

Perhaps unexpectedly, the internship was a difficult job for me. Actually, I was very honest with myself and others at the start when I said I didn't really have a desire for children's ministry, but I did expect God to work changes. As an engineering student, I am very used to doing complicated calculations, and coming up with solutions that usually come in the form of mechanical systems. But for the internship, I had to plan all of VBS even though I hadn't participated in the in-person program in about 8 years.

By far the biggest challenge was planning my station and explaining abstract concepts like living missionally in the simplest terms. It was difficult to strike a balance of activities that were fun and engaging, but also got the point across, so much so that I was usually in a state of stress just thinking about it. Ultimately, this challenge turned out to be very rewarding and a blessing. Especially when I got really positive responses from the kids who enjoyed the station activities.

I think going on a mission trip right before the internship inspired me to do more than I would have. One thing was reaching out to missionaries that our church supports, like David and Ruth Ullstrom. David shared one story that I related to, about someone who said following Jesus was too hard. They were used to working regular hours as an engineer, but after becoming a pastor they complained about listening to people talk about their problems and preparing a sermon every single week. Yet in the end they decided to bear their cross. This was a story I shared for the Day 4 VBS theme, that Jesus is Worth Following. I also asked David for prayer requests, and when I shared them with the kids, I was glad to see some kids who tried praying.

The way the other volunteers supported each other also brought me joy and encouragement. I'm really thankful for everyone who agreed to help out in any capacity for the day camps, and that I could assign roles and responsibilities that were

suitable. There were a couple times when a leader would need extra support, and others would graciously step in. I found it uplifting just to notice these situations. Often, I would need to communicate plans and directions, and I appreciated how the other leaders would respond with immediate action.

I thank God for the wisdom He provided in the planning process and throughout the camp. In the end, it seemed most people, if not everyone, were satisfied with the outcome of VBS. I thank God for receiving strength and energy. During AIA, even after spending a morning and afternoon with the children, I would still have energy to plan for VBS. During VBS, some days I would end the day more energised than at the beginning, such that by the next Sunday, I could lead worship and finish strong for the finale. Lastly, I thank God for the changes He has worked in me, as I embraced ministering to the children.



As some people know, last year I was an unofficial intern and had helped plan the summer camps for that year. Now, after completing this year's internship, I could recognize the differences between the 2 years. As there were only 2 of us, that meant it was a lot more work for us and was something I wasn't prepared for. I had to spend a lot more time planning, and I also spent more time communicating with the other volunteers. More than just extra work, I also was put into a higher position during the VBS camp, where I had to lead the VBS camp intros and outros. All these things helped with my quick-thinking skills, as campers and volunteers would questions that I would have to answer.

Another thing that I had to use was time management, which was something that I worked on. There were a lot of different

things that had to be planned, and a lot of behind-the-scenes work for the camp to run smoothly. To make work more efficient, we set deadlines for most of the planning so we could finish on time. I did find this difficult for some things as I couldn't come up with ideas or didn't feel like doing the work at all. As a result, I didn't finish a few of the items on time, which meant I had to do more work during the camps. I think that this is something I still need to improve on for me to be able to fully be efficient in my work.

Finally, this year was the first time I really felt the spiritual growth in me. We read 2 books, one about leadership, and one a devotional. These books were structured well and were easy to understand. This greatly helped me in my spiritual journey, as the simpler text allowed me to focus more on what God was telling me. The first helped me in my

leading, as it taught me the different aspects of being a leader, something I hope to apply to my life more, while the other talked about how each part of your life can become more God-centered. Also, our 3-person small group really helped me as well, as both Austin and Pastor Michael helped me be accountable and challenged me to do my best.

To finish, I think that this internship was a great opportunity for me to step up in our church community, and something that I found really helpful in both my spiritual and mental growth. While stressful at times, this internship was really fulfilling, and it felt great seeing all our hard work pay off at the camps. I highly recommend this internship to others, as it is a great experience and can really help you grow in many areas of your life.



