 2:3-5). We see our ministry as one component of discipleship in the Christian faith, and as an effort to support our vision as a church to "glorify God by making gospel transformed disciples of all peoples, in our city and in the world." Moreover, we recognize that as we look to the future, we want to continue to train and equip more generations of women for service in the church.

So far this year in our time together we have looked at Scripture as the ultimate authority in our lives and the center of any ministry. We have also examined what Scripture has to say about our distinction as women, understanding that men and women are created equally in God's image, but that they are also uniquely different. Both men and women are equipped for good works and ministry and yet have distinct roles. We have also unpacked the importance of the local church as the context for ministry under the authority of church leadership. We then reflected on how and where we as women can serve most effectively. We also understand that as we reflect on areas of service, we ought to think globally beyond our local community to bring the gospel to the ends of the earth, and we got to hear how one of our Sunset supported missionaries is doing this in her role as a wife and mother while living overseas amongst an unreached people group.

Needless to say, we are excited for what this year has already seen, and what lies ahead.

Enrollment in the Women's Mentoring Ministry is limited to the early part of each year (Jan-Feb), so if you are a woman seeking greater connections with other women of the church and have a desire to grow in your understanding of biblical womanhood, we encourage you to plan to join us next year. And just so that you don't miss out, we have all of our sessions this year (audio and slides) posted on our Women's Ministry site <http://sunsetchurchsf.org/women> To be added to our mailing list for all of our current and recent happenings, please email womensministry@sunsetchurchsf.org. ■



2nd Annual IJM Bay Area Prayer Gathering

By Gary G., Sunset's Social Justice Ministry Leader

Did you know?

Did you know that there are more slaves today than at any time in human history?

Did you know that IJM (The International Justice Mission) is the largest anti-human trafficking organization in the world?

Did you know that IJM believes in the power of God and believes in the power of prayer?

On Sunday, May 21, Christians throughout the Bay Area gathered at Peninsula Bible Church for the 2nd Annual IJM Bay Area Prayer Gathering. It was a powerful evening where we heard stories of IJM's work of Rescue, Restoration and Restraining. Throughout the evening, time was taken to pray for specifics needs. It was also a time to give praise to God.

IJM, which was founded in 1997, actively searches out and rescues victims of human trafficking. Working with local organizations, the long journey of restoring the victims from a life of fear and despair to a life of hope and joy begins.

They shared the story of one victim, Charina, who was rescued at 15 years of age. At that time, she was found to be addicted to drugs as well as being pregnant. Charina's journey to restoration was a long road and is still in progress. Little did IJM know when they sought to rescue her that they would be instrumental in also rescuing the son that she gave birth to subsequently.

The perpetrators of human trafficking prey on the poor expecting that no one cares. But, God cares and IJM cares. IJM's legal staff works with the local authorities to prosecute and convict the perpetrators. When the perpetrators get stiff prison sentences (up to 35 years recently), a powerful message is sent to the community that justice has been accomplished.

The work of IJM is difficult and can be discouraging at times, but much progress is being made. Being able to change the trajectory of someone's life towards a positive, life fulfilling direction is a team effort. We heard from partners such as Solid Ground International, Good Paper, Love Never Fails, and the Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition. We learned the amazing story of Congress passing the End Modern Day Slavery Initiative and the President signing it into law in December, 2016.

The enemy is tenacious in oppressing the vulnerable. But, our God is powerful. And, God expects us to reach out to those in need (Isaiah 1:17).

If you want to learn more about the work of IJM, go to ijm.org.

If you want to join IJM in 40 Days of Prayer, text @BAPG2017 to 81010.

If you want to become a Freedom Partner, go to www.ijm.org/sign-up.

Sunset Liaison Updates:

Betty L. is Sunset Liaison to Freedom House which has a shelter for Bay Area victims of human trafficking. She has been FH liaison since 2016. <http://www.freedomhousesf.org/>

Stan P. is the new Sunset Liaison to IJM. Stan has been involved in Social Justice issues at Sunset for many years. He is also a member of the Sunset Missions Committee. Questions regarding IJM can be directed to him.

With much gratitude to Audrie L. who was Sunset Liaison to Freedom House from 2011 to 2016 as well as being Sunset Liaison to IJM from 2012 until this year. She has been faithful in seeking to keep Sunset members informed of the efforts of FH and IJM. ■



Gary G. (front), L-R: Jocelyn W. (IJM Director of Church Mobilization), Kelvin H., Betty L., Pastor Aurum L., Sarah L. & Stan P.

Let's Worship Together ("As Daughters and Sons" – Article 2)

Article Series by Melody Gawliu



If you and I could sit somewhere and I could share even one of the stories that make up my life, you would certainly not believe there was such thing as coincidences. Looking at my life, I know that God has meticulously orchestrated every single detail masterfully and for every piece of it I am thankful beyond words.

