Hallelujah! In the name of Lord Jesus Christ, I share some news.

Last quarter was quite eventful for the R.E. department. Houston church hosted the Central Region R.E. Teachers Workshop and the Central Region Student Spiritual Convocation in December, and we held a R.E. teachers fellowship in February for mutual encouragement. I hope all the participants — teachers and students — remain enriched and edified by these events and in turn, glorify the Lord.

Since becoming R.E. coordinator, I have come to view the role of R.E. teachers as a bridge between the students and God to bring the two together. Teachers cannot change students’ behaviors or transform their hearts, at least not permanently. Parents have greater sway and power, but I’m sure all parents have come upon the boundaries of their influence. That doesn’t mean we cannot affect change and shouldn’t bother trying, but rather our external efforts are puny compared to the work of God within a child, young or old.

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.” (Eze 36: 26-27)

As a bridge, teachers facilitate a closer relationship between student and God, who can do anything and everything and desires for all to be saved. I encourage parents and teachers to continue to do our best in serving the heavenly Father and ask for His strength as we take care of His lambs through intercessory prayers or R.E. lessons or mentorships. May all the glory and praise be unto God!

Hallelujah! 在主耶稣基督的名下，我分享一些消息。

上一季对宗教教育来说十分活跃。休士顿教会承办了中央区域宗教教育教师讲习会以及十二月份的中区学生灵恩会。衷心希望所有与会的教师与学生藉此活动彼此造就，并将荣耀归给神。

担任宗教教育的负责人之后，我意识到教师的角色在于拉近学生与神之间的距离，而这与家长有别。教师的影响力有限，远不及神的作为。故我们身为教师或是家长，需要尽我们所能尽力付出。

“我必赐给你们一颗新心，将新灵放在你们里面，又从你们的肉体中除掉石心，赐给你们肉心。” (以西结书 36: 26-27)

教师们应扮演好神与学生之间沟通的桥梁，拉近彼此的距离，因此我鼓励所有家长与教师善用我们的能力，不停地侍奉我们的天父。当我们在代祷，宗教课程，或是辅导来教育这群主内小羊的时候，祈求祂增添我们力量。

“愿一切的荣耀归于神。”

- Sis. Margarettia Chiu
“When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel.” (Judges 2:10)

Whenever we read this Bible verse, we may wonder how the Israelites could forget things so quickly and so easily, especially when God’s deliverance happened so recently. The era of the Judges was a sad and turbulent period in Israel’s history. It contrasts greatly with the victorious book of Joshua that precedes it.

In Judges 2:2, it states, “and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed my voice. Why have you done this?” The Israelites failed to follow the commands of God; they did not get rid of all of the Canaanites as they were commanded to do. Pagan influence from the Canaanites remained and led the Israelites to idolatry, drawing them away from God. Throughout the book of Judges, we can see recurring cycles of disobedience, foreign oppression, cries of distress and deliverance. People already “did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel.”

Today when we walk around the church, we can see the smiling faces of our youngest happily joining religious education classes and learning the word of God, but what will happen when our generation passes away? As a parent or a teacher, we all know that the most we can give to our children is to bring them before God and let them know God.

那世代的人也都歸了自己的列祖。後來有別的世代興起，不知道耶和華，也不知道耶和華為以色列人所行的事（士師記 2: 10）。

每當我們閱讀聖經章節，我們內心總是不解，為何以色列民族可以如此輕易地忘記這位不久前才拯救過他們的神。那段充滿勝利光輝歲月的約書亞時代，與緊接在後的士師時代，以色列的歷史上最為悲慘且動亂的年代，兩者存在著極為顯著的對比。

士師記2: 2: “你們也不可與這地的居民立約，要拆毀他們的祭壇。你們竟沒有聽從我的話！為何這樣行呢？”

以色列民族並未遵守神的吩咐，將迦南人所有的一切，竟讓以色列民侍奉當地的偶像，使百姓遠離神。

綜觀士師記，我們不難發現有幾件事情不斷地重覆發生：百姓對神的不遵守、外族的侵略、百姓憂傷痛悔、神興起士師拯救他們。可惜的是以色列百姓不認識神，也忽略祂為百姓所做的一切。

