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Feature

Increase the Nation, Expand the Borders

Pr. Ezra Chong

At the 11.1 World Delegates Conference held in Irvine Church, Southern California, USA; the theme set by IA was “Increase the Nation, Expand the Borders” (Isa 26:15). It stresses on the work of World Evangelism.

“Nation”

In the OT, God promised Abram to make him a great nation (Gen 12:2; 18:18a). This promise was reiterated to Jacob; whose name was changed to Israel and from whom, his descendants the nation of Israel came (Gen 46:1-3; ref. 32:27-28; 35:9-11a). After the Exodus, Israel is God’s holy nation (Exo 19:6; 33:13b).

In the NT, the Church is God’s holy nation (1 Pet 2:9).

“Increase the Nation” – Our Hope

In the OT, there were prophetic prophecies on the increase in number; that Israel will multiply due to the multitude or flocks of men (Isa 49:19-21; 54:1; Eze 36:37-38; Zech 2:4).

In the NT, the Apostolic Church grew and multiplied greatly in number. From her establishment of around 120 of them, 3000 were added and later the number of men came to about 5000 (Acts 1:15; 2:41; 4:4). Over time, she continued to experience a steady growth in number (5:14; 6:7; 9:31; 11:21, 24; 16:5).

As for the True Church in the last days, there is this prospect of an increase in number as the fullness or full number of the gentiles that will come in (Rom 11:25).

“Expand the Borders” – The Way/Method

This increase in the nation, the Church can be realized through the expansion of the borders; through evangelical work in one’s own land (country of residence) and into new lands (other countries) to the nations or gentiles; ie. men from every/different tribe, tongue, people and nation (not only one race).

In the OT, God had foresaw and fore-planned that His salvation and blessing is not only for Israel/ Jews but the Nations/Gentiles; thus He not only told Abram that he will be a great nation but that he will be the father of a multitude of nations, thus his name was changed to Abraham (Gen 17:4-5; 18:18; ref. Gal 3:8). OT prophets also prophesied about the inflow of nations/gentiles (Isa 2:2f; 11:10; 49:6, 22; 54:3).

In the NT, the seed of Abraham, Jesus (ref. Gal 3:16) came and ministered to the house of Israel; for salvation is from the Jews and for the Jews first (Matt 1:1; 15:24; Jn 1:11a; 4:22b). He charged the Twelve to only go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (Matt 10:5f). But after His death and resurrection (became the Savior of the world), and before His ascension, He commissioned them to make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:19).

Thus, the Apostolic Church was directed by Jesus to first preach to the Jews, then to the Samaritans and later to the end of the earth, the Gentiles/Nations (Acts 1:8; cf. 13:46-49).

The True Church in the last days is to preach the gospel of the Kingdom to all nations, and then the end will come (Matt 24:14). This “all nations” denotes every tribe and tongue and people and nation. Jesus’ salvation is to all nations (Rev 5:9; 7:9; 10:5-11; 14:6-7).

“You Are Glorified” – The Purpose

God's nation is a growing nation, and it is the glory of God that it is so. The increase of the Church is therefore to be rejoiced in, because it is the increase of those that make it their business to glorify God. It is imperative, that the church glorifies the Lord (Eph 3:21) through the word and gospel ministry in world evangelism (ref. Acts 13:47-49; Gal 1:23f; 2 Thess 3:1).

“Increase the Nation, Expand the Borders” – Achievability

To achieve the above, below are some pointers:

1) Dedicated Workers – To Serve with One’s Spirit (Rom 1:9)

- i. Fervent in spirit (inward: toward self, on requirement) – serve with intense ardor or zeal: passion, enthusiasm, eagerness, dedication and commitment (Rom 12:11; ref. Acts 18:25).
- ii. Spirit was stressed, provoked (situation/condition: toward nonbelievers, on evangelism) – from what seen; greatly concerned, or agitated, or indignation, doubtless with pity and distress; that propel or move one to want to do something for that person to lead them out of present position (Acts 17:16).
- iii. No rest for spirit (information/news: toward church, on pastoral) – concern, anxious about state of affair and condition of the church (2 Cor 2:13; cf. 7:5-7; 11:28).
- iv. Present in spirit (inward: toward church, on pastoral) – heart and mind with them though absent physically; especially in prayers. Affection for the church (1 Cor 5:3-4; Col 2:5; ref. 1 Thess 2:17).
- v. Resolve in the spirit (plan/itinerary: toward work, on ministry) –made plans but entrustment through prayers (Acts 19:21; ref. Rom 1:9-10; 15:30-32; Acts 23:11).

