

The Struggling Souls in the Dark Alleys

By Debbie Wong,
Outreach worker

Behind the glow of city lights, there is a group of people whose existence easily went unnoticed; but they are lost sheep in desperate need of the hope in the gospel – they are the sex workers in the city.

Every week, I visit these sex workers at their working places, from which I get to understand more about their needs. Their working places are not where they reside in, which means that we can only visit them during their working hours. If they welcomed us into their rooms to talk, it means that they have sacrificed some of their hours and income. However, these women are very amiable towards us, even their rejections are with much politeness. Surprisingly, it is easier to engage in a meaningful conversation with them than people we meet during street evangelism!

Lost sheep, aren't we all?

Indeed, their needs are no different to everybody's. They long to be cared for and burdened to be listened to. It broke my heart to hear nightmarish tragedies occurring to one after another woman. These mainland women married off to Hong Kong men, sweated and toiled in household chores, hoping to settle in Hong Kong with their new families. However, marriages turned sour, for one reason or the other, driving their marriage down the road to divorce.

They were taught since childhood – a woman is meant to serve her husband and his family. Failing marriages would bring shame to their family name, so returning to their hometown is unthinkable. However, the academic qualifications and work experience they obtained are not recognised in Hong Kong; the fact that they have not resided in Hong Kong for over seven years means that they are not entitled to any social assistance here. Being single parents with children to support, few opportunities to earn an income come another way. They resorted to enter into the trade of the sex industry to make ends meet, a secret often hidden from their family and children.

"If not for survival, who would resort to such a life!" A lot of times, they sobbed when recounting the miseries, and could not bear to speak anymore. Their every single word tells of a true story of struggling souls trapped in the circumstances. Had they been born in a different circumstance, their lives would probably have run a different course. We and them are but leading wholly different lives. Nevertheless, we are living in the same city, all his beloved lost sheep. May the Lord has mercy upon them, let them see the hope and escape from the downward spiral of a life that sells their precious souls away.

OUR PURPOSE

OM's role in the body of Christ is to motivate, develop and equip people for world evangelization, and to strengthen and help plant churches, especially among the unreached.

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Angel By My Side, Always

by Ekide, Outreach Worker

It's been over a year since Karma* first came here. Despite being a stranger to the city amongst people who do not speak her language, she always upbeat Karma could always cope with whatever problems that came up. However, beset with family problems, she found it hard to keep smiling, but still her Christian friends are always there whenever she feels down and helpless.

When we first met her in 2011, she was a few months pregnant, worried by the changes in her life pattern and unsure about the future. We helped her to stand on her own feet and seek community service. We accompanied her to the antenatal check ups and acted as her interpreter. By sharing her ups and downs and praying for her, we are thankful to see her beaming with the joy of motherhood and continue to pray that she may attain true hope through knowing Jesus Christ.

We talked to her about Logos Hope, the ship that has brought blessing to many people from different nations. She was looking forward to going on board, but was disappointed when her baby's crying fit rendered the visit impossible. We arranged another trip and she was greatly encouraged by the friendliness of the crew, touching her life with a bit of joy.

When Logos Hope returned this time, a German crew member's visit touched her heart. She treated him Pakistani food and had a good sharing. We were glad God used different people to testify to her and will continue to pray that she would one day accept Jesus as her personal saviour.

** Name has been changed*



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12/F, Tai Lee Mansion, 165-167 Pei Ho Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2312 6110 Fax: (852) 2366 2097
Website: www.om.org Email: info.hk@om.org



1st Quarterly Report 2013

Weeks

A Musician in Missions

By Esther Wong

It has been an absolutely amazing trip with TransArt, there's nothing better than spending a month with a group of artist that have the same vision and passion to create for the kingdom of God. I've learnt how to be a better Christian musician; music and art can indeed be so much more than just entertainment.

A Journey of Restoration

The time spent with TransArt was a journey of restoration after walking in the desert road for a long period of time. God's promise came true in this trip: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul." (Psalm 23) Indeed God restored a lot of different things I've lost in the desert road:

my musical skills were fully utilized in this trip, serving the local churches and communities; my compositions were being appreciated and touched people's heart; my passion to serve people were also being fulfilled by doing a lot of practical work to bless the team and the church. He even literally led me to this place called "L'eau vive" meaning Living water; it's one of the towns we visited.

Creativity from God

God has once again shown me that creative inspiration comes directly from Him alone, I'm amazed by how the Spirit of God worked in each one of the TransArt artists, how he inspired us to create something that interlink with other's work. When we seek

Him with all our heart, music and art became something that God breathed out, we are only the instruments playing the symphony that God has already written, the paintbrush painting what He has in mind.

All these amazing experiences we took part in made me realised that God is the one who's in ultimate control of our circumstance; he's the one who gives and takes away. When God opens door, we have to be quick and obedient to seize the opportunity. There are doors that we haven't even imagined and advance preparation would be an advantage.