今天，當我們走進教會，看到每位年輕的學員們都帶著笑臉，開心地參加宗教教育課程，學習神的話語。但日後當我們這一代相繼離世之後，原本年輕的一代又會發生什麼事呢？身為父母或教員，我們都知道我們能做到的就是將我們的孩子帶到神的面前，讓他們清楚認識這位神。

-Bro. Tony Chen, Education and Training
In the name of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I offer my RETW Reflection. Praise God for His grace, mercy, and compassion! I cannot say enough how much I’ve been blessed with this weekend’s RETW – with the theme “Draw Near!” In knowing we had an RETW coming up in December 2013, I contemplated the many aspects in my class preparations that needed help. My thoughts were along the lines of ensuring our Houston J1 students could draw closer to God in my class arrangements. As soon as our workshop began, I knew instantly that my underwhelming preparation efforts were in need of an overhaul! Teaching methodologies that may have worked before, may not work now. I have also become somewhat complacent with my presentation of the RE materials. I must remember that all our students need a mentor just as much as I need to be mentored. This is an important point that can be integrated in my presentation. Plus, our students’ reactions, behaviors, and attitudes directly reflect back to me and the way I teach. If there is a problem in class regarding understanding and behavior, then I need to think about what I (as the teacher) am doing wrong. Teaching is an intense act in the labor of love and I feel I am a novice in my comprehension journey which all matters in the classroom are managed and directed by the teacher. It is through the teacher’s instruction which students’ relationship with God can be positively and spiritually cultivated – or negatively and ultimately destroyed. I’ve always known that students who apply themselves in class will reap the most benefits because those students “have put forth the effort” in their learning. However, I’ve learned that I must also be held accountable for not reaching out to those students who seem to be just-getting-by in class. Whose fault is it for these students not benefiting from class time? Yes…me…the teacher! I felt so guilty after that revelation because my sentiment is then I didn’t spend enough time in thinking through my lesson plan to engage each and every student – arranging ways that will benefit all students, not just some students. Wow, talk about reflective! I truly praise and thank God that I have been exposed to many new ideas that could help me (methodologies and techniques like What-Line, Memory-Circle, Synch-Up, Chanting, Popcorn, Heads-Together, Dig & Dig-Deeper, and much more) and am excited to present them to our students. I hope and pray that as I formulate ideas incorporating these contemporary ways, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – our One True Teacher – can help me in these endeavors. I am delighted just thinking about all the possibilities; however, I must rein in my frenzy. I still need to process several successful and complete follow-throughs to ensure I do not revert back to my “old ways of teaching” and back to complacency where students are not maximizing their spiritual learning. May all the praise, glory, and honor be unto our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – always

奉主耶穌聖名在此分享我參加宗教教育教員講習會的感想

感謝神的恩典、慈愛、和憐憫！對於參加這次的以“親近”為主題的教員講習會，神賞賜給我的祝福真是難以一語道盡。在講習會之前，我思考我在課堂上將會遇到問題和準備課程上需要協助的部分。我認為我應該拉近少年班學員們與神之間的距離，當我在準備課程內容時，也大致照此方向去安排。然而，當研討會一開始，我立刻察覺我那看似平淡無奇的事前準備工作，需要大修一番。

儘管我認為自己在宗教教育的教學上胸有成竹，然而早期有效的教學方法未必適合於現今。我必須記住我們的學員需要的是一位輔導老師，誠如我們自己也需要被輔導一般。

在我的課堂上，這將會成為重要的教學理念。並且，學員們的一舉一動，行為與態度都直接反應在我的教學成效當中。課堂中，若是他們有在認知上或是行為上的問題，那我必須思考：為什麼教員的我究竟是哪裡失當了。

教學其實是一件必須付出自己極大愛心的工作。課堂上，教員必須張羅所有的一切，也讓我感覺自己好似初學者般。透過教員的指導，學生與神之間的關係得以正向成長，屬靈生活也有所造就。

我了解那些願意在課堂上努力學習的學員，他們的收穫總是最為最大的。但是我也明白為教員的我有責任去幫助那些在課堂上漫不經心的學員。學員們無法在課堂上得到益處是誰的錯呢？