你們的話,是,就說是。不是,就說不 是。若再多說,就是出於那惡者。(馬太 福音 5:37)

跟大家分享一個很有趣的故事。 這個故 事是關於一個小員工送紅包給他的領導。 小員工將紅包交給了他的領導, 領導問他 這是什麼意思。 小員工回答說: 「沒有 什麼特別的意思, 只是意思而已。」領導 者聽完後說:「你這就不夠意思。」小員 工說:「只是小小的意思而已。」領導者 你真有意思。」小員工說: 實沒有什麼特別的意思。」領導者說: 「 那我就不好意思了。」小員工說: 不好意思。」故事到這裡就結束了。 不 知道大家看得出這個故事裡的「意思」包 含了多少個意思?

在日常生活中,我們也會遇到有趣的事情。 例如,有一位太太問她的丈夫是否可以買一個包包,而丈夫回答說自己看著辦。 這意味著可以買還是不可以買呢?

其實就是要視家庭的經濟狀況來做決定。 問題是,如果太太認為家裡的經濟狀況允 許,但丈夫覺得還不夠,那太太買了包 包,丈夫會不會很生氣呢?或許大包 得「看著辦」還有其他的意思,但是會 件事我們一定會認同,丈夫沒有給一個 所答案的意思。 有時候,即使我們很 解自己的配偶,也可能會誤解對方的意 思。 那為什麼不直接告訴對方呢?不想 買就不買,想買就買,這不就是一件很簡 單的事嗎?

在馬太福音5章33至37節,經文講到不要 起誓。 耶穌告訴信徒不要起誓,因為光 是說話就夠了。 在現代社會中,真誠已 經變得罕見,起誓變成一個普通的事情。 如果一個人經常起誓,而沒有做到自己 誓的話,在起誓這件事,對別人來 前話真誠的人,說出來的話,對別人來 說話真誠的人,說出來的話,對別人來 說,意思都是真實。 如果我們每時每刻 都說實話,根本就不需要依賴起誓來支持 自己所說的話。

當我和太太需要幫助別的夫妻修復關係的時候,我常常看見一個現象。 就是當其中一方在說話的時候,聆聽的一方,久不久就會反一反白眼。 這代表什麼意思呢? 意思就是不認同對方所說的話。 像不像有一方在起誓,而另一方完全不相信對方的誓言呢?

在家裡,我的太太經常提醒我,有什麼話就直載了當地說出來,不要拐彎抹角,來 要說一大堆故事,也不要猜我在想什麼, 因為這樣很容易讓人誤解你的意思,而不 了解你的意思又容易產生誤會。 雖然對 我來說不容易做到,但做到了卻是好事。 我很欣賞太太直來直往的個性,她喜歡就 直接說喜歡,不喜歡也會坦率表達,我不 需要花時間去猜測她的意思。

你喜歡每天去猜測配偶所說的話嗎?是有 意思?是沒有意思?還是有別的意思?❸

路遍青山人未老 ^{劉春妍}

今年11月份,伴隨著宣教月的結束,國語 的主日證道新約部分也結束了《使徒行 傳》的傳講。因為準備講道的關係,我把 這二十八章從頭到尾研讀了一遍,心情跟 隨著作者路加的筆觸時而激昂時而沉吟, 蕩氣迴腸間也充滿了對今日信徒現況的感 慨, 對自己生命的不滿和內疚以及對信仰 生活的反思。而最常在我腦海中的問題 是: 為什麼保羅可以這樣大大地被神使 用,而我們(包括我自己和教會中大部分 的信徒)卻不能?為什麼有那麼多的羈絆 束縛我們為主奔跑的腳步,而保羅卻可以 在宣教的路上披荊斬棘,勇往直前?真的 只是因為他是單身,沒有家室的拖累嗎? 想想也是,有了孩子就少了許多個人時 間。可是,彼得和其他使徒都是有家室的 人(林前9:5),但是他們一樣牧養教 會, 教導信徒, 並未因此裹足不前而滿足 於老婆孩子熱炕頭。我想,歷世歷代,大 部分信徒的生命中一定是缺少了某些東 西,以致於不能像保羅和眾使徒一樣熱切 地愛主、跟隨主到一個地步,為主癲狂! 到底缺少了些什麼, 怎麼補上這缺少的東 西,今天我還在思想。愿斗膽將不成熟的 想法在這裡分享一二, 與大家共勉。