I am super grateful to be part of the TransArt team, life as a musician will never be the same again. *My heart, O God, is steadfast, I will sing and make music with all my soul. Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn. I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples. For great is your love, higher than the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the skies. Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; Let your glory be over all the earth. (Psalm 108:1-5)*

Esther, a member of The Vine Church, joined the TransArt Outreach to Belgium for a month last summer.



Months

To Teach Children, To be Taught by Children

By Joseph Siu



After two months living in Mamelodi, a black township with a population of about one million, I slowly learned more about the black African culture!

After-school Program

Recently I got a new name - Sir Joseph! From every Monday to Thursday afternoon, I couldn't stop hearing kids yelling at me "Sir, Sir, Sir, Sir, Sir, Sir!"

Tabé's Story

In a quiet afternoon on a public holiday, Tabé, a 12-year-old boy who used to come every day after-school, rang on our door bell. I was surprised to see him when I opened the door. "Hey, why are you here, Tabé?" I



expected this talented little football player would say that because he wanted to play football. Instead, he looked down and said, "Sir, I am hungry."

For these two months, I have never realised how important

our after-school programme is to our children until that moment! For some of them, the lunch they got here may be the only meal they could have for the whole day! Tabé was sent to us by his grandma. He walked for a long distance from home, but maybe he did not really have any other choice.

My Boys and I

After-school programme is one of our main ministries in AIDS Hope, serving 30 kids who came from difficult families, to provide them meals and extra tutoring every afternoon. I am now helping with 3 boys in grade 5.

I had thought that serving children would be less challenging compared with other ministries, but I was wrong. A good teacher requires enormous love and patience toward his students. Also it is so difficult to love the children when they are too young to understand your love, and they take everything for granted.

Children are the reminder

It really reminded me of myself when I

was in grade 5! I was never thankful to my teachers when I received love and care from them, and even got mad at them when things did not go according to how I wanted it! I must have driven my teachers crazy 10 years ago!

It also reminded me of God's love for his people, the Israelites and I. How many times we have turned away from Him when things did not go according to the way we want? He gave us the grace and mercy that we do not even deserve to have, still we think it is not enough. However, His love never fails and never gives up. This is the unconditional love of a father has for his child, even his child is too young to understand it.

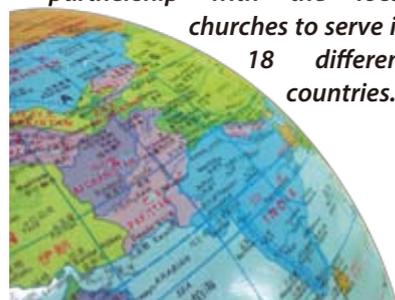
Now I really want to love my 3 kids and set a good example for them, as how I have been loved before and by my Father.

Joseph joined OM's "South Africa Missions Discipleship Training" from September 2012 to this January. After the training, he has been staying in the country to serve with AIDS Hope till this May.

Years

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

At present, there are 38 mission workers sent out by OMHK in partnership with the local churches to serve in 18 different countries.



South Asia

Go's Family

Our sports team went to a youth conference with an attendance of more than a thousand people from over 50 villages. Praise the Lord that most of the attendants rededicated their lives to Christ! Another youth camp was held in early April with over 100 non-believers. There were some people who have made the decision to Christ at the end of the event! Please continue to pray for open doors on the field.

We have been in Hong Kong for 2-month furlough since March. Thank God for the time with our family, friends and church, also the opportunities of sharing at different meetings.

Europe - Albania

May Kwan

Thank God for the nice time in Hong Kong for furlough, and for all fantastic opportunities to share with my church, friends and family. I am thankful for the outreaches in Hong Kong with the challenge team sent by Logos Hope. I witnessed God's work on the ministries and on the lives of different brothers and sisters.

Please lift up the need of more workers at the Immanuel Centre on the field. Additionally, we are praying for more partnership with local churches. Personally, please pray for my health and my further equipment to serve Him in the long run.



North Africa & Middle East

Leigh

Finally, I finished building my own business website. Praise Father for giving me what I needed as said in Exodus 35:31-35. I am getting used to be an entrepreneur now!

Recently I began to hang out in a ladies' centre where there are free language and religion classes. Please remember the relationships with local ladies to be built. May the Lord continue to use me as part of His kingdom work here!

Central and West Asia

Sunsmile

We started the second school health seminar in another village. The teachers told us that we were the first group from outside which came to help in that village. Praise the Lord for showing us the right place to go!

We were told by our landlord that we can rent our current office apartment till August. Please pray for His provision of a new place in a good location, affordable rent and enough space for all the staff.

Pray for the protection upon all the projects and grant us favour in front of the school teachers, and they will teach others what they have learnt.

Africa - South Africa

Joni Chan

Praise God for the smooth application of the 2-year visa to South Africa. Give thanks for His clear guidance on my continual service as a trainer in MDT (Missions Discipleship Training) till January 2015.

The trainees will have the "Inner City Outreach" in Pretoria to reach out to the marginalised people like sex workers, prisoners and homeless people. Please pray for the team's unity, health and safety.



Please remember my dad in prayer for his health and his open heart to Christ.