沒錯，是我，是教員！當問題一一揭露之後，我感到十分羞愧。我心所想的是我沒付出足夠的時間，仔細思考並規劃好我的教學內容，好讓所有學員們都得益處。

我真心的感謝讚美神，讓我能夠領受許多對我在教學上有幫助的新理念，甚至迫不及待地想要分享給我的學員們。我向神禱告，願我們的主耶穌基督同時也是我們獨一的屬靈導師，幫助我實踐這些符合時代需要新的理念，我樂於思考所有的可能性，但我也得適當地約束自己的狂想，免得再次回到先前那種無法使學員們在靈性上成長的舊式教法。

願一切的讚美與榮耀都歸於我們的主基督耶穌。

--Sis. Brenda Wong

Taking Care of His Lambs

看顧祂的小羊
Meet Our New Teachers

介紹新教員

Amber Lo (Kindergarten)

Under God’s grace, I was born into True Jesus Church and so from an early age I was taught all of the basic Bible stories through RE class. As a result, I could understand what love, humility, forgiveness, and other characteristics were and what they looked like in real life. Along with my parents’ instruction, I started reading the Bible regularly and developed a conservative outlook on life. Going through the R.E. system allowed me to have a solid foundation on Jesus Christ that would help me grow spiritually in the future.

蒙神的恩典，自幼便在真耶穌教會裡成長的我
藉著宗教教育課程學習了許多聖經上的故事。於是，我能了解在現實生活當中什麼是愛
謙卑
饒恕和其他特質。在父母的指導下，我開始規律地閱讀聖經，亦過著保守敬虔的生活。
宗教教育使我對神建立起穩固的基礎，也幫助我的靈命日漸茁壯。

Stephanie Tien-Yuan Chen (E1)

Thank and praise the Lord. I am always glad to have been growing with the joy of experiences in Christ. Religious education of True Jesus Church has accompanied me for 20 years (from kindergarten R.E. classes to senior class), and it provided me chances that make me repeatedly relearn Bible stories at different stages in my life, leading to gradually deeper reflections from Bible. These reflections of my faith partially came from either studying the Bible or doing activities regarding Bible truth in R.E. classes. Through the religious education system, I gradually came to know and affirm the importance of our faith as well as the relationship between Lord and me.

Furthermore, I have met several great spiritual co-workers during my R.E. servitude, some of them were my R.E. teachers before and some are my previous R.E. students who are R.E. teachers themselves right now. That touches me because we can see R.E. is a sustainable work, continually being passed down over the generations by the grace of Jesus Christ. When teaching my students, I hope that I will always put myself on the same level as them while teaching them, to share with them my life experiences with God.

感謝神,我一直很慶幸自己能在基督裡成長.宗教教育陪伴我将近二十年（包括大专神訓班）,在人生不同的階段它提供我很多機會—
不去聽聖經裡的故事,藉由不同的宗教教育課程活動,引發不同層次信仰思考.
漸漸地,我能從內心認同這份信仰的重要性,並且感受神與我的關係.
第二,在宗教教育的事奉中,我遇到屬靈的好同工,她/他/是以前的宗教教育教員,或者,我以前的學員如今成為我的同工,這是令人感動的,因為我們可以看見宗教教育因著神的恩典,得以所調：傳承心,新承傳.在教學中,我希望自己能時時刻刻跟學生站在一樣的高度傳達聖經中的教導,與他們分享我在生活中對神的體驗.
In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ I bear a reflection about last year’s winter SSC in the East Coast. Like Central Region SSC, the theme of this past SSC was a Life of Faith. When I first saw this theme, I felt like it was a theme that was directed right towards me, because I knew my faith needed desperate help. In this one week I learned the importance of faith in our Christian lives and how we need it in every moment of our spiritual journey to Heaven.

With every SSC there are valuable teachings to be learned from all the classes. One of my favorite classes, 2 Timothy, was about how to be a worker that is not ashamed, one that is faithful and humble when serving God. The one key point that really stuck out to me when being taught was “holding fast to the original truth.” The words that we receive in the True Jesus Church are the true ones, and we have to have the faith to believe so. While being loyal to the faith by holding “fast the pattern of sound words” (2 Tim. 1:13) we also learn to cherish and taste the sweetness of the word of God. Another key point under the “requirements of servitude” was enduring hardship. Enduring hardships for God requires having courage. We have to be able to endure trials with faith but not without fear, for faith is NOT fearless. “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (2 Tim. 1:7)

Another very influential class was the “Life of Abraham.” Here we were able to learn about how Abraham’s faith was tested concerning the covenants promised by God: people and land. Abraham was harshly tested because he was asked to go to many lands he did not know. Through his faith he was able to put everything down and journey into unknown lands, trusting that God would lead him. His story of faith encourages us to always trust that God has the best plans for us, and we need to follow wherever He wants us to go.