2) Emphasize On Prayer (Acts 6:4)

- i. Pray that God’s Kingdom be established with power (Matt 6:10; ref. Mark 9:1).
- ii. Pray for more workers (Matt 9:37-38).
- iii. Pray that the door be opened (Col 4:3; ref. Acts 14:27; 1 Cor 16:9; 2 Cor 2:12).
- iv. Pray for boldness to speak and that signs and wonders be performed (Acts 4:24,29-31; ref. 14:3).
- v. Pray for the salvation of all men (1 Tim 2:1-4).
- vi. Pray that the word may speed on and be glorified (2 Thess 3:1; ref. Acts 6:7; 12:24; 19:20).

3) Mission and Mobilization

To recruit, train and mobilize more volunteers through the setting up of more Voluntary Missionary Team (VMT; ref. Lk 8:1-3; 10:1-2).

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Report of True Jesus Church Singapore CB in 2014

Praise the Lord Jesus Christ that the True Jesus Church Singapore Co-Ordination Board successfully conducted the planned program for the year 2014. The brethren along with the church ministers were also able to take part in foreign ministry program in Ho Chi Min City-Vietnam, in Batam Island-Indonesia, and in the True Jesus Church in Myanmar, as well as to conduct weekly Religious Education classes at the prayer house in Batu Pahat-West Malaysia.

During the year 2014, unlike the previous years when the SCB evangelistic meetings were held as combined church events in one venue, each of the three churches in Singapore conducted its own evangelistic meetings wherein many friends and truth seekers attended and heard the gospel of salvation being expounded. The Lord Jesus Christ was gracious to grant His Holy Spirit on several of these truth seekers.

In the three night evangelistic meeting on December 13-15, 2014 held in the True Jesus Church Adam Road, a total of 98 friends attended the three-night meeting, of which 55 were first time visitors to the True Jesus Church. There were truth seekers who were moved by the Spirit or received the Holy Spirit. They continue to attend church services regularly.

In the SCB mid-year spiritual meetings in May/June 2014 held in two venues on different dates, 8 people were baptized and 5 received the gift of the Holy Spirit; in the SCB year-end spiritual meetings on November 27-30, 2014, 19 people were baptized and 6 received the gift of the Holy Spirit.

IA Preacher HH Ko and SCB Preacher Peter Shee conducted the Youth Theological Course on June 2-15, 2014. They shared lessons on the Book of Zechariah, the Study on Revelation, and on the Book of Numbers. The 19 participants were youths between 18 to 40 years old.

Held together on the same dates with the Youth Theological Course but in the week nights and on Sundays was an Adult Bible Course in which Preacher Ko expounded the teachings on the One True Church. More than a hundred and twenty members participated.

Glory to God, the 38th Annual Student Theological Training Course for youths between 14 to 16 years old was conducted in the True Jesus Church Adam Road on December 2-23, 2014. Altogether there were 62 participants including 8 youths from Perth-Australia. The Lord Jesus

blessed 6 of the participants with gift of the Holy Spirit. Preacher Hwang Jia Min from GA Taiwan was sent to conduct some lessons in the course.

Simultaneously on the third week, the Student Theological Course Graduates Camp for training in evangelism and pastoral care was held on December 17-23, 2014. There were 19 participants. Preacher Hwang and the SCB preachers each took turns to conduct lessons and shared their experiences in evangelism and pastoral care of the believers.

Thank the Lord Jesus Christ that the construction of premises acquired for the fourth church is already completed in January 2015. Renovations shall begin as soon as the plans are approved by the governmental authorities. By His grace, the sum of money for the acquisition of the premises costing \$5.47 million and for renovations estimated to cost \$500,000 is fully prepared, made up of \$4.5 million proceeds from sale of bungalow at 9 Jalan Shaer (previous building used by Sembawang True Jesus Church) and of contributions of \$1.6 million by the brethren in Singapore.

