

CONTENTS

 FEATURE > THE DIRECTION OF DEVELOPING YOUTH MINISTRY.....
 CHURCH NEWS > WORK OF EHDWM.....
 CHURCH NEWS > JAPAN HOLY WORK UPDATE FOR 2017.....
 <u>INTERCESSION</u>.....
 ONE DOLLAR ONE SOUL.....

Feature

The Direction of Developing Youth Ministry

Timothy Yeung

Today marks the centennial ministry of our true church. Our local churches around the world are holding various types of commemorative activities. In addition to reflecting on the past with thanksgiving, we should also look forward to the future in order to achieve our goal of “passing down the heritage of spirituality and grace.” To successfully pass down our faith to the next generation in the true church, besides our religious education, we must pay greater attention to the training of youth ministry. “Youths create a new time, and time also tests the youths.” The true church has a hundred years of history and is entering into the fifth-generation for the succession of faith. Yet, how to effectively pass down our faith to the next generation is a pressing concern. The current time has a great impact on the faith of our youths; therefore, the true church must respond to the changes and the needs, brought about by the new time, by promoting youth ministry.

1. The General Assemblies around the world and the International Assembly must establish an organization and structure for developing youth ministry.

The scope of the youth ministry is very wide. It involves not only fellowship activity arrangement, but also long-term training for youth ministry, youth counselling, and marriage counselling, etc. Nowadays, probably some youth fellowships have been established in some regions, but the quality of such fellowship varies among different areas. Under the guidance and planning of the General Assemblies, we have established a solid national and regional youth ministry organization. Active trainings in holy work both regionally and nation-wide and continuous cadre trainings lay a foundation for the youth to become successors in the church, so the holy work can thrive in the future. However, some regions have not paid much attention to such work and led to a serious loss of youths and human power. Hence, every country should focus on the importance of “youth ministry.” We must first establish an organizational structure for youth ministry, operating under the guidance of the General Assemblies or Coordination Centers, to promote the relevant holy works.

2. Actively watch and assist the youths in their marriage in the Lord and provide marriage counselling and care.

The major crossroad for youths in their journey of faith is the choice of their marriage. If they find the right one in the Lord, their faith will be better preserved. When husband and wife are of one heart, they can pass down their faith to the next generation. If one marries a non-believer, the probability of losing faith is relatively higher. Therefore, the church must take initiative to show concern to the youths’ marriage. The General Assemblies in all regions should establish a solid marriage introduction system and database of the youths. Select suitable marriage coordinators and provide long-term spiritual and professional trainings, so that the youths may have confidence in the marriage introduction system. In addition, the marriage coordinators must regularly hold activities to interact with one another and share information for widening the scope of their work and increasing the chance of success.

The youth ministry team in all regions should also hold regular regional or national youth fellowship events to provide a platform for young people to know each other. The local churches should also hold special-topic services such as “marriage week” to help the youths establish a right prenuptial/marital concept. The foregoing will help our youths know how to establish a healthy family and keep their faith for passing down to the next generation.

3. Urgently pray and ask God to move more youths to devote themselves to be preachers

Now is the end times; the day of the Lord is drawing near. But as the Lord said, “The

harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.” Our churches throughout the world often hope for having more preachers to provide spiritual food and promote various holy works. However, the realities are that our full-time preachers are few, and there is widespread shortage of students in theological training program. As many of our senior preachers are about to retire, there will be an even greater scarcity of human resource impeding the development of holy work. This is one of the crises faced by our church today. The local churches around the world must urgently pray, actively encourage members, and urge God to deeply move a new generation by inspiring youths to devote themselves to the Lord. In addition, we need to examine the current allocation and utilization of resources in the church. Instead of focusing solely on the construction and hardware of the chapel or unnecessary expansion, we should devote more resources on full-time worker training and improve the living quality of the theological students and preachers to the average standard of the believers. In this way, our youth may devote themselves to the holy work for the Lord without many worries. This would encourage more and more youths to dedicate themselves to serve the Lord.

Conclusion: Pray that the Spirit of God grant all the church leaders wisdom and spiritual vision to actively promote youth ministry in the right direction, so that our faith can be passed down and be ready for the second coming of the Lord.

▲ [TOP](#)

Church News

Work of Eastern Hemisphere Department of World Missions

In the organisation structure of the International Assembly of the True Jesus Church, the Department of World Mission is divided into the Eastern Hemisphere & Western Hemisphere. The purpose is for more effective pioneering work to areas where the gospel has not reached.

The Eastern Hemisphere has some strong General Assemblies like Taiwan, Korea, Malaysia, Sabah & Indonesia. We also have well established Coordination Boards in Singapore & Australia with newly established Coordination Boards in Hong Kong & Japan. We also have matured IA directed country in New Zealand. China is one of the bigger country the EH with a strong network of churches that is well organised and is the country with the fastest membership growth. These countries come together to provide support to the needs of the Eastern Hemisphere Department of World Mission (EHDWM) in its mission to bring the gospel to all nations. Some countries are entrusted to be directly responsible of some pioneering areas. They together with

others supplied human resources to the Eastern Hemisphere. We thank God for His grace, with this support the EHDWM is able to look into the needs of the pioneering areas in the EH.



