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## *Feature*

# Gospel is the Power of God

Ming Yang Chao

Paul said, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek” (Rom 1:16).

The Lord said, “And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come” (Mt 24:14).

Even though the gospel, the words of truth, has been preached to over 62 countries across five continents, there are still people in many countries who have never heard of the gospel of salvation. This is an era in which the gospel is the most desired – human nature remains unchanged, the tendency to sin remains unchanged, and our needs remain unchanged. In this era, people’s hearts are filled with darkness and void; we urgently need the gospel to renew our lives.

Evangelizing is the mission entrusted to Christians by Christ after His resurrection (Mt 28:5-8; 16-20). Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He said to His disciples: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...” (Mt

28:18-19). Christ's command to the disciples was an entrustment of a mission, as well as authority: "And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease" (Mt 10:1). "And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs" (Mark 16:20).

He also promised the disciples that "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

He also gave the disciples the power to forgive sins: "And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained'" (Jn 20:22-23).

Paul clearly stated that in the gospel warfare, "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ" (2 Cor 10:4-5).

Paul faced the Corinthian church, rich in all aspects, perfect in eloquence and knowledge, with fear and trembling. But he did not spread the mystery of God with big words or elaborate terms, nor did he use "persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that people's faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God" (1 Cor 2:3-5).

Evangelizing is participating in the execution of God's eternal purpose. The establishment and development of the true church is the will of God, and the plan of redemption reveals the power of God. Evangelizing is a mission that will never change (Eph 3:8-11). The ancient saints and sages never hesitated to offer up themselves unselfishly at the most difficult times to be used by God; hence, even vessels considered useless could reverse a dire situation and accomplish a great cause for the kingdom of God. God is faithful and He never changes, and His promises never change. We should stand firm on God's promises, do our best, rely on the Lord to accomplish the mission of our times, and finish God's entrusted tasks. We should spread the gospel and complete the mission of the eschatological true church.

Churches in all countries should focus more on evangelical planning and training to train outstanding missionary workers; we should encourage the disciples to do spiritual cultivation, equip themselves, adopt an active mindset to evangelize, and be the light and salt in this dark

world to manifest the words of life (Phil 2:15-16) and to testify for the gospel. Our generation should build up our faith on God's promises; we should rely on the Lord to build the ark of the end times and march into the world. Our church, founded in this world, should not only resist sins and transcend the world, but also actively engage in the world to lead the times and transform the world. The prophet Elijah was chosen by God in hard times filled with sins and darkness. He came forth, restored the faith of the elect through God and turned the tide of the times (1 Kgs 17 and 18). When the Holy Spirit descended at the Pentecost, the Apostles took the opportunity to create a new trend and new era and preached the gospel to the ends of the earth (Acts 1 and 2).

We should have specific strategies and actions:

1. Strengthen believers' awareness of evangelism
2. Inspire a sense of mission on oneself
3. Understand the needs of the times
4. Equip with the gospel of truth
5. Be familiar with skills of evangelism
6. Strengthen believers' ability for execution
7. Prospering the gospel begins with prayer:
  - Pray before action
  - Pray during the process
  - Make a prayer plan
  - Set up a prayer group

Since the founding of the true church, we have been able to obtain good results and bring people to God in all stages of our ministry. This is proof of God's power. We should be encouraged and work in one heart to build up a higher level on this solid foundation so that the mission of evangelism may be passed down from generation to generation and continue on forever. May God's grace and power be with us and work with us always.

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 *Church News*

## **Australia True Jesus Church—Perth Church**

In October 1987, two families from Sydney decided to move to Perth. They started their first Sabbath Service in a hotel. Later on, they had their own houses and took turns to hold Sabbath

service. In 1988, Eld. John Yang and Dn. Daniel Phan came over to pastor this small flock. In December 1988, the church was officially registered with the government and became a legal church with 14 believers. In February 1989, the Perth Church established her first council team, and the first evangelical service was held in April of the same year.

### **The Growth of Perth Church**

Later, more overseas families relocated to Perth. Students who went abroad to Perth also assisted many holy works, including participation in pastoring youth fellowship, church preaching, and religious education. As of 1992, the Perth Church had 36 believers.

The church began renting a place in the city for Sabbath service. Because of the inconvenience caused by many restrictions on the rental place, our believers began to look for a fixed and permanent location. They went to various churches and asked if anyone wanted to sell their chapel. In August 1996, they found a church in Dianella district on the north side of Perth (No. 5 Hannaby Street). The Church in Dianella district of Perth was dedicated in April 1998. The Australia Coordination Board and the I.A. sent many preachers to Perth Church several times a year to assist in the pastoral and evangelical works and strengthen the faith of believers.



*Dedication Service in Perth Church*

### **After Perth Church branched out**

By the end of September 2008, the church had approached 100 believers, and it was the upper limit of the capacity of the church in Dianella. The building committee was set up to find another location to accommodate all the believers. After a period of searching, the believers decided to branch out, which means they needed to buy another chapel to accommodate the increasing number of believers to worship the Lord in two churches separately.

Until July 2010, the congregation decided to purchase a building in the Cannington area to the south (50 Stockman Way) of Perth. At that time, many builders expressed their interest in the same building. Thanks to the grace of the Lord, although our church's offer was lower than other buyers, the seller decided to accept our price.

