

SINGAPORE MISSION UPDATE

May 31, 2021

BUSYNESS, BARRIERS, BROKEN BONES, & LOTS OF BIBLE

Another busy month has flown by as we continue the work of training preachers, missionaries, teachers, and evangelists to spread the gospel throughout Asia and the world. My schedule includes teaching all of the books of prophecy during the last two trimesters of the students' second year classes. Currently, we have completed Isaiah and the earliest "minor" prophets. During June we will finish Jeremiah and the remainder of the "minor" prophets. In order to help our student see how to preach from these texts, I have been (and will continue) preaching regularly in chapel from a text from the Old Testament prophets. During the final term, I will teach Ezekiel, Daniel, and Revelation; but that is for another report. This month is the time for students to really begin considering their next step, so I will be working with students from May until November to put together plans of action for the ambitious goals they have after graduation.

Our work continues with the Jurong congregation as I teach in the adult Bible classes. We are studying the book of Acts. As part of my regular preaching duties on rotation, I preached on May 23 over Philippians 2:5-11. Jurong has also asked for members, especially the Bible class teachers, to write for the weekly Jurong Outreach. I have sent them some articles for publication and will be writing more, Lord willing. This month was exciting as Lisa and I were able to conduct our first pre-marital counseling session in Asia. A big part of our work in San Marcos was working with couples who were preparing for marriage. We would usually invite them into our home, put the children to bed or to play, and talk about marriage. These sessions became part of our regular routine, sometimes 3 nights per week with various couples. Lisa and I have always enjoyed these types of Bible studies. Unfortunately, we were not able to have the engaged couple into our home because of Covid restrictions, logistics, and space limitations. Instead, we were able to sit down with them over Zoom and discuss God's plan and desire in marriage. It was a good study. Lisa has also been involved in the preparation for the Holiday (Vacation) Bible School that will take place in June.

This month provided another exciting opportunity to experience the healthcare system of Singapore. On Mothers' Day our son, Luke, jumped off of a slide and broke his arm - both bones, just above the wrist. Thankfully, it was about as minor as a broken arm could be. After three weeks, he was able to get his cast off, but he has to have a "take it easy" month of June. Luke has handled everything well, and whole process was very smooth for such an injury. For all of that, we are very thankful. Lisa keeps our children's homeschool schedule in line with the US school year, so the kids finished up their classes for the year by baking some last day of school cookies.

Singapore has experienced a sharp rise in Covid cases in the recent weeks. This has prompted severe limitations on us. The largest social group outside of the home is two, all indoor/outdoor dining has been closed, and all teaching must be done with face masks on. Now, we long for the days of just wearing a face shield. Also, due to rising cases across the world, Singapore has tightened some travel restrictors and lengthened quarantines. We hope and pray these restrictions are loosened soon.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

This month we want to spotlight two of our second year students:

GRANT AGUILAR

Grant Aguilar was a member of the General Santos church of Christ in the Philippines. He came to learn more about the Bible and learn to preach in order to help his local congregation and to help his father with a church plant in the Cebu area of the Philippines. After graduation, Grant will serve as one of the preachers in General Santos City, work secularly, and help his mother and family. His future plans include moving to the Cebu area to help his father in the new congregation started there. Grant has always had great potential as a student, and he has grown into it in his second year of study with higher grades, through demonstrated leadership (he serves as a warden), and in assisting his classmates more readily.



SURESH SALLAPUDI

Suresh Sallapudi is from Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh in South India. His (late) mother, who was a homemaker, led her family to Christ. As the oldest of four siblings, Suresh helped his mother much while his father served in the military. Suresh is also the oldest male member of the second year class, kind of a Moses to his peers. He came to school to learn the scriptures and to become an evangelist. Suresh has a focus on evangelism and plans to return to his home congregation for one year before starting a new church plant near his home town. It is his eternal desire that those of his extended family and their neighbors hear the gospel. Suresh made a great sacrifice in coming to school at Four Seas as he left his wife (Bharathi) and two sons (Christian and Shamgar) in India with family while he studies the Bible. Suresh has ambitious plans in India, a servant's heart, and a tireless work ethic.



Currently, the Covid situation in both the Philippines and India is bad – especially India. Pray for these nations and our brethren who minister in the midst of this pandemic.

CURRENT COURSEWORK AT FOUR SEAS COLLEGE

WWW.FOURSEAS.EDU.SG

1ST HALF OF 2ND TERM (APRIL 26, 2021-AUGUST 6, 2021)

FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

CHRISTIAN EVIDENCES
GENESIS
1 CORINTHIANS
ENGLISH GRAMMAR II

SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

ISAIAH, JEREMIAH, LAMENTATIONS
GENERAL BIBLICAL INTRODUCTION
HOSEA-MALAH
NEW TESTAMENT GREEK II

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