20th EHDWM Meeting in Sabah



21th EHDWM Meeting in Indonesia

Pioneering areas are countries that we have recently reached out to, including countries that are not able to be self-sufficient. Usually these countries need the support of the IA in areas of evangelical, pastoral & finance. Other than the countries mentioned above, other countries where the gospel had reached are considered as pioneering areas in the EH.

Every year the EHDWM will have a meeting with representatives of all the above countries to discuss on the affairs of the pioneering countries. We provide advice to the units that are responsible for the divine work in various pioneering areas. When there is a need we will also provide resources to the specific areas.

The pioneering areas in the EH include the following:

South Asia

India & Philippines: The gospel was preached to these countries earlier. With its close proximity & relationship to the countries entrusted to be responsible for the work there, strong support was given to the divine work in these areas. Today they are well established, having national organisation to support the divine work in the country. However the national organisation remains weak and support from local churches is not good. They have their own preachers and minister. Pastoral and evangelical in local areas are conducted by themselves. Their main need is on training, finance and further development of the organisation there.

Thailand & Myanmar: Language barrier is our main hindrance in the work here. They is also logistics issues as the churches are located far apart. The General Assembly & Coordination Board responsible for them put in a lot of effort to develop these places. With guidance, they are working towards a matured structure in their organisation. A systematic plan is in place to bring up the faith of our members. We are working towards training & development of future leaders. However we face some setback along the way. We hope to overcome these issues and to work towards a self-sufficient organisation in there.



Members in Cambodia in 2017

Vietnam and Cambodia: Both these countries have a long history of internal war. It is only towards the end of the last century that the unrest had stopped. It was also during that period

that the gospel is brought into the countries. However because of continued instability there, the work was stopped for a period and restarted 8 years later. In Vietnam a team of volunteers is overseeing the work while in Cambodia we have a retired preacher stationed there. Evangelism is the main concentration here with the aim of establishing local workers to continue the work. However we lack literature in the local language. There is an urgent need to look into this.

Oceania

In **Fiji**, we have a good mixed of members from native Fijians, Fijians of Indian origin & Chinese residing there. The Fijians members are the results of our evangelical outreach, while the Chinese migrated from China to seek better opportunities here. Evangelising to the locals is the major activities of our volunteers there. At the same time, efforts are put in pastoral of our members. We are presently getting our church to be registered and thereafter to have our own place for worship. This will facilitate our divine work over there.

All of our members in **Tonga & Samoa** come from China. They either have their own shops or working with their relatives. Their English & ability to communicate in the local language is limited to doing business. The work here is mainly pastoral of our members. Some evangelical work is carried out towards relatives of our China members. There are thoughts of evangelising to the locals but the situation is not conducive due to language barrier and the frequent movement of our members. Limited evangelical work is carried out by our volunteer going there. However follow-up is a problem.

Papua New Guinea is not a safe place. Our members here are from China and they stay far from one another. Due to their work condition, their available time is limited. Infrequent pastoral works are carried out here.

▲ [TOP](#)

Church News

Japan Holy Work Updates for 2017

Ching-Cheng Hu

Tokyo Church, Sumida Church, Yokohama Church, Chiba Church, Kawaguchi Prayer House, and Kansai Prayer House affiliates Japan Coordination Center. The office of the coordination center is located on the fifth floor of Chiba Church. A dedicated personnel was approved by the

council members and is officially employed since last April. Thank God! The holy works in Japan is making good progress through God's guidance.



Holy Work Forum

Holy Work Update

I. Membership: Total of 915 members (Calculation is up to June, 2017)

II. Spiritual Convocation

- Spring Spiritual Convocation: Held respectively in April and May. Preacher Chang-Wei Lin from Taiwan was sent by IA to assist this event, along with the resident pastor in Japan, Preacher Ching-Cheng Hu. Result of the spiritual convocation is as shown below:
25 newly baptized, 498 received the cup, and 7 received the Holy Spirit.
- Fall Spiritual Convocation: Held on September, October, and November. IA assigned a retiring preacher, Tung-Wen Huang, accompanied by his wife, to assist this event. Ching-Cheng Hu, the resident preacher in Japan, worked alongside. Results: 12 newly baptized, 493 received cup, and 7 received the Holy Spirit.
- Student Spiritual Convocation: The 15th annual student spiritual convocation was held on August 12-17 at Chiba Church. Pr. Ching-Cheng Hu taught the Upper Class the Book of Act. Dn. Cheng-Liang Chen taught the Lower Class the Book of Luke. 47 students and 8 counselors attended. 70 received the cup and 8 received the Holy Spirit.

III. Various Seminars, Cultivation, Fellowship, and Meetings

- Bible Seminar: Held every Monday from 7pm – 9 pm at Sumida Church, mainly for studying the Books of the Bible, instructed by the resident preachers and short-term assigned ministers.