SCB Preacher Silas Kong continues to be posted to Northern Thailand to pastor the flock of the Lord. Over the last few years, Preacher Peter Shee had been conducting lessons in the Short Term Theological Course of Australian Co-Ordination Board held annually from the third week of December to mid-January of the following year. May all praises be given to His name.

In 2015, ministers and brethren of the True Jesus Church Singapore shall execute SCB's plan to evangelize to more people. Already there is a mission to go to a Home for the Aged to conduct a monthly care program for the inmates and also to reach out to the family members of the newly baptized believers by holding services in their homes. Each church is conducting truth seekers classes and door-to-door distribution of church tracts and pamphlets. We pray that when church activities begins in the fourth church premises, hopefully by the middle of the year, the faith of all members is strengthened and the attendances at church services will increase to glorify our Lord Jesus.



真耶穌教會 東南亞神學訓練中心 2014年 學生神學訓練班
True Jesus Church Southeast Asia Theological Training Centre
Student Theological Training Course 2014



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Student Theological Training Course 2014



2014 Year End Spiritual Convocation

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 [Church News](#)

Japan Holy Work Update

Hallelujah! Thank God for guiding the holy work in Japan in 2014.

I. Training

1. Tokyo Church held a religious education seminar on June 15 on the topic, "Implementation of Religious Education." Each church also reported the religious

education work status and had a forum. 35 people attended. To strengthen the faith of the second and third generation members, religious education is especially important.

2. Sumida Church held a Bible seminar starting July 1 every Monday, from 7 to 9pm. Deacon Chien Chang Yang discussed the twelve Minor Prophets from July to August. The pastor introduced the Pastoral Epistles from September, October, and December. Deacon Chi Jen Chang talked about the book of Judges in October. Attendees were mainly church holy workers. The purpose of the training is to teach the truth and spread the gospel.

II. Fellowship

1. Our churches in Tokyo, Sumida, Chiba, and Yokohama all have youth fellowships. Fellowship service is held on Sabbath afternoon. The content consists of Bible study, special topics, hymnal singing, and activities. Fellowship members from these churches also gather together for fellowship service. On June 28, Chiba Prayer House held a joint fellowship service for Chiba Prayer House and Sumida Church. Several youths from Yokohama Prayer House also attended. Total attendees were sixty people. Monthly fellowship services are held at Brother Chung Ming Huang's house in Itabashi Honcho for international students, which is named Timothy Fellowship. There are about 12-18 youths gathering from Tokyo, Sumida, Chiba, and Yokohama. Through this fellowship, it reminds the youths to guard themselves and be courageous to become precious vessels for the Lord.
2. Hymnal Sharing Service was held on September 15 in Takinogawa Hall. Aside from hymnal sharing, special gospel topics and testimonies were arranged. Pastor Shun Hui Ho and Deacon Chi Jen Chang were the speakers for this event. Along with residents nearby, brethren from various churches also invited their truth seeker friends to attend. Through this opportunity, our members were encouraged to bring people to believe in the Lord.
3. To carry out the care of fellowship life in members' families, on September 20 – 21, Sumida Church and Chiba Prayer House held family activities at Chiba Prayer House. About 100 people attended. Yokohama Prayer House also held this event on March 27, and Tokyo church on May 11. These events went smoothly.

III. Spiritual Convocation

1. Student Spiritual Convocation was held August 12 – 17 in Tokyo Church. There were a total of 50 students including 11 from Osaka areas. The classes included books of the Bible (Hebrews/Deacon Chien Chang Yang; James/Pastor Shun Hui Ho), special topics, and group discussions. Three attendees received baptism in this event. Students shared very touching words and expressed that they never had this kind of opportunity to fellowship with brethren and to cultivate their spirituality before. The encouragement from the truth by elders and deacons and laying of hands strengthened the students' hearts. Thank God!
2. Osaka Church held a Summer Spiritual Convocation July 18 – 19. Japan Coordination Board arranged residential Pastor Shun Hui Ho to assist with the holy work.