Singer/worshipper Christy Nockels, whom you may be familiar with as singer of Watermark or Passion Band, was God's herald speaking directly to me at the Worship Together 2017 conference (keep in mind this conference was geared towards worship leaders but also applicable to all worshippers). Nockels talked about how every time we stand up to lead worship it's our "at that time" (Deuteronomy 10:8). Basically, taking into consideration everything going on, we're in this moment. My life is a series of "at that time" moments, where though there are many things happening "at that

time" I still lead, serve, worship, and do what I know God has called me to do. In our "at that time" we come to God as His daughters and sons. Sometimes we get humbled to a place where we don't know what to do with ourselves and we need to ask God to help us to be where our feet are.

"At that time" in Nashville, I was mulling over the thoughts of "who am I" and "why do I worship God?" Those weren't new questions to me because I have mulled over them throughout my life even to this day. Sometimes I think: What if I didn't care so much? What if I wasn't so emotional? What if I didn't have the convictions in my heart that I have? Why do I have to go through the situations I go through? Why do I have to carry so much hurt and burden? Maybe if I was different, if I changed, life would be better or at least easier. Why do I have to be me? Nockels reminded us to "just be a daughter. Be who you are. Lead from **THAT**." I heard God's voice trying to shout above my own inner voice "I made you in MY IMAGE. You are my beloved. You are MY daughter!" The enemy lies to us about who we are.

Galatians 4:4-7 reminds us that we are not only loved by God but we are ADOPTED by God. What beautiful knowledge this is! We aren't merely orphans that God has graciously taken in and kept under His stairs. We are ADOPTED into His family and are His heirs! When we realize that we're ALL sons and daughters, it helps level the playing field. We don't have to be like anyone else for God to love us more or even simply love us – God is a good Father! A good parent loves their children equally yet uniquely. God knows each of His children, their needs, their desires, and pours out His love on them in the way He knows is best for each of them uniquely. When we realize our "sonship," it causes us to serve the Lord with **gladness**. We shouldn't serve or worship as slaves but as His children. In your "at that time," come as a daughter/son and look Him in His face.

When on stage as lead worshipper, one of the invitations I would give everyone is to "come as you are." Some tell people to "come worship God and leave your baggage at the door. Whatever is going on in your life, leave it at the door so you can be in this moment and worship God." I always like to remind people that God wants us to bring our baggage in; bring it to the foot of the cross; God will help carry your load. By bringing our baggage to God, we can experience a deeper sense of worship to Him. We don't have to believe the lie that says we have to change before we can come to God. God says "you don't have to change to come to me. **Come to me and I will change you.** You don't have to be healed first. Come and I will heal you." Each time I come to worship God through music or prayer or whatever means, I bring my baggage right up to God and say "God, help me." It's humbling and comforting to ask for God's help transparently. We all have our own "tehillah." We have our own songs to sing and unique experiences from which we worship from. As lead worshipper, I'm reminded that leading worship is like a family embrace – you get close to the Lord and the others want in on it.

As you come to worship God, be who you are. You don't have to change first. Allow God to change you the way He knows is best. Just be a daughter/son of God. Look Him in the face and worship from that place.

If you'd like to hear more details or ask questions, I'd love to chat with you! Please feel free to chat with me at church or send me an e-mail info@sunsetchurchsf.org ■



"Just be a daughter. Be who you are. Lead from **THAT**."

Preparing for Missions in Cambodia

By Eric Tom, Photos by Margie Fong and Lauren Gee



Front row L-R: Joyce, Lucy, Margie, Teresa, Alicia & Lauren. 2nd row L-R: Byron, Polly, Rosanna, Karen, Eric & Lila. 3rd row L-R: Thomas, Greg, & Melody (Not pictured: Quincie)

This summer, Sunset has supported three short-term mission trips, Cambodia being one of them. During this trip, our team of 16 people will be helping out with the Pleroma Missions Team, where they have three different ministries in Cambodia, all aimed at serving the women in their country. We will be mainly partnering with the Pleroma School for Girls Ministry, where their mission is to bring Christ's love in a tangible way to girls via education. During our trip, we will be training the teachers on how to use online resources and current programs to assist in their teaching, as well as holding sessions on general and spiritual leadership skills.

In regards to the students, we will be sharing the gospel of Jesus through a 3-day Vacation Bible School (VBS) and ESL programs. I sometimes wonder how much of an impact this trip will have, but as I reflect I find these thoughts to be base off of my pride and reliance on my own abilities, which thankfully, has in turn led me to pray to and rely on God more.

Please join with us in prayer for the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of the kids who hear the gospel through the VBS, that they will believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior!