- Ministers Preservice Seminar: Held on June 4 at Chiba Church. Attended by ministers and those to be ordained. On June 11, Deacon Titus Lin was ordained (by Elder Ming-Yang Chao), Deaconess Dorcas Weng was also ordained on the same day (by Elder Fu-Ming Tse)



Council Member Cultivation Seminar

- Literary Seminar: Held on August 26-27 at Chiba Church, instructed by Sister Shu-Hwa Lin from Taiwan GA. There were about 30 attendees.



Literary Seminar

- Various Cultivation Seminars: Council Member Cultivation Seminar was held on February 19 (Elder Yung-Ji Lin was the speaker). Sermon Speaking and Interpreter Seminar was held on March 19 (Preacher Ching-Cheng Hu was the speaker). Religious Education Teachers Cultivation Seminar (I) was held on July 2. Religious Education Teachers Cultivation Seminar (II) was held on December 3. Ministers and Religious Affairs Personnel Seminar was held on October 29.



Religious Education Teachers Cultivation Seminar

- Fellowship: Timothy Fellowship is one of the major focuses of the Japan Coordination Center. This fellowship mainly emphasizes on Bible study, training and caring the faith of youths in each local church. It also encourages the interaction between the youths. The fellowship is held on the last Sunday of every month at Kawaguchi Prayer House. Fellowship council members training was held on June 17.



Youth Fellowship Core Team Training

- Gathering activity: Marriage coordinator gathering was held on March 19. Youth indoor gathering was held on April 8 at Yokohama Church. Youth outdoor gathering was held on July 16 at Arakawa Sports Park and Kawaguchi Prayer House.



Youth Outing Activity

- Meeting: In this year, seven meetings were held for the council members of the coordination center, Legal Committee held the meeting twice, holy worker meeting once, and National Congregation Meeting once.
- Hymnal fellowship: Held on November 26 at Sayama Musical Hall. Sacred Choir of coordination center was formed. Forty members attended and are led by Elder Philemon Wu.

IV. Literary Section

- Newsletter of the coordination center is published every quarter.
- Published a sermon speaker material “Passing on the Good News” and given to each sermon speaker.
- Translating I.A. website and spiritual publications.

V. Plans to Purchase Chapel

- Kansai Prayer House is to purchase a chapel on May 30. It has been under renovation with plans. Service was started in June in this chapel. Spiritual Convocation was held on the first floor of the new chapel from November 3-5.
- Yokohama Church purchased a new chapel on September 30. They are currently planning the inner renovation.
- Sumida Church and Kawaguchi Prayer House are seeking appropriate locations and buildings. Due to the rapid increase in membership during service, they are in urgent need of suitable chapels.

▲ [TOP](#)

Intercession

1. Please pray for IA work assignment as below:

Date	Location	Program	Personnel
12/20-12/25	Malaysia	Theological Training Course (Adult)	Silas Kong
12/10	Sabah	Statewide Preachers' Wives Seminar	Amos Chow
2017/12/4- 2018/1/2	Singapore	Student Theological Training Course	Jung-Yu Ho
		Evangelical Service	
		Student Theological Training Course	
		Spiritual Convocation	

12/8-12/10	Hong Kong	Minister Workshop (Hong Kong Church)	Bill Tseng
2017/12/24- 2018/1/14	Australia	National Working Youth Seminar/Short Term Theological Course (Sydney)	Peter Shee /Hosea Hoo /Joel Chong
12/1-12/16	New Zealand	Pastoral Work (Christchurch)	Ming-En Shaw
12/23-12/24	Philippine	Spiritual Convocation (Laperian)	Dn Philip & Pr John Bro Dennis
12/22-12/31	Myanmar	Spiritual Convocation	Isaiah Chang
12/21-12/27	Cambodia	Spiritual Convocation (PP)	Luke Yip
12/23-12/30	Canada	Winter SSC-E2, J1, J2 (Vancouver)	Jason Hu
12/24-12/29		Winter SSC-E2, J1, J2 (Toronto)	Enoch Hou
12/19-12/25	Italy	Holy Work Training/Spiritual Convocation (Empoli)	Samuel Kuo /BQ Wang
2017/12/26- 2018/1/1	Germany	European Bible seminar (Heidelberg)	Samuel Kuo /HH Ko /BQ Wang
12/5-12/13	FOZ	Pastoral Work/Training	Steve Hwang /MT Kuo
12/14-12/17	Brazil	Pastoral Work	Steve Hwang
12/1-12/31	West Africa	Student Convocation/Training (Ghana)	Michael Chan /Volunteer
12/1-12/24	East Africa	Pastoral Ministry/Training/Student Spiritual Convocation (Zambia)	Raymond Leacock /Volunteer

▲ [TOP](#)

 *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!*

▲ [TOP](#)

International Assembly of True Jesus Church © 2007
Tel: 886-4-2243-6960 Fax: 886-4-2243-7046
Address: No. 180 Songjhu Road, Taichung City 40673, Taiwan
E-mail: tjciatwn@ms25.hinet.net
Web: www.tjc.org
Members.tjc.org