更深的經歷,更深的禱告

《使徒行傳》對使徒們的宣教旅程中的言 行著墨比較多,新約其它書信大多是使徒 們的教導,對他們的個人的靈性生活描述 得很少, 比如他們的禱告生活、與神的親 密關係等等,我們就知之甚少,但也不是 無跡可尋。《哥林多後書》12章提到保羅 有被提到第三層天去的經驗,他被提到樂 園裡,聽見隱秘的言語。《使徒行傳》幾 次記載主在異象中對保羅說話, 也提到保 羅有魂遊象外的經歷, 在異象中蒙神指示 向外邦人傳福音。彼得也有魂遊象外的經 歷,在異象中蒙神指示「神所潔淨的,你 不可當作俗物。」約翰從神那裡得到的啟 示更大,直接寫成了一卷波瀾壯闊的《啟 示錄》。由此我們看見,這些使徒都在主 裡有很深的經歷,這些經歷表明他們跟神 有很親密的關係,是大部分信徒都沒有達 到的一種深度。

大部分的信徒的經歷只停留在很淺的層面 上,滿足於禱告蒙垂聽,生活平安無煩 擾。這些當然都是寶貴的經歷,是神對 們的眷顧。只是我們要渴慕更深的這歷 與神親密相交的經歷。當你與神有這地 密的關係的時候,你會為祂甘心樂為 密的關係的時候,你會為祂甘心樂為 密的關係的時候,你會為祂甘心樂為 不一 者死",我們都還沒有跟神親密到這程 度,因為我們沒有深度的經歷,所以渴 說為主死,為主活都做不到。我們要渴慕 更深經歷神。

以弗所书1:17-21「求我們主耶稣基督的神,荣耀的父,将那赐人智慧和启示的灵赏给你們,使你們真知道他,并且照明你們心中的眼睛,使你们知道他的恩召有事。 等指望,他在圣徒中得的基业有何新是明的荣耀;并知道他向我們这信的人所是有等。 的荣耀;并知道他向我們这信的人身上。 运行的大能大力,使他从死里复活,叫他在天上坐在自己的右边,远超过一切执政在天上坐在自己的、主治的,和一切有名的;不但是今世的,连来世的也都超过了一

以弗所书3:14-21「因此,我在父面前屈膝, (天上地上的各 (或作"全")家都是从他得名。)求他按着他丰盛的荣耀,藉着他的灵,叫你们心里的力量刚强起来,使基督因你们的信,住在你们心里,叫你们的爱心有根有基,能以和众全徒一同明白基督的爱是何等长阔高深神一切所充满的,充满了你们。神能照着一切所充满的,充充足足地成就一切,在我们心里的大力充充足足地成就一切,超过我们所求所想的。但愿他在教会中,并在基督耶稣里,得着荣耀,直到世世代,永永远远。阿们!

強大的心理承受能力

人心非常脆弱。人際關係可以因為一句話、一個眼神、甚至没有回应而破裂。一個服事主的人若没有健康的自我形象,會很容易受傷、灰心、退後、冷淡。教會流行一句话:多做多错,少做少错,不做事错。很大比例冷淡的基督徒都曾經热直,因為無法忍受旁观者的埋怨指責措而不再插手教會事务。使徒們怎么样呢?难道他們走的是一条铺满鲜花和掌声的路?