On behalf of our team, we want to thank all of those who have helped support the Cambodia STM Team through prayer and finance. Please continue to pray for our team as we prepare the VBS & ESL programs and that God will do his thing and use us to ultimately show His love through our words and actions. In addition, please pray for the Pleroma School Ministry to find a full-time ESL teacher and principal to lead their school in godly wisdom. ■



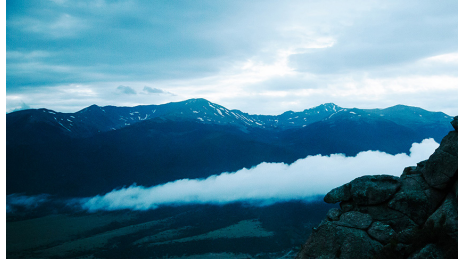
"Giving thanks to a T-shirt company that donated 1,500 new shirts for our Cambodia missions trip. This year we can bring new clothing to give to the girl's school, girl's home and community. It was great teamwork sorting, counting & distributing to each team member so each can carry in their luggage and deliver to Cambodia." – Margie F.

Sunset Church Resources

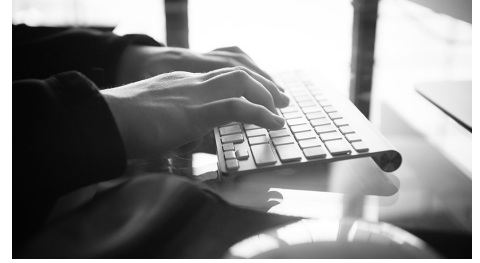
Sunset Church is a community that cares. If you are looking for books, messages, jobs, housing, counseling and other resources, go to our website and find helpful materials. sunsetchurchsf.org/resources



Caring/Prayer Ministry



Counseling



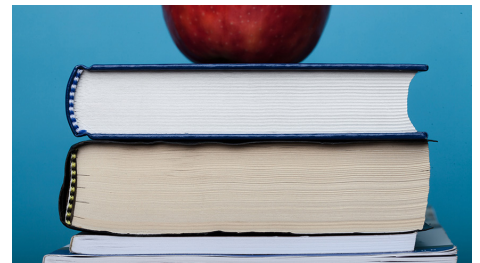
Classifieds
Find jobs, housing and free stuff!



Facility Request, Audio, and
Video Equipment Reservation



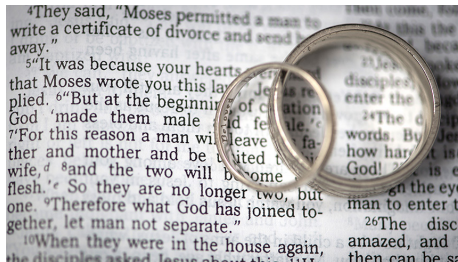
Funeral



Lending Library
Check out and borrow books and
DVDs.



Premarital Counseling



Weddings



Sermons



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Sunset Profile: Philip W.



Philip with his lovely wife, Betty, and their sons, Kyle and Ethan.

Q: Tell us a little about yourself, your family, your background and your spiritual journey.

I am the youngest of four kids. I was blessed to grow up in a Christian family. When I was younger, we were attending CIBC in Oakland. During my junior year in high school we came to Sunset Church. So, I've been here for a while, since 1981. I prayed to receive Christ with my mom when I was almost 6 years old. Excited about my upcoming birthday, she sat with me and explained how I could have a second birthday by being born into God's family.

Q: What are your hobbies or interests?

I enjoy playing sports, grew up playing basketball, football, soccer, baseball/softball. Now that I'm getting older, playing is a bit harder physically although I still get out to play some basketball. I enjoy following our local sports teams, particularly the Raiders, Warriors, and Giants. The last seven years, it's been fun being spoiled by some championships in baseball and basketball, especially since it's been such a long time.

I had not traveled much till the last few years. I look forward to doing some more traveling. An older couple mentioned to Betty and me to travel now while we are able to still get around, if possible don't wait till retirement.

Q: If you can go anywhere and do anything, where would you go and do?

I hope to visit the Holy Land, to walk where Jesus walked when He was on earth. It would give a different sense to some of the bible passages if I'm able to visit in person.

Q: What is something that people would be surprised to know about you?

I'm shy and an introvert and have four cats.

Q: What ministries are you involved in? Why are you passionate about it? How can others get involved?

I'm on one of the 8:30am ushering teams. Betty and I spend some time meeting with some younger couples, seeking to grow with them in their Christian walks and their relationships. Recently, God has opened up an opportunity to have an after school Good News Club at Lawton Elementary School starting in the Fall on Fridays after school. We are forming our team and would love for those who want to allow God to use them to reach out to students there to join us. Contact me at philipnbetty@yahoo.com.

Q: How do you see God working in your life?

I guess as I get older, I'm thankful for the years and many blessings He's given me and I want to share them with others. I want to share my life and invest in the lives of others.

Q: What Bible verse has been the most impactful to you in your Christian Journey? Why?

One of my favorite verses is Philippians 1:6, And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It reminds me that God is working in me, even though I have struggles and failures along the way, my destination and what I will be is sure and secure in Christ. ■