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## *Feature*

# Old Paths of Evangelism

Derren Liang

Thus says the Lord:

“Stand in the ways and see,  
And ask for the old paths, where the good way is,  
And walk in it.” (Jeremiah 6:16)

Advanced technology provides various new channels for preaching the gospel. We have had breakthroughs in many pioneering regions such as Congo and Malawi through utilizing the Internet. People nowadays strive for new things and changes. In the same way, in doing holy work, we often hear calls for changes in the hope of achieving a breakthrough in our evangelism through different means. We must hold firm to the basic elements of evangelism amidst all the changes around us so that we can sow in tears and reap in joy!

From the Book of Acts, we can see the old paths of evangelism. It is worthwhile for us to review and pursue after such old paths.

**But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me ... to the end of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)**

To preach the Kingdom of God is not only a matter of speech, but also power. The key to extending the Kingdom of God lies in obtaining power. To evangelize is not only an act, but also a fight. The weapons with which we fight the war is the power from God, which can break down the toughest fortresses, remove all types of obstacles in people’s heart that may prevent them from knowing God, and recapture their heart so they would submit to Christ. The Book of Acts repeatedly mentions about being filled with the Holy Spirit. It is of such importance that it is a criterion for selecting holy workers. The church focused heavily on prayers and the congregations prayed to the point that the gathering place shook.

All breakthroughs in the holy work of the apostolic churches were the result of the guidance of the Holy Spirit. They broke through the force of the followers of Judaism, established churches, broke down racial barriers, preached to the Gentiles, and overcame geographical limits to spread the gospel to Europe.

It is of the utmost importance to pray for the power from above and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. A church must strive in the direction of becoming a church of prayer, whereby workers put prayers at the center of evangelism. “Not by might nor by power, but by [the] Spirit [of God].”

**“[The disciples] were all scattered throughout the regions ... And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.” (Acts 8:1; 11:21)**

Personal evangelism was one of the methods for preaching the gospel during the apostolic times. It is also currently the most effective method of evangelism at our church. Establishing a sense of duty to preach and equipping the members to conduct personal evangelism will improve the church’s ministry. Besides instilling virtue, wisdom and ability, the objectives of religious education must also include evangelism, so that those members who grow up under the religious education system at the church will be conscious to and well equipped for evangelical work. If we strive hard over the long run, the church will develop a tradition and culture of evangelism.

In order for personal evangelism to be effective, we must have the Lord’s abidance. Evangelical work brings us to interact with many people, but its effectiveness lies in our relationship with God. After the crowd went home, Jesus went to the Mount of Olives, and returned to the temple to teach early next morning (John 8:1-2). In order for evangelism to be effective, we must

emulate the Lord Jesus to spend quiet time with God and pray for God's abidance.

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 *Church News*

## **Current Holy Work Report - Philippines**

There is no boasting to preaching the gospel for the duty had been entrusted to me by our Lord Savior's command.

8/23-24/2011 Eastern Hemisphere Conference at Olive Garden, Malaysia – It was decided to send Pr. Wan Fa Chen to preach to the Chinese in the Philippines. Thanks to God's grace, from November 2012 to January 2014, there were a total of 8 two-week evangelical trips where Pr. Wan Fa Chen accompanied by local preachers, deacons or members made personal evangelisms.

Sabah GA's instruction is to preach solely to the Chinese. There was a contact list prepared. But when the contacts could not be reached by phone or refused to pick up, we hoped that the local deacons, elders and members can introduce the Chinese friends to us. However, they expressed the difficulty in interacting with the Chinese. Chinese members who've lived in the Philippines for an extended period of time said it is not suitable for preachers to go to the living environment of the Chinese. Do we not have a person to preach to? Where then shall we go to preach the gospel?

1. We welcome co-workers in prayer

Every Sabbath Manila Church prays for 30 minutes prior to the morning and afternoon services. We encourage to pray especially for the evangelism work of preaching to the Chinese. Many co-workers also pray earnestly each morning, asking God to open the door of gospel.