IV. Chapel

Chiba Prayer House was purchased for two hundred and fifty million Japanese Yen on December of 2013. It is a five story building that can accommodate meetings, trainings, seminars, fellowships, and host visitation teams, which greatly benefits the ministry in Japan areas. The chapel dedicated on April 19, 2015, hereafter, the church established. May the members in all locations intercede with care for Chiba Prayer House.

V. Ministry

Ministry in Japan includes internal: Passing on the truth, pastor members, and train workers. External: Preaching the gospel, train workers, expand pioneering locations. Trust that the Lord will guide. May the church members all over the world continue to intercede for holy works in Japan.



Chiba Church



Youth Fellowship Service



Religious Education Seminar



International Student Fellowship

International Youth Fellowship 2015

Hosted by Malaysia General Assembly, with the theme “Equip Oneself, Succeed the Ministry,” the International Youth Fellowship 2015 provides participants with the opportunity to share ministry-related issues on a local and global level. There will also be fellowship and testimony sessions, and a rare opportunity to join the local medical mission work in the state of Perak. The program also includes a tour of three major cities in Malaysia. Don’t miss this opportunity to meet and get to know youths from other parts of the world!

Date & Venue:

- Fellowship:

June 4–7, 2015 at Olive Garden, Port Dickson, Malaysia.

- Sightseeing and medical mission:

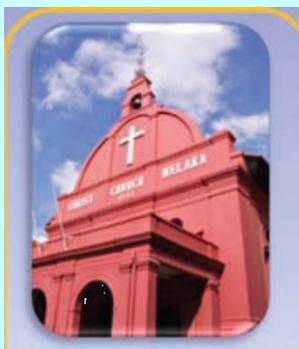
June 8–12, 2015: (1) tour to Melaka, Kuala Lumpur; (2) medical mission in Perak; (3) tour to Penang.

Please note: Participants are to arrive at Kuala Lumpur International Airport on June 4, and depart from Penang International Airport on June 13.

Target group: TJC members who are between 18 and 40 years old.

Registration period: December 2014 to April 15, 2015
(first-come-first-serve basis).

For more information, please contact the youth committee at your local church.



 *Intercession*

1. Please pray for IA work assignment as below:

Date	Location	Program	Personnel
4/10-26	Hong Kong	Spring Spiritual Convocation(Western Church/ Hong Kong Church/ Tsuen Wan Church)	DW Huang
4/22-5/18	India	Married Youths Seminar/ Youth Spiritual Meeting/ Junior & Senior Bible Camp/Spiritual Convocation	Habakkuk Hee
4/30-5/27	West Malaysia	Regional Pastoral Attachment by IA sent minister (Southern Region)	CYT sai
4/1-30	Sabah	Pastoral Work/ Divine Workers Spiritual Nurture	Barnabas
4/3-12		Preachers' Seminar	MJ Wu
4/4-5		Divine Workers Spiritual Nurture	FF Chong
April-May	Japan	Spring Spiritual Convocation/ RE Teachers' Training/ Assist with statutes of Co-ordination Board	CR Pan
4/17-24		Chiba church dedication and pastoral work	FMTse
4/22-5/1	US	TTP- TJC Basic Doctrinal	Steven Shek
4/23-26	Canada	Spring ESSC (Calgary)	Jason Hu
4/29-5/3		Spring ESSC (Vancouver)	W. Yeh
4/2-6	FOZ	Pastoral Visitation	S.M. Chen
April	Ecuador	Pastoral Work	CM Chu
April	Bolivia	Evangelical & Pastoral & Training	
4/4-11	Dominican Rep.	Pastoral Visitation & Evangelical Service/Spiritual Convocation	Raymond Chou
4/1-5	Germany	Student Spiritual Convocation/Easter Convocation (for Rheinland, Heidelberg)	HH Ko/ BQ Wang
4/11-12	Austria	Special Service (Vienna)	HH Ko
April/May	Italy	Pastoral Work	HH Ko BQ Wang
April	Greece	Member Visit & Concern	BQ Wang
4/27-5/11	Russia	Pastoral Visitation/Spiritual Convocation	FF Chong/ Derren Liang

4/9-6/7	South Africa	Pastoral ministry/Training	Luke Chan
4/2-5/3	West Africa	Pastoral ministry/Training (Ghana/Sierra Leone/Togo)	T.K. Chin/ 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 or tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net.

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

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