While classes were memorable, the prayers were even more memorable. During fasting and mealtime prayers I was really able to experience the true power of prayer. Every time the whole group came up to pray and started saying “In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we pray” I was truly touched. This simple phrase was a phrase we knew all too well, but it seemed that this single phrase brought us all together. I knew that in Jesus Christ our hearts were united, and through this phrase our prayer was made powerful. Prayer was a time that I could truly establish my faith because I felt a warmness and sweetness in my heart that was evidence that God dwelled among us.

I thank God for letting me attend this East Coast SSC to experience new things and meet so many new and wonderful spiritual friends. My faith really reached a high in this SSC, and I can’t wait for the next one to come. This concludes my reflection. May all the glory and praise be unto His holy name. Amen.

-Sis. Sophia Wong

Hallelujah! In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I share a reflection. As this was also my third time at a SSC, I felt more spiritually connected to God. The prayer sessions weren’t so hard to get through anymore. I felt that I actually needed more time to talk to the Father. The Holy Spirit guided me the whole time I was reading the Bible. I had many “ah hah” moments during this SSC. It made me understand how to really serve God in my life and be joyful in His name. I had also learned how to defend my faith (through Apologetics) and spread the truth of the gospel. I made so much spiritual friends that I knew I could lean on for spiritual guidance if needed. I know life has many ups and downs, but no matter what, the Father above all is who I can always depend on for guidance. This SSC had changed me so much, and I praise the Lord for that change. Hallelujah! Amen.

-Sis. Hansel Chiang
Winter SSC Reflections (continued)

In the name of Jesus Christ I bear my reflection. This most recent winter SSC provided a different experience than usual. SSC ended early on Thursday for a lot of kids because they would be going to Aunty Agnes’ funeral. The J1 and J2 kids happily listened to Pastor Vuthy’s and Pastor TJ’s off topic discussions and testimonies. Everyone enjoyed the special topic class, Apologetics featuring Pastor Vuthy as the truthseeker and 3 at a time, randomly chosen kids to defend TJC. I heard on Friday, everyone was just relaxing or playing outside, or praying/reading the bible. After this SSC, I want to go in a positive direction in getting closer to God. May the glory and praise be unto God.

-Bro. Joshua Wong

In the name of Jesus Christ I bear a reflection. This past SSC included many classes on how to live a Life of Faith, like Apologetics, and Romans in addition to character studies like Esther. The Romans class taught us that we should not be giving up on God by sinning, and about original sin, motivating us to be faithful in our lives. Esther was faithful towards God and also to her people, the Jews. The class on Apologetics taught us how to defend our faith by using the bible, which we had a separate class too. Using these teachings I have learned, I will try to read the bible more, because it is the Word of God, pray more to communicate with God, and talk to others about church. Of course there are other teachings I learned, however, I find these to be the ones that are good for our edification. There were many prayers in which one of them was for all the members without Holy Spirit. In that prayer I received the Holy Spirit.

-Bro. Timothy Yen

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ I bear my reflection. This SSC, I learned many things but this was one lesson that stuck to me. I learned that as a Christian there is no such things as luck. Everything happens due to God’s will. God does everything for a reason. In the bible there are many examples such as Joseph or Esther. God’s way of doing things is truly amazing.

Another thing is that we cannot approve of things of the world. It says so in Romans 1:32. I need to be strong in my faith about things in the bible. This concludes my reflection. May all the glory and praise be unto His Holy name.

Hallelujah, Amen.

-Sis. Deborah Lin

Hallelujah! In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I share a reflection. This winter SSC, I grew stronger in faith because of the classes that I learned and prayed harder. The classes were fun and all of the children loved it. We were a one big happy family for 1 whole week. Through the week, I also drew closer to Jesus because the calmness that filled me after I left SSC. Also, the way I prayed was different. I had a feeling deep inside me that told me to pray hard and not to be too sleepy. Managing to keep awake in the night was my biggest issue, but I still learned a lot during night lessons. I really thank the volunteer helpers that made this event possible and may God bless them. May the praises be onto his name, Amen.

