

May God Rise More Youth Leaders

By **Ryan Lui**

OM Thailand aims to nurture youths to become committed people who carry biblical values and in the future become leaders who are pleasing in God's eyes. Having developed missionary ministries in Thailand for over two hundred years, most areas in Thailand do not lack planted churches, but do lack church leaders. From what I know, nearly half of the churches in Thailand lack full-time church workers; and some preachers even quit their preaching job and return to their previous jobs. What Thailand needs now are no longer the hardware for churches, but the software: the discipleship training that allows Christians to become more committed in their faith.

I work with local churches and participate in various ministries, such as youth fellowship, Bible study classes and early childhood education. I am greatly attached to a cell group that consists of young males, and I attend their fellowship every week. In the coming year, I will organize a leadership training programme for them. I also love holding the Bible study classes that allow youths to understand God's Word and discover the treasures inside. I am filled with joy every time I see them study and think about the Scriptures for themselves.

In terms of outreach, university ministry is our only activity to reach out to more young people. The ministry serves as a way to meet university students by helping them learn oral English. Every week we teach the students oral English with different themes such as behaviour and attitudes in life. The ministry mainly aims at developing a relationship with the students. Although we do not share the gospel directly, the students know that we are Christians and thus our behaviour and values during our interactions become channels for them to learn about our faith.

Please pray for our need of more local co-workers, for now we have only one local full-time worker and the other three are overseas missionaries.



(Ryan is a member of Diamond Hill Baptist Church, now serving in OM Thailand)

Be a Willing Servant

By **Vicky Chan**

It has been a year since I served on the Logos Hope. Looking back on the year on board, I am amazed by the Lord we serve who does wondrous things! "I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys. I will turn the desert into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs." (Isaiah 41:18)



Let's see what the Lord has done. Though most of us are young and do not have professional sea experience, we are given the opportunity to serve as crew members; though the ship is not equipped with high level security facilities, we managed to serve anyone on board; though it may be difficult for young people like us to communicate with the government departments of different countries, we managed to settle the berthing matters and visa applications of all crew members. When you look into the ministry, you will realize we are not talented. We are just the ones who are willing to serve the Lord and try to do our best. It is the Lord who has been making things possible!

On the last day when Logos Hope stayed in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria in Spain, I had the chance to chat with a Vietnamese girl who had come to work as a nanny there. As she could not stay long, I quickly shared the gospel with her. She said she wanted to accept God and join our service on board! However, I even did not have the time to pray with her. I could only give her a Bible and teach her to pray and read the Bible daily. And she promised me to read it every day. The conversation lasted only five minutes, and it was beyond my expectation to see how much we fit in. God let me know that I do not have to be capable: All I need is a heart willing to serve!

(Vicky is a member of The Church of Christ in China Tuen Mun Church. She served on the Logos Hope.)



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We want to see vibrant communities of Jesus followers among the least reached.

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Serving marginalized women – Companion Ministry

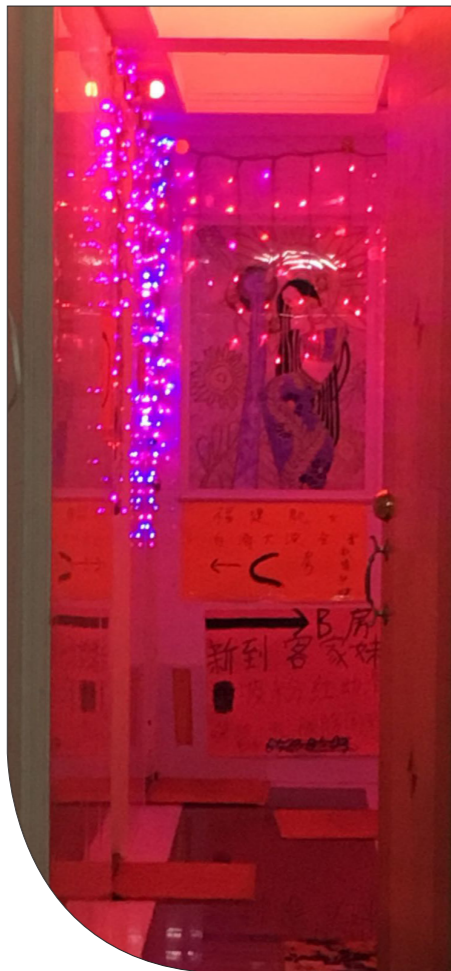
Where Does Her Hope Lie?

