

SINGAPORE MISSION UPDATE

November 6, 2020

FINISHING THE THIRD TERM

October did not bring fall weather in Singapore, but it did bring some cool temperatures and very busy days. We are putting in the work. Kids are still working hard in homeschool and playing hard (with masks) with neighborhood kids. We appreciate each of you so much. We are looking forward to a busy November of finishing classes, graduation, and our graduates leaving.

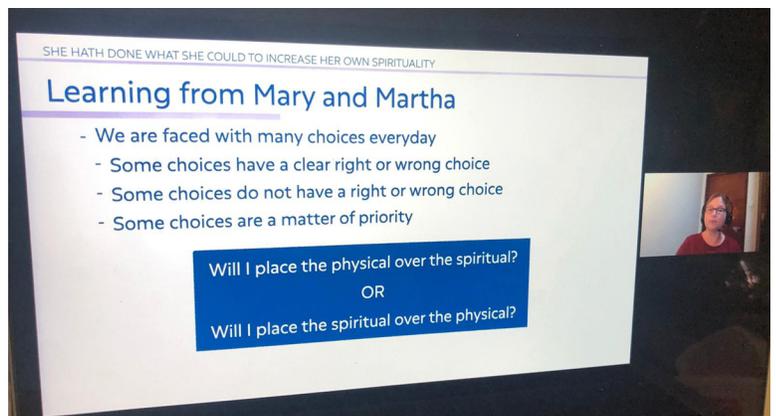
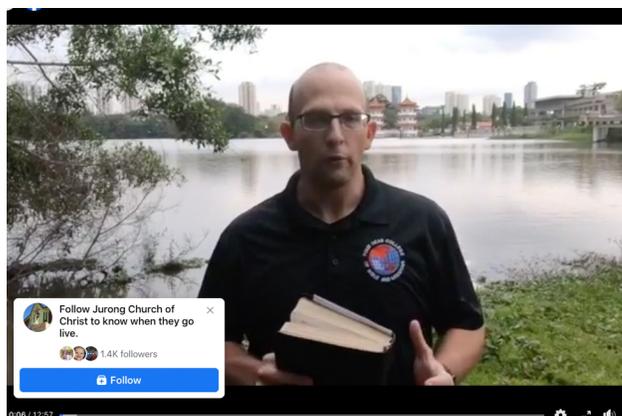
The second year students are diligently completing their students in preparation for finishing the school year in November. While five of them will finish next month, one student will wrap-around and complete his studies in April. The first year students are also working hard as they near completion of their first year in school. Midterms are over, term papers are being written, and finals are on the horizon.

I have been continuing to teach in-person (with a face shield) during the month of October. I've been teaching Romans and English the first year students and Revelation to the second year students.

Lisa had the opportunity to teach an Online Bible Marking Workshop over Zoom for the ladies at the recent church plant in Singapore, the Eastside church of Christ. The workshop included an introduction to Bible marking, an example Bible marking lesson, and how to create your own Bible marking lesson. Lisa also taught a ladies Bible class for Jurong over the topic of spiritual growth.

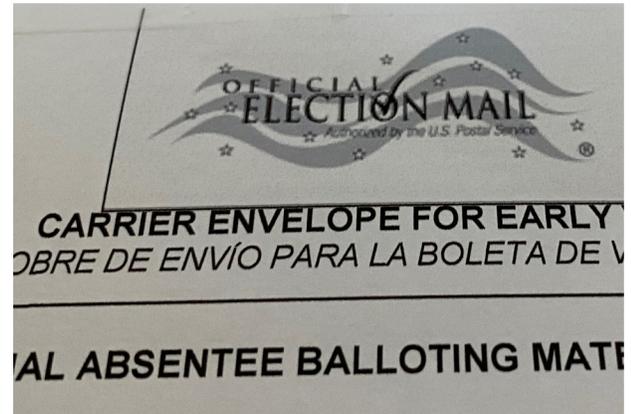
I've also been working with the school to coordinate a program for the students over the December break. Students usually return home or participate in internships during the school break, but due to current quarantine restrictions (in Singapore, but also in some of their home countries), the students will not be able to leave Singapore over the break. Instead, they will be participating in enrichment classes over a variety of subjects including Biblical topics, English, and life skills as well as attending a few outings. Among the teachers, I am grateful that Garrett English and Jordan Moore will each take on one class.

I also began work on a weekly video Bible study series on Facebook called "Tuesday Tips" focused on Biblical poetry. These videos are part of an effort by the Jurong church of Christ to reach out to the community. The deacon over evangelism is coordinating the effort of many brothers to produce short content each week. We hope to drive local engagement in the Jurong area to generate interest, contacts, and Bible studies. There is definitely a learning curve in producing these videos, and hopefully our video production will improve each week. These videos (along with others who are presenting different series as part of our community outreach) are available on Jurong's Facebook page (facebook.com/JurongCOC).



CULTURE SHOCK: VOTING OVERSEAS

We also exercised our right to vote for the first time since living overseas. We are thankful to be able to vote in the U.S. elections and had to go through a very long and detailed process to ensure that we were actually casting our ballots. This is not as quick as going to the polling place and voting. First, we went through the process of requesting our ballots, then completing the ballots, and finally mailing them back to Texas in their specific envelopes. The process for casting a vote from a foreign country is a bit tedious. But we are thankful that we were able to vote this year even though we weren't able to get our "I voted" stickers.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: ROLLY C. PARADA

Rolly C. Parada is from Barangay Coline Alimodian Iloilo, Philippines. His home congregation, church of Christ at Simsiman Calinog, is about two hours away. As a new convert and young Christian Rolly wanted to come to Four Seas to be equipped to help his home congregation which cannot support a full-time preacher. He came to Four Seas in 2018 as the youngest student and newest convert. While Rolly could communicate in English, he was one of the least fluent members of his class. He struggled through his first year to find his place, take care of studies and responsibilities, deal with issues at home (challenges in his family), and communicate. Each term I had to discuss with Rolly his grades which were getting to the "no diploma" line. Then, at the end of his first year, a lot of things clicked for Rolly. His English had improved greatly, he learned to research correctly, he grew in his knowledge of God's word, and he grew in confidence. During the break last year, Rolly went back to the Philippines. He took care of lingering family issues, worked in his home congregation. When he came back, he was not struggling anymore. As we close out the second year, I never have to talk to Rolly about his grades being near minimum because he often scores near the top of his class. After school, Rolly plans to build a house, farm the land, take care of his two young siblings, and preach the gospel. Currently, the church of Christ at Simsiman Calinog, cannot support Rolly to work full time. If he is unable to raise support, Rolly plans to work a secular job during the week and work with the church on the weekends. Either way, he will be preaching the gospel, tending to his siblings, farming a small piece of land, teaching the lost, and encouraging other small congregations in his area.



CURRENT COURSEWORK AT FOUR SEAS COLLEGE

WWW.FOURSEAS.EDU.SG

2ND HALF OF 3RD TERM (SEPTEMBER 30-NOVEMBER 20, 2020)

FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

EXODUS-DEUTERONOMY
ENGLISH GRAMMAR III
PREACHER & HIS WORK II
ROMANS

SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

REVELATION
PREACHER & HIS WORK VI
FUNDAMENTALS OF THE FAITH
DENONMINATIONAL DOGMAS

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