保羅一生都在路上,四處宣教,建立教 會,堅固信徒,與各種文化背景、三教九 流的人接觸,有人喜歡他,願意聽從他,

像提摩太、提多,还有他每封书信结尾提 到的那些人,都是他的好同工;也有人不 喜歡他, 討厭他強硬的性格、不留情面的 批評;也有人造谣誹謗他;甚至有人攻擊 他的樣貌。「他的信又沉重又厉害,及至 见面,却是氣貌不揚,言語粗俗的」(林 后10:10)。保羅怎么看这些无聊的议论 呢?他四两撥千斤地說,「我被你们论 断,或被别人论断,我都以为极小的事; 连我自己也不論斷自己。我虽不觉得自己 有错,卻也不能因此得以稱義;但判斷我 的乃是主。所以,时候未到,什么都不要 论断,只等主来,他要照出暗中的隐情, 显明人心的意念。那时,各人要从神那里 得着称赞」(林前4:3-5)。 保羅數次被人追殺、被冤枉、坐監, 我驚

不念過往,不負當下,不斷成長

反觀不少基督徒,一直在過往的錯誤中打滾,任其在心中生出苦毒怨恨懊悔,就是沒有改,生命因此一直停滯不前。保羅總結自己的話,也成為這些基督徒的提醒「忘記背後,努力面前,向著標桿直跑」。

如果我們能將自己的生命之枝聯結於葡萄樹上,無論經歷多少的羞辱、嘲笑、失敗,我們都能始終帶著未冷未老的情懷熱切地事奉愛我們的和我們所愛的主! ❸



我今年9月开始读《宣教历史》这门课。 不仅开拓了思路,而且内心被深深的震撼。中国福音的大门是无数宣教士的血打开的,宣教士的血没有白流,宣教士的血是福音的种子。是耶稣基督的爱呼召这些热血青年放弃海外舒适安逸的生活,他能着爱中国的心,爱中国人的灵魂,前赴后继,带着为福音殉道的心志来到中国,来到这块陌生的土地。

虽然当时中国的语言不通,医疗条件差,人的思想封建落后,食物贫乏,气候炎热或寒冷,宣教士离开亲人朋友内心会感到很孤独。但是各种困难都阻挡不了信仰的力量。

1900年义和团运动,241位宣教士殉道,大概在1948到1950年,宣教士离开中国。但是今天中国大地有几千万的基督徒。约翰福音12:24-25 「我实实在在地告诉你们,一粒麦子如果不落在地里死了,仍旧是一粒。若是死了,就结出许多的籽粒

来。爱惜自己生命的,就失丧生命。在这世上恨恶自己生命的,就要保守生命到永 生。」

也为我们手里的圣经感谢神。了解到圣经翻译的历史。知道我们手里这本圣经来之不易。在1819年11月25日,英国宣教士马礼逊和米怜完成了新旧约的全部翻译。总共用了12年3个月。马礼逊说"但愿我孤苦的辛劳,将来能祝福亿万中国人。一想到这里,心中就快乐了。"

《神天圣书》是马礼逊来华翻译了第一本圣经,建立了中国第一间教会,创办了第一所学校,第一家医院,编撰了第一本《华英字典》,印刷了第一本中文期刊。创造了很多的第一。

1919年在宣教士狄考文和富善带领下,经过28年的翻译,至今通用的和合本圣经问世,圣经66卷书,囊括各种文体,是中国白话文运动的先锋。

另外由于宣教士的不断努力他们带来西方的文明,医疗技术,体育,音乐等各各方面。只有中国的医院有十字架的标志,这是宣教士在中国创办的第一家医院,这是中国医院仅有的标志。另外,第一所派,第一个戒毒所(当时鸦片战争),第一份报纸,第一个球队,第一次参加奥运会,中国许多的第一都是与宣教士有关,毫不夸张地说,在近代中国的每一个角落,人们都可以发现宣教士尘封的脚印。

圣经说:撒种有时,收割有时,流泪撒种 的必欢呼收割。

感谢神,透过耶稣的舍己,祂的宝血洗净我们一切的不义,使我们的罪得赦免,也透过耶稣的大爱,感动海外的宣教士来到中国,为中国这神州大地带来福音的好消息,使中国百姓听到福音,灵魂苏醒。感谢赞美主! (写于2023年11月24日)