-Bro. Helmmy Chiang
In the name of Jesus Christ, I'd like to share my reflection of my experience at the WSSC in Hillsborough, New Jersey. As a background, I am now a senior in high school and like most seniors, I spent my time last semester applying to universities along with loading up on AP classes to keep up my ranking in school. My SSC started off roughly. My sister Sophia and I arrived from Houston to Hillsborough Church at 2:30 a.m. in New Jersey because we missed our flight in the morning and then it kept getting delayed. Even before that, I was pretty nervous because it was my first church event in the East Coast which meant facing the cold - which I don't like - and meeting a whole new group of people. But thank God, I am very thankful for the time that I spent in the East Coast. Everyone was very welcoming and I learned many things I had been seeking the last semester about my faith in two particular classes: Esther and The Disciplines of Holy Work.

In the class about Esther, I felt that God was rebuking me for what I had been doing the last few months such as taking advantage of my parents and the comfort of living at home. In this class, we learned about how King Ahasaurus and Queen Vashti in their marriage. Though I'm not married, I saw many similarities between myself and the King's faults that led to his downfall including how he was easily angered (Esther 1:12) and how we can be impartial to our family compared to our friends (Esther1:8). I learned that to be successful in God's eyes, I have to improve upon these things.

In the Disciplines of Holy Work class, we learned the correct ways to respond when we were approached to do holy work. I learned that poor motivation equals poor service that does not glorify God. The motivation of serving God is His love. Without this motivation, our service to Him will not last long. Also, I learned that I must improve on the discipline of planning. In our daily lives and in our holy work, there are two extremes: no God + all planning and all God + no planning. We need to find a healthy balance between the two and be flexible about our plans for God to work with us.

Even though the journey of faith seems daunting, I know I can continue to grow if I continue to do His will. I thank God for letting me attend and learn many things at the Winter Student Spiritual Convocation. May all the praise and glory be unto Him.

-Sis. Sarah Wong

Baby Benjamin Chang

Hi, everyone! My name is Benjamin Boaz Chang. Born on Feb. 6, 2014 at 5:30 p.m., weighing at 6 lb., 15.5 oz.

Thank God for His love and mercy. Mommy had a very smooth delivery and I am happy and healthy. I hope to meet all of you soon.

哈囉～大家好～ 我的名字是 Benjamin Boaz Chang. 出生於2014年2月6日傍晚5點30分，體重6磅 15.5 盎司。
感謝神的大愛與憐憫，媽媽在生產時非常順利，我是個快樂且健康的寶寶。
希望很快可以與大家見面。
What does “not envy” mean? 不嫉妒是指什麼呢?
Hannah: When I have envy in my heart I think of Jesus 當我心中開始嫉妒某人事物時，我會立刻想到主耶穌
James: Do not think about it 連想都不去想
Faith: I learn how to control envy 我要學習如何控制自己，讓自己不生嫉妒之心
Grace: I control envy by praying, singing hymns, and reading the Bible 我透過禱告，唱詩，讀經來控制我嫉妒他人的想法

What does it mean “to bear all things”? 完全忍耐是什麼意思呢?
James: Not scared even if you suffer for God 為神受苦但不覺得害怕
Hannah: To help my friends go to the office when they fall on the ground 當我的朋友跌倒，我會扶他進教室
Grace: Love suffers long and it is kind 能為愛長期受苦且常有同情心
Cody: Endures all things 凡事忍耐

What is the purpose of Sacrament of Foot Washing? 洗腳禮的目的是什麼呢?
James: It could help you 洗腳禮可以幫助你
Faith: Peter didn't want Jesus to wash his feet 彼得不希望耶穌為他洗腳
Cody: To have part of Jesus 與主有份
Grace: Jesus told His disciples if he does not wash their feet they will not have part in Him 主耶穌告訴祂的門徒：你們若不洗腳，就與我無份
Zacchaeus: 12 Disciples 十二位使徒
Evan: To go to Heaven 能夠進天國