2. Locate Chinese restaurants in Chinatown, Manila

On November 12, 2012, we entered into Chinatown for the first time. We walked around in search for Chinese restaurants, praying for God to guide us. The first stop was Royal Noodle Restaurant. We ordered and had lunch there. With the work of evangelism on our shoulders, we continued to search for the person whom we can preach to. Who is Chinese? We prayed earnestly in the heart and finally, Mr. Liu, the manager, Mrs. Yu Shuan Chang, Mr. Yuan Gong Chu the chef, and Mr. Mei Luan Cheng, the chef. We utilized the afternoon time after 2pm

where there were fewer customers to briefly introduce our gospel and build a good interpersonal relationship with them.



*Manila Church Sabbath Service*

The mother of Mrs. Yu Shuan Chang is 100 years old; we longed to visit her. The first time we met Mrs. Chang we went home with her to visit her mother. On the third visit we also met her brother Mr. Chang by chance. We held on to every given opportunity and Mr. Chang agreed for us to visit and tell him more about the truth. Afterward service was held at his house a numerous times; he also attended service at Manila Church. We explained the gospel in detail to Mr. Chang, he also actively invited his coworkers to join in gospel fellowship in different restaurants.

### 3. No obstacle in holding gospel fellowship

Twice Mr. Chang had invited his friends to join the gospel fellowship. Through the opportunity arranged by God, we came in contact with:

Mr. Shong Wu – Had been to Manila Church for Sabbath service

Mr. Rong Hua Huang – Attended family service numerous times.

Mr. Shu Ming Chen – Mr. Chen is a Christian from another denomination. He shared our church's teachings on Sabbath with his pastor; his pastor rebuked our teachings as teachings of the devil. However, Mr. Chen wanted to seek a church with truth. Therefore, he came to study the Bible at Manila Church. Just so happen Pr. Zacchaeus Yang was the usher. He explained to

him in detail the doctrines of Sabbath, Water Baptism, Foot Washing, Holy Sacraments, and Holy Spirit. Mr. Chen also attended Sabbath service.

#### 4. New friends introduced to us by friends in China Town restaurants

Chef of Royal Noodle Restaurant – Mr. Mei Luan Cheng introduced his friend Mr. Ho, a chef at 合棧 Restaurant. His whole family is Christian. We gradually moved our target to 合棧 Restaurant, spending much time to speak with Mr. Ho and have had service with his family on numerous occasions. We shared about our basic doctrines, how we pray, that we believe those who lovingly receive those preaching the name of the Lord shall be remembered by God and greatly blessed.

#### 5. Friends who've heard the truth numerous times in Chinatown Restaurants

Mr. Fu and his wife – We met Mr. Fu in a restaurant. We followed up by visiting him at his clock shop to preach the gospel to him and his wife. We continue to follow up with them until now.

Mr. Tsai – We met Mr. Tsai in a restaurant. We have had family service at his house several times.

Mr. Dai – We met Mr. Dai at a restaurant. We often share about the gospel in different restaurants.

Mrs. Chen – Mrs. Chen is the manager at a restaurant. We often preach the gospel to others at her restaurant.

Mrs. Yang – Mrs. Yang brought us to her house to further discuss the gospel after attending the gospel fellowship.

Mrs. Wang – Manager at a restaurant. We have been to her house for service twice.

#### 6. Testimony within Chinatown

One time in the process of seeking people to preach to in Chinatown, the evangelical team met Mr. Wei Cheng Liu. He was sitting on his door step, with a bottle under his chair. Later we learned that he had suffered alcoholism for 30 years. Ever since Mr. Liu attended the Sabbath service and understood the salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ, by God grace he was freed from his 30 years of addiction and can enjoy the true freedom and peace in Christ. Thank God, he continues to keep the Sabbath.

We sincerely ask all the churches to pray for the Chinese evangelism work in the Philippines, as well as evangelism locations in Chinatown. May God arrange a suitable place for the preachers and friends.



*Manila Church Youth Spiritual Convocation*

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## *Church News*

### **Current Situation of Dominican Ministry**

Bro. Li-Fu Huang from Taiwan was the first seed of the True Jesus Church in the Dominican Republic. The first Sabbath service was held on February 22, 2014, in a rented chapel in San Petro.

Not long after immigrating to Dominican Republic in 1984, Bro. Huang started proactively preaching the gospel. Initially, the service was held in an office of Bro. Huang's factory. By the guidance of the Holy Spirit, believers gradually increased. In 1997, USGA officially carried on the responsibility of caring and counseling the holy works in Dominican Republic. In 2002, Bro. Huang and Bro. Chen jointly purchased a house for establishing a Dominican Church in San Petro. Currently, there are over 30 believers. All the believers are local people except Bro. Huang's family. It is indeed outstanding. The time for regular service and the venue for family

service are arranged. The church council members consist of the local believers. It demonstrates that the grace of the Lord is confined neither by nationalities nor boundaries and the management and pastoring can be localized.

Originally the chapel was an old wooden apartment house. USGA decided to dismantle the wooden building and reconstruct the church using cement, so that a better environment of the church could facilitate holding services, promoting the holy works and training. The old building was demolished on February 17, 2014, (as attached picture) and we rented a room for service temporarily. The construction plan of the new building was reviewed and approved by USGA. It will be a two story building, in which the first floor contains a chapel, a kitchen, and two offices, and the second floor contains a preacher room and RE classrooms. The estimated expense for the entire construction is about US\$180,000 and the project will take about six months to complete.

May God continually guide the ministry in the Dominican Church and let the construction of the new church building complete smoothly, so that more people would be moved to believe in the Lord. May brothers and sisters pray for the construction work of the Dominican church. May God remember everyone's love.



The old building of the Dominican Church was demolished. A new building is to be constructed on the same site.

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 **Intercession**

1. Please pray for IA work assignment as below:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Personnel</b>
5/7-18	Korea	Spiritual Convocation (Dae Bang/Gang Nam)	CY Hsiung
5/29-6/30	Malaysia	Pastoral Work/Tamil speaking Spiritual Meeting/ Regional Malay speaking Spiritual Meeting	Sabah Preacher
5/30-6/15	Singapore	Mid Year Spiritual Meeting/ Youths Theological Training Course/ Adult Bible Course	HH Ko
5/1-25	Fiji	Pastoral Work and Gospel Outreach	Joshua Phoong
5/8-26	Thailand	Spiritual Evangelical Convocation	SF Yeh
5/6-6/5	New Zealand	Christchurch Pastoral Work	Daniel Chin
5/2-4	Canada	Spring Spiritual Evangelical Convocation (Edmonton)	Jason Hu
5/7-11		Spring Spiritual Evangelical Convocation (Vancouver)	CH Chou
5/7-11		Spring Spiritual Evangelical Convocation (Toronto)	W Yeh
5/12-16		College Youth Spiritual Convocation (Toronto)	CCC
5/16-18		Spring Spiritual Evangelical Convocation (Montreal)	KM Huang
5/9-6/1		Brazil	Pastoral Work
5/2-12	Dominican Rep.	Spring Spiritual Evangelical Convocation	Raymond Chou
5/12-20	UK	Spiritual Evangelical Convocation (Elgin)/ National Sisters Spiritual Nurture(Newcastle)	S. Hwang
May/June	Spain	Pastoral Work (Barcelona/ Madrid/ Albacete)	CJ Hsieh
5/1-12	Russia	Spiritual Evangelical Convocation /Children Special Services	Derren Liang
5/14-6/10	East Africa	Pastoral Ministry/Training (Zambia/Malawi)	FFChong /Volunteer

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 *You Could Help the Worldwide Evangelism Mission Simply by Contribution  
a dollar a day...*



**How You Can Help**

You are called to take action for the sake of worldwide evangelism and the spreading of the gospel...with **a dollar a day**. If everyone could daily extend one dollar towards the International Assembly World Evangelism Fund, we could, together, accomplish the commission that our Lord Jesus Christ left behind. Your financial commitment will open up possibilities and resources that will lead us to save many souls.

Please take time to fill out the offering sheet available at your local church, to pass this message on to loved ones and family, and to pray for God's ministry. May the Lord be gracious to you!

To find out more about the dollar-a-day program and donation options, ***please contact*** [ia@tjc.org](mailto:ia@tjc.org) or [tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net](mailto:tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net).

✧ *May our Lord remember your contribution and bless you abundantly!*

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