

Truth B-P Church

Missions Trip to Cambodia (7 to 11 Dec 2018)

Reported by Ernest Kwok (with the help of Pastor Dennis)

Missions Team:

Pastor Dennis, Mummy Yee Min, Uncle Tan, Auntie Tan, Uncle Wilson, Auntie Bee Suat, Auntie May Ling, Ernest, Caius, and Charissa.

Objectives:

1. Rejoice with the graduating student (Bro Lut Linah) of True Gospel Bible School
2. Rejoice with True Gospel BPC on their 11th Anniversary
3. Visit the new premises of Lively Hope BPC



On 7 Dec, the missions team gathered at Changi Airport Terminal 1. We managed to check in most of the luggage. As we had reached the maximum baggage allowable, 3 boxes of clothings can only be brought over during the next trip in January. Thank God for those who came to send us off. It was a smooth and comfortable 2-hour flight to Cambodia. Upon arrival at the Phnom Penh International Airport, we were greeted by Uncle Soothy who took us to a nearby Chinese restaurant for lunch. After lunch, we set off for Kampot. The whole journey took about 4 hours as the road condition was very bad, but thank God for keeping us safe and in good health. We arrived in Kampot late in the evening, and dinner was already prepared for

us. Thank God for the hospitality of Auntie Thavy who prepared a yummy dinner for us. Pr Sopheak did not meet us as he had to send his daughter Hannah to the hospital. She had been having high fever since Wednesday and was hospitalized for the following 2 days. Thank God she was discharged on Sunday evening and is recovering well.

Pastor Dennis led us both in the morning and evening devotions on Psalm 73. We learnt how Asaph suffered because of the attack by his enemies, but throughout those trials, he still put his trust in God, so that he could declare all His wondrous works. May God help us to press on for His sake and not give up easily when we face difficulties.

Uncle Tan offered to cook the graduation dinner on Saturday which would be attended by at least 40 people. So, on Saturday morning, the whole team went to the Kampot market to buy the ingredients for the curry chicken and mee goreng. We went without any Cambodian brethren to help us in our communication, but we “survived.” I guess we were cheated in some transactions. Nevertheless, it was a good experience with the “chicken and duck” talk that made the whole shopping trip hilarious



and interesting. The main chef was Uncle Tan, and his faithful assistants were Uncle Wilson and Ernest. The rest of us helped out in whatever way we can. The cooking was completed in time just before the graduation started at 5 pm. We thank God that we were able to witness Bro Lut Linah graduate with a Diploma in Theology after 3 years of studies in the True Gospel Bible School. The graduation service was well attended. More than half were from the church in which Bro Lut Linah was serving. Pastor Dennis was the Lord’s messenger and he exhorted us from Acts 20:22-24 to press on in the work of the ministry. Dinner was served after the service and the Cambodian brethren had a taste of Singapore curry chicken and mee goreng. Thank God almost everything was consumed, leaving only some curry gravy.





On the Lord's Day, we rejoiced with True Gospel BPC on their 11th Anniversary. We thank God for how He has preserved True Gospel these past 11 years. The missions team presented a song item "Amazing Grace" in both English and Khmer. Pastor Dennis spoke on "The Lord Our Keeper" based on Psalm 121. He exhorted us to always look to God and not allow the world to distract us from walking faithfully before God. The Lord's Supper was administered after the message. In the afternoon, we visited Hannah in the hospital while Pastor Dennis had a meeting with the

preachers in church. Thank God that Uncle Wilson was able to encourage Hannah from Exodus 15:26 to look to God for healing. We managed to have a short rest before we returned to church for the children's Christmas program. Mummy Yee Min spoke to the children based on Romans 6:23. It was a Christmas gospel message and we pray that the children will come and believe in Jesus. In the evening, we had dinner at Cocoshack with the four preachers and their families, as well as Pr Tann Heng. Bro Sim Dara, who had recently returned to Kampot from Thailand for good, also joined us for dinner. Thank God for the warm fellowship we were able to have with all of them.



We made our way to Sihanoukville on Monday. On our way, we thank God we were able to visit Uncle Bun Kouy's outreach in the village Puom Jor Long. There is no church in this village and there are 1,057 families. Many of them have never heard of the gospel before. Uncle Bun Kouy believed that the Lord has led him here to reach out to the unsaved villagers. He will be getting married in January 2019 and his wife-to-be is willing to follow and support his ministry in this village. May God be pleased to bless his ministry. Uncle Bun Kouy had organized a special Christmas program for the children. Mummy Yee Min spoke the same message that she prepared for True Gospel on

Romans 6:23. Following that, we visited Rev Tann Cheng's church which was about 10 minutes from the village. They had prepared some refreshment for us. Thank God for their hospitality. We also visited the rubbish dump where Uncle Bun Kouy had served with the Korean mission before he went to Singapore to study in the Far Eastern Bible College. May God use Uncle Bun Kouy mightily as he continues to serve Him faithfully in the village.

We arrived in Sihanoukville late afternoon. After a late lunch, we checked into the hotel and had a short rest before we visited Pr John Saray in the newly rented premises. It was raining heavily and some of the roads were flooded. Thank God the church was not flooded. We had good fellowship with Pr Saray and his family. We were happy to see his son Jonathan recovering well after he was hospitalized the previous week for dengue fever. The rented place may be small compared to the previous place but it is newer and well maintained. Some of the church members and worshippers had left Sihanoukville and moved back to the small provinces. In fact, Sihanoukville now has a nickname: Shanghaiville. Chinese nationals can be found in every corner of the city. Property prices have sky-rocketed and the cost of living have gone up suddenly ever since the government opened the door to the high influx of Chinese investors into the country. Many Cambodians cannot afford to buy or rent properties. There are rumours that the Chinese investors are setting their eyes on Kampot as their next target of investment. It is only a matter of time before Kampot will be the next Shanghaiville. We pray that the preachers will continue to press on despite the difficulties that are ahead of them.

On our last day, we had breakfast with Pr Saray and Auntie Lydia after they had sent their children to school. We also visited Auntie Lydia's mother and shared the gospel with her before we left Sihanoukville. It was an enduring 6-hour journey to Phnom Penh. Though tough, thank God that we were all in good spirit. Thank God for sustaining us throughout the missions trip. We came here with the hope to be a blessing to our Cambodian brethren but in the end we were blessed by them instead. We thank God for their hospitality towards us and we were encouraged to see them serving the Lord faithfully no matter what happens. May God continue to bless their ministry for His eternal glory. Amen.