By Gladys
(Companion Ministry Outreach Worker)

When I first visited Rachel*, she turned over the sign outside her room immediately, signalling that she was not available to serve clients. This seemed very unusual to me, but I remembered why I was here: to demonstrate God's love.

Right after we sat down, she told me she had an appointment with a medical social worker later that day. As we talked further, I learned that she was suffering from mental illnesses and emotional disorders, and she was recovering from a recent surgery. Despite having physical and mental problems, she had to shoulder all family responsibilities as she was the only child and her parents were old, ill and in heavy debt. Her relationship with her husband was strained, which meant she had no family member to rely on. The brothel was the place for her to earn a living and had become her home. Even worse, her "boyfriend" was violent with her. When I heard all these unhappy experiences, I was speechless and my heart ached for her. It was clearly not easy for her to overcome one hurdle after another.

I have met many people like Rachel, who are in the midst of deep darkness and despair. These women need to know what God's love is and that He freely extends it to them. Will you please join me in praying for them, that they may see the light and hope found in God. There are also opportunities to partner with this OM companion ministry, please email us at companion.hk@om.org for more info.



* name changed



Serving ethnic minorities – Sham Shui Po Ministry

A Meaningful Summer Holiday

By Mandy
(Ethnic Minority Ministry Volunteer)

I spent a fruitful and meaningful summer holiday as a volunteer with OM's work among ethnic minorities in Hong Kong last year.

This was the first time for me to interact so closely with children of ethnic minorities. Initially, I felt extremely nervous and uneasy to communicate with them in English. Besides, while volunteers from other churches were so well prepared for all the games and activities, I felt myself less prepared and started worrying that the children might not enjoy our games. Amazingly, it was easier than I thought when I interacted and played with the kids. We could communicate with simple English together with some animated gestures. I was thankful to see the kids being playful and attentive to all the instructions given by volunteers. Also, it was delightful to see them enjoying the games so much.

The afternoon classes were also an impressive experience for me. The game and lecture helped me learn about the world and Muslims. Through prayer and the sharing session, I got to know more about the needs of Sham Shui Po, ethnic minorities, as well as OM's mission and ministry among ethnic minorities in Hong Kong.

I made a wonderful acquaintance with the local ethnic minority children through this summer experience. A few months later I joined the OM Christmas party for the ethnic minorities and also helped design a poster for it. I was glad to meet those children again and I hope my love towards the ethnic minority group will not cease!

Serving ethnic minorities – Pat Heung Ministry

Embrace Hidden Souls with Love

By Sa
(Pat Heung Ministry Outreach Worker)

Ethnic minority students from Pat Heung joined an "Equality for All" sharing activity with church volunteers to ignite blessings to the neighbourhood. The group brought along various daily necessities like rice noodles, canned foods and supermarket coupons before they set off. Though the participants were of different cultural or religious background, they learnt to show love and care to the poor, homeless people as well as the exploited and deprived workers.



The group was at first excited yet nervous to approach people on the street. When searching for people to serve, the group had to be careful not to disturb people too much and be aware of the road safety. Both volunteers and students had to gather up their nerves to initiate conversations with complete strangers. They found out that offering a cup of hot tea could break the ice and were glad to see many of the poor people were satisfied with this little warm favour without asking for more. In fact, many poor people were satisfied with what they have! They even asked us to pass on the gifts to neighbours who were more in need. The group really learned a valuable lesson.

Gradually, students in the group became bold enough to lead other members to approach a street cleaner. Despite the language barrier, students kindly and enthusiastically offered some supermarket coupons to him as well as some other daily necessities. The man was happy to receive the gifts. When volunteers told him that students were learning how to care for their neighbours, he praised students for their act and loving heart.

Since a few students were not fluent in Cantonese, most of the time they served as supporters and tried to hand out daily necessities to the needy. But they got more involved when they met another street cleaner who came from their hometown. Immediately they could communicate with each other using their mother language and could truly listen and care about the man's work.

All in all, the way the volunteers spoke and behaved, as well as their passion to love others, became the role model for students. Although some students cannot speak fluent Cantonese, they learnt how to show their love by partnering with the local church. Participants learned more about the lives of the needy, most of whom are being ignored.