Since the chapel of Cannington Church was first built in 1913, many refurbishments had to be carried out before the church could be officially used. The renovation work was carried out over two years from 2010 to 2012.

Although the church in Cannington had started to hold service on Fridays, the church had not yet been segregated due to the fact that many legal provisions and preparations had not yet been completed. Not until May 2015 was Perth Church formally divided into two churches, with their own chapels and church council teams. They attend services in their respective chapels.

### **Dedication service in Cannington Church**

Thanks to the grace of God, Cannington Church completed its Dedication Service on May 13, 2017.



*Dedication Service in Cannington Church*

At present, there are a total of 180 believers in Cannington and Dianella. May God continue to lead the two churches in Perth.



*Dedication Service in Cannington Church*

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## Church News

# The Ministry Work in Malawi

FF Chong, Africa Ministry Committee

Hallelujah!

In the name of the Lord Jesus, I give a brief report on the ministry work in Malawi.

After months of communication with a truth-seeker in Malawi via the Internet, the Africa Ministry Committee (AMC) decided to pay a visit to Malawi, with a view to preach the gospel there.

In the early part of 2014, two AMC workers were sent to carry out this task. On this occasion, the AMC invited a number of Zambian workers to work together with the two AMC workers.

The first group of truth-seekers baptised were found to be unfaithful to the word of God and His church. However, God is indeed great and marvelous. Through the first truth-seeker, the word of

God has miraculously reached others. Amongst them is a small group of believers who are sincere and faithful to the word of God.

Not long after the first visit, God moved a Zambian worker to preach to one of his relatives in the northern region of Malawi. Upon meeting this relative in subsequent trips, he was baptised along with another pastor of a different church. The reason for their conversion was that God gave them the Holy Spirit.



*The Lord added a total of 21 souls into His church in Ngoma, Phalombe, Malawi*

At present, there are 4 or 5 places of worship in Malawi. In total, there are around 500 baptised members. The challenge we are now facing is keeping them in the faith. Many of them are easily influenced, especially when it comes to monetary matters. The most urgent task for us now is to ensure that they are rooted in the basic beliefs of the church.

Building up a strong church with good workers has always proved elusive. More time is to be spent on equipping workers to be good and faithful. Lacking the basic facilities for further training compounds is the main problem. In many cases, training can only be conducted for a short period. But we know that as long as a strong relationship is built up between God and the believers, things will begin to brighten up for the church.



*74 people were baptised in Mbangw, Nsanje, Malawi*

The current plan for the work in Malawi is to send workers to visit the church two times a year, help establish the faith of believers and to evangelise. We pray that the Malawian workers will take up the responsibility of looking after the church in Malawi in the near future. Amen!

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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>
5/3-5/14	Australia	5/3-10: Training on Evangelism (Brisbane) 5/11-13: National Church Conference /ACB Council Meeting (Melbourne)	Fu Ming Tse /Joshua Phoong
5/7-5/27	Philippines	Northern Region Divine Workers Seminar (1) Chinese Community Evangelism (Manila) (2) Divine Workers Seminar	Cheng Huang Ong
5/20-5/21		Northern Region High School Students Spiritual Convocation	Sabah Preacher

5/14-6/2	Fiji	Fiji Mission	Joshua Phoong
5/8-5/27	Thailand	Evangelistic & Spiritual	Rong Tsan Shao
5/7-5/16	UK	TTP: History of TJC	Jonathan Chou
5/17-6/1		TTP: OT History (II)—1 Sam, 2 Sam	Steve Hwang
5/3-7/5		5/4-7: National Youth Ministry Training (Sunderland) 5/14-17: National Adult Theological Training (Leicester) 5/25-27: Spiritual Convocation (Portsmouth) 6/4-5: National Sister Spiritual Meeting (Sunderland) 6/10-12: National Board Member Retreat (Edinburgh) 6/24-26: ESSC (Gifford Park) 7/1-4: ESSC (Elgin) Training in local churches	Yung Ji Lin
5/2-5/6		Canada	Spring ESSC (Vancouver)
5/4-5/6	Spring ESSC (Edmonton)		Jason Hu
5/23-5/27	Spring ESSC (Toronto)		V. Nol-Mantia
5/10-6/4	Argentina	Council Member Seminar	Enoch Hou
5/4-5/27	Brazil	Pastoral Work	Wen Chuan Yeh
5/28-6/4	FOZ	Pastoral Visitation	W Yeh/MT Kuo
5/19-5/21	France	Biblical Seminar	Steven Shek
5/2-5/4	Hungary	Pastoral Visitation (Church Planting - Budapest)	HH Ko /BQ Wang /Sebastian Wang
5/18-5/21	Germany	Spiritual Convocation (Hamburg)	HH Ko/Minh Ly
5/5-5/6	Austria	Special Service (Vienna)	HH Ko /BQ Wang
5/10-5/15	Italy	Special Service (Empoli)	HH Ko /BQ Wang

May/June	Spain	Visit & Concern (Madrid/Albacete/Barcelona)	CJ Hsieh
5/3-5/12	Russia	Pastoral Visitation/Spiritual Convocation (5/5-7)	Steve Hwang
5/18-6/4	South Africa	Pastoral ministry/Training/Botswana Pastoral Visit/Lesotho Outreach/RE Teacher Training	Ezra Chong (UK)

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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 [ia@tjc.org.tw](mailto:ia@tjc.org.